

# Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

## Calendar of Events

SPRING 2014



**Call the Refuge Office (757)986-3705 during business hours for registration or more information.**

### RAILROAD DITCH AUTO TOURS

**Special Notice:** The self-guided, self-service auto touring route to Lake Drummond through the Railroad Ditch entrance is now available Mondays through Saturdays, 7:30A to 3:00P. Vehicles must exit the route by 4:00P. Be sure to complete the auto tour permit, found in the box on the Railroad Ditch entrance gate and put it in the window of your vehicle. Return the permit to the "wood-duck" box as you exit.

### OWL PROWL

Deep in the cold spring nights, life begins to stir!  
**Guide:** Don Schwab, Refuge Biologist  
**Place:** Meet at the Washington Ditch parking area.  
**Date:** Friday, March 21, 2014  
**Time:** 7:00P

### GUIDED BIRD WALK

The winter forest is waking. Some song birds may already be singing!  
**Guide:** Don Schwab, Refuge Biologist  
**Place:** Meet at the Washington Ditch parking area.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 29, 2014  
**Time:** 7:30A

### INTERIOR DITCH FISHING/BOATING ACCESS TO LAKE DRUMMOND

A seasonal special use permit will allow the user to launch a vessel of 25hp or less, canoes, or kayaks, from the Interior Ditch boat ramp.

**Date:** April 1-June 15, 2014. Not valid April 24-26.  
**Registration: REQUIRED.** Permit and advance reservations required. Permit applications will be taken after March 1, 2014. Call refuge office for details.

### GUIDED BUS TOURS and CANOE TOURS

Interested in the swamp but prefer a guided tour? Take one of the Suffolk Tourism Eco-Adventure tours. You will meet at the Suffolk Tourism office and be bused to Lake Drummond.

**Registration:** Contact Suffolk Tourism Office, (757)514-4130 (small fee and advance reservations required)  
**Dates:** Most Saturdays, April through November, 2014.

### PADDLE FOR THE BORDER

Canoe and kayak paddle event in the Dismal Swamp Canal.

**Place:** Dismal Swamp Canal. Camden County, NC to Chesapeake, VA  
**Registration: REQUIRED** <http://cityofchesapeake.net/services/depart/park-rec/paddlefortheborder>  
**Date:** Saturday, May 3, 2014.

### Great Dismal Swamp BIRDING FESTIVAL

Celebrate the spring return of the song birds with us! Event features guided bird walks, refuge tours, photography workshops, and family activities.

**Place:** Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge  
**Registration:** Details and registration information on refuge website.

**Register Now!**  
**Dates:** Thursday through Saturday, April 24-26, 2014



### BIRD BANDING

Watch and learn as birds are examined, weighed, and banded as part of the MAPS survey of migratory birds.

**Place:** Jericho Ditch entrance; 1/2 mile south of parking area on Jericho Ditch Trail  
**Registration:** Not required. See note\*  
**Dates:** April 24,25,26 May 9,16,30, June 6,13,27 July 7,18,25, Aug 8, 2014  
**Time:** April-June dates are 7:00A to approximately 11:00A  
July-August dates are 6:00A to approximately 10:00A

\*NOTE: This is a research survey and banding may be canceled due to weather or staffing conflicts. If in question, please call before your visit.

**Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge**  
**3100 Desert Road**  
**Suffolk, Virginia 23434**  
**(757)986-3705**  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/Great\\_Dismal\\_Swamp](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Great_Dismal_Swamp)