

GREAT SWAMP NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY—MARCH 2015

JANUARY 2015



Thursday, January 1: New Year's Day.
Refuge Open, Visitor Center Closed.

Sunday, January 11, 1:30–3:00 pm

SECOND SUNDAY... with Friends SUNDAY AT THE MOVIES
Join us for a movie, refreshments, and a moderated discussion. Movie to be announced. Visitor Center.

Friday, January 16, 2:00–3:30 pm *(3rd Fridays)*

REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP Discussion of: Gifts of the Crow by John Marzluff. New members welcome. Copies available for loan at the Visitor Center.



Saturday, January 24, 9:00–4:00 pm
BIRDING SKILLS FOR VOLUNTEERS WORKSHOP For active volunteers. Earn your Swamp Nature Guide Bird Bar. Details will be available in January. Visitor Center.

Sunday, January 25, 12:30–3:30 pm
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING. Strap on your cross-country skis for a special group trek in the Great Swamp Wilderness Area. Leader: Dave Sagan. Meet at the Visitor Center.

FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday, February 8, 1:30–3:00 pm **SECOND SUNDAY ... URBAN PARK RESTORATION** We are so fortunate to welcome back FDU Professor Brian Olechnowski to give us an update on his studies of bird population trends in urban park restoration projects. Visitor Center.

February 13–15, Friday, Noon–4:00; Weekends, 10:00–4:00 pm **GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT (GBBC)**
You can be a Citizen Scientist! Join us for a census of winter birds at our feeders and report results to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Make a suet feeder. Continue the count on a guided walk outdoors. Learn the names of common feeder birds with our Bird Bingo! Bird watchers of all ages and skills are welcome. Visitor Center.



Friday, February 20, 2:00–3:30 pm *(3rd Fridays)*
REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP Discussion of: Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded, August 27, 1883 by Simon Winchester. New members always welcome. Books available for loan at Visitor Center.

MARCH 2015

Sunday, March 1, 1:30–2:30 pm *(1st Sundays)*
REFUGE RAMBLE Join us as Refuge Rambles resume. We'll check out signs of Spring on this informal, interpretive walk. Dress warmly. Visitor Center.

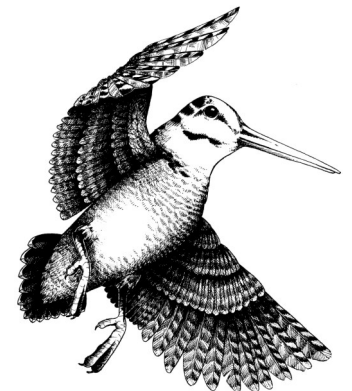
Sunday, March 8, 1:30–3:00 pm
SECOND SUNDAY ... with Friends OWLS OF NEW JERSEY



Join naturalist Dorothy Smullen to learn about the different species of owls that live year-round or migrate through New Jersey. Indoor program. Visitor Center.

Sunday, March 8, 5:30–7:30 pm **GREAT SWAMP OWL WALK**
Join us for a guided owl walk to listen for mating owl calls. Registration is required: please call 973-425-9510. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Two Nights!
Sunday, March 15
Sunday, March 22
6:30 pm—dusk
SPRING WOODCOCK WALKS
Watch and listen to the elaborate mating displays of the American woodcock. Half-hour indoor program followed by a guided walk on Pleasant Plains Road. Dress warmly. Leader: Pete Axelrod. Visitor Center.



Friday, March 20, 2:00–3:30 pm *(3rd Fridays)*
REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Discussion of: North With Spring by Edwin Way Teale. New members welcome. Copies available for loan at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, March 21, 10:00–Noon **REFUGE WORK DAY**
Join us for Spring Cleanup at the Wildlife Observation Center.

Sunday, March 22 through Sunday, June 14
SPRING MIGRATION STAFFING SEASON Volunteers Needed!
Wildlife Observation Center.

Saturday, March 28, 1:30–2:30 pm **VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION**
Interested in volunteering? Need Community Service hours? Come learn about the many volunteer opportunities at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. For new and prospective volunteers. Visitor Center.



GREAT SWAMP NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS APRIL—JUNE 2015

APRIL 2015



Thursday, April 2, 12:30—1:30 pm **NATURE ON FILM** Crash: A Tale of Two Species. The story of the red knot and the horseshoe crab—a compelling look at how every species is interconnected. Bring your lunch. Visitor Center.

Friday, April 3, 9:00—Noon **Great Swamp STRIKE TEAM WORK DAYS**. Help eradicate emerging invasive plant species. Work days on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month. Volunteers Needed! Meet at Visitor Center.

Thursday, April 9, 9:00—Noon **GARDEN WORK DAY** Help weed and plant. No experience necessary. Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 11, 9:00—Noon **SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP** Help pick up litter along Refuge roads. Refuge Headquarters, 241 Pleasant Plains Road.

Sunday, April 12, 1:30—3:30 pm **SECOND SUNDAY—HORSESHOE CRABS** Join Bob Loveland for a fascinating look at horseshoe crabs, their importance to migratory birds—and to us! Visitor Center.



Friday, April 17, 9:00—Noon **GREAT SWAMP STRIKE TEAM WORK DAY** See April 3 for details.

Friday, April 17, 2:00—3:30 pm (*3rd Fridays*) **REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** The Snoring Bird by Bernd Heinrich. New members always welcome. Copies available for loan. Visitor Center.

Sunday, April 26, 1:30—3:00 pm **VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION** Come learn about volunteer opportunities. Visitor Center.

Sunday, April 26, 7:00—8:30 pm **FROG WALK**. Join us on an evening interpretive walk to learn spring frogs by their calls! Meet at Wildlife Observation Center.

MAY 2015

Friday, May 1, 9:00—Noon **GREAT SWAMP STRIKE TEAM WORK DAY** See April 3 for details.

Sunday, May 3, 1:30—2:30 pm (*1st Sundays*) **REFUGE RAMBLE** Informal guided walk. Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 10, 10:00—Noon **INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY SPRING BIRD WALK** Improve your birding skills and learn to identify the spring migrants. Bring binoculars or borrow ours. Join us... whether you know a little or a lot! Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 10, 1:30—3:30 pm **SECOND SUNDAY ALL ABOUT BLUEBIRDS** with volunteer Leo Hollein. Indoor presentation followed by a peek inside an active bluebird nest box. Visitor Center.



Thursday, May 14, 9:00—Noon **INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL WORK DAY** Help control invasive species. Volunteer work days on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. Visitor Center.

Friday, May 15, 9:00—Noon **GREAT SWAMP STRIKE TEAM WORK DAY** See April 3 for details.

Friday, May 15, 2:00—3:30 pm (*3rd Fridays*) **REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** Untamed: The Wildest Woman in America and the Fight for Cumberland Island by Will Harlan. All are welcome. Copies available for loan. Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 16, 9:00—Noon **GARDEN WORK DAY** Volunteers needed! No experience necessary! Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 17, 1:30—3:00 pm **VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION** Come learn about volunteer opportunities. Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 23, 10:00—Noon **ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY** The turtles are back! Come learn about endangered species and welcome the head-start turtles back home. Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 24, 1:30—3:00 pm **NATURE ON FILM A SENSE OF WONDER** Join us for a movie and refreshments to celebrate Rachel Carson's birthday. Visitor Center

Thursday, May 28, 9:00—Noon **INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL WORK DAY** See May 14 for details.

JUNE 2015

Friday, June 5, 9:00—Noon **GREAT SWAMP STRIKE TEAM WORK DAY** See April 3 for details.

Saturday, June 6, 4:30—7:00 pm **VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT**. By invitation. Visitor Center.

Sunday, June 7, 1:30—2:30 pm (*1st Sundays*) **REFUGE RAMBLE** Informal guided walk. Visitor Center.

Thursday, June 11, 9:00—Noon **INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL WORK DAY** See May 14 for details.



Sunday, June 14, 1:30—3:30 pm **SECOND SUNDAY—LIVING WITH NEW JERSEY BLACK BEARS** Join Visitor Services Manager Jonathan Rosenberg for a film followed by a Q&A on black bears. Visitor Center.

Thursday, June 18, 9:00—Noon **GARDEN WORK DAY** Help weed and plant. No experience necessary. Visitor Center.

Friday, June 19, 9:00—Noon **GREAT SWAMP STRIKE TEAM WORK DAY** See April 3 for details.

Friday, June 19, 2:00—3:30 pm (*3rd Fridays*) **REFUGE READERS—A BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** Beluga Days: Tracking the Endangered White Whale by Nancy Lord. New members always welcome. Copies available for loan. Visitor Center.

Thursday, June 25, 9:00—Noon **INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL WORK DAY** See May 14 for details.



Sunday, June 28, 1:00—3:00 pm **JUNIOR DUCK STAMP EXHIBIT AND AWARDS CEREMONY** Join us to recognize and celebrate the young artists who entered the 2015 N.J. Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest. Visitor Center.

