



FOR RELEASE ON DECEMBER 20, 2007

WINTER NATURE PROGRAMS AT HUMBUG MARSH

TRENTON, MI – The International Wildlife Refuge Alliance in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will host a series of winter nature programs at the Humbug Marsh Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. The offerings will give visitors an opportunity to get outdoors to learn about nature at the marsh during winter.

Topics include winter birdlife, buds, bark and branches, and animal tracking. There is no charge, but please register; call or e-mail Lisa Appel at lisa_appel@fws.gov or (734) 692-7671.

- Saturday, 12/29/2007, 10 AM to 11 AM, Humbug is “Hot” for Birds in winter – learn how birds use the lower Detroit River and Humbug Marsh during the winter months.
- Saturday, 1/12/2008, 2 PM to 3 PM, Plants in the winter – buds, bark and branches – Enjoy the subtle beauty of dormant plants during a winter walk.
- Saturday, 3/1/2008, 10 AM to 11 AM, Tracking and animal signs – discover which birds and mammals are active in Humbug during winter.

Participants should dress for the weather and wear boots. Hikes are about a mile in length and could have slippery conditions. No pets please.

The Humbug Marsh Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge is a 410-acre natural area that harbors the last mile of undeveloped shoreline along the Detroit River in the U.S. Canvasback and Redhead from the prairies of Canada, as well as songbirds that nest in the northern forests and Arctic are a common sight within the coastal marsh in winter. Old-growth oak and hickory forest protects trees nearly six-foot in diameter. The Humbug Marsh Unit is located between the cities of Trenton and Gibraltar off Jefferson Avenue.

The International Wildlife Refuge Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that builds the capacity of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to deliver the mission of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Major Alliance funding partners in 2007 include ITC Transmission, BASF Corporation, DTE Energy Foundation, General Motors Corporation, and Praxair.

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