### Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

# WILDWNEWS

## January - February 2017 Program Schedule

#### Winter Raptors

Saturday, January 7, 9:00 - 11:30 am What raptor has feathers covering its legs or appears almost white in flight? Learn the tips and tricks to identifying several winter birds of prey during this auditorium presentation and field outing with naturalists. Don't forget to bring your camera and binoculars!

#### The Masked Bandit

Saturday, January 7, 10:00 - 10:45 am Sunday, February 12, 10:00 - 10:45 am Join a naturalist and meet the Refuge's live black-footed ferrets. Discover how this fragile species was brought back from the brink of extinction and why ferrets were released into the wild at the Refuge. You'll even get to see the ferrets eating their mid-morning snack!

#### All About Owls - Presented by Nature's Educators

Saturday, January 14, 10:30 - 11:30 am Join us in our auditorium for a presentation by Nature's Educators with live owls! Learn all about these night hunters and the physical and behavioral adaptations they have that helps them survive in the wild. Don't miss this chance to see four different owls up close and personal.



#### Wildlife Viewing Tours

Saturday, January 14 & 28, 9:30 - 11:00 am Saturday, February 11 & 18, 9:30 - 11:00 am

The quiet of winter and a blanket of snow provide excellent wildlife viewing opportunities! Join us on our Refuge bus for a guided wildlife viewing tour in search of bald eagles, ferruginous hawks, bison, coyotes, deer, and more. Groups up to 10 are welcome.



#### Wildlife Viewing Tours - El Español

Saturday January 21, 9:30 - 11:00 am Saturday, February 4, 9:30 - 11:00 am Tours guiados para observar la vida silvestre por autobús en español. Acompáñenos para una visita guiada donde tendrá la oportunidad de ver bisontes, halcones, coyotes, aves, aguillas, venados y mucho más! El espacio es limitado y se requieren reservaciones. Llame a Delissa Padilla Nieves 303-236-4315 para reservar su asiento.

#### Wild Valentine

Thursday, February 9, 10:00 – 11:00 am Celebrate Valentine's Day the wild animal way! Discover how wildlife uses song, dance, and games to attract a valentine while we play-act these fun, silly, and interesting behaviors. We'll even make a wildlife Valentine's Day craft! This program is for kids 2 to 5 years old and is designed for fun adult-child interaction.

#### Talon Talk - Presented by Nature's Educators

Saturday, February 25, 10:30 - 11:30 am Get a chance to see raptors up close and personal in this auditorium program by Nature's Educators. Discover the characteristics that define raptors and why they are important to our ecosystems. You will also learn about the various types of birds of prey found all over the world, what it takes to care for a bird of prey, and learn more about Nature's Educators raptors.

#### Who's Tracking Who?

Saturday, February 25, 1:00 – 2:30 pm Join us in the auditorium to learn how to find and identify animal tracks during an indoor program, and then head outside to practice. Gain skills in reading and interpreting how tracks tell stories. You will also experience different ways of preserving tracks. At the end of this program participants will take home their own plaster casts of tracks.

Reservations are required for these <u>FREE</u> programs. Call 303-289-0930. Please dress for weather. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Assistance dogs are welcome.

Assistance dogs are welcome. Refuge staff reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs due to unforeseen circumstances and any programs with less than 10 participants.

Visit us online at www.fws.gov/refuge/rocky\_mountain\_arsenal/ or at http://www.facebook.com/RMANationalWildlifeRefuge

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#### First Fridays at the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository

Friday, January 6, 10:00 am - 11:00 am or 2:00 - 3:00 pm Friday, February 3, 10:00 am - 11:00 am or 2:00 - 3:00 pm Learn about the wildlife trade and illegal wildlife trafficking while you explore wildlife items that have been confiscated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at our ports of entry. You will also learn about the Native American Eagle Feather Program. For ages 12 and up. <u>Reservations by email</u> (for Repository tours only): nwpr@fws.gov. Learn more at: https://www.fws.gov/wildliferepository

#### Seed Collection

#### Saturday, January 21,, Noon - 2:00 pm

Help Refuge staff gather flowering shrub seeds to be used in prairie restoration projects throughout the Refuge. These plants provide late season nectar sources for pollinators like bats, birds, bees, and butterflies while they are in the area. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

#### **Planting for Pollinators**

#### Saturday, February 4, Noon - 2:00 pm

Refuge staff need your help to introduce flowering plants into a restored prairie. These forbs provide early and mid-season nectar sources for pollinators like bats, birds, bees, and butterflies. Recommended for ages 12 and up.

#### Refuge Hours and Address

Hours: Monday - Sunday sunrise to sunset 6550 Gateway Road, Commerce City, CO 80022 The Refuge is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

#### Visitor Center Hours

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. The Visitor Center is closed on all Federal holidays

#### **Refuge News**

#### Wildlife Drive Expansion!

Visitors can now access the northern portion of the Refuge by taking the expanded 11-mile Wildlife Drive loop. The Drive provides additional wildlife viewing and photography for raptors, bison, deer, coyotes, waterfowl and more!

#### Black-footed Ferret Exhibit

One of North America's most endangered mammals, the black-footed ferret, call the Refuge home. Get an up close look at our resident ferrets in our free, indoor/outdoor live black-footed ferret exhibit. Located near the Visitor Center patio, the indoor exhibit is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, and the outdoor exhibit is open from sunrise to sunset.

#### Winter Fun in the Discovery Room

Explore the seasonal activities, crafts and hands-on displays in the Visitor Center's Discovery Room. Learn to identify animal tracks, make a coyote mask or bald eagle craft, or create a puppet show with seasonal puppets.

#### **Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge**

The Refuge is currently closed to visitors. Monthly guided nature hikes will resume in the spring. Please watch for our March - April Wild News for program dates. For more information about Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge visit www.fws.gov/refuge/rocky\_flats/.

#### Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge

Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge, located in Arvada, Colorado, is the smallest urban refuge in the country and part of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge complex. Visit www.fws.gov/twoponds for upcoming programs.

#### Two Ponds NWR Address and Hours

9210 W. 80th Ave, Arvada, CO 80005 Hours: <u>West side -</u> dawn to dusk; 7 days a week <u>East Side</u> - October to April (closed for winter)

Reservations are required for these <u>FREE</u> programs. Call 303-289-0930. Please dress for weather. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Assistance dogs are welcome.

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