

MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



January 2018

The Visitor Center is open every day of the week from **8 am to 4 pm**.
 Trails and wildlife drives **open sunrise to sunset daily**. For more information call **321-861-0669**.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Visitor Center Closed Happy New Year!	2 Bus Tour 9am Alligator Program 12pm Boardwalk Hike 12pm	3	4 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm Bobcat Chat 12:30pm	5 Fire Program 1pm	6 Bus Tour 9am Butterfly Survey 9am Trash Bash 9am Kid's Christmas Bird Count 9am
7 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	8	9 Bus Tour 9am Alligator Program 12pm Boardwalk Hike 12pm	10 Eagle Talk 12:30 pm	11 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm Bobcat Chat 12:30pm	12	13 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire Program 1pm
14 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	15	16 Bus Tour 9am Alligator Program 12pm Boardwalk Hike 12pm	17	18 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm	19	20 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire Program 1pm
21 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	22	23 Bus Tour 9am Alligator Program 12pm Boardwalk Hike 12pm	24 Black Point Bus Tour 12:30pm Eagle Talk 12:30 pm Space Coast Birding Festival	25 Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Bobcat Talk 12:30pm Birding Hike- Pine Flatwoods Trail 9:30am	26 Space Coast Birding Festival	27 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Space Coast Birding Festival
28 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	29	30 Bus Tour 9am Alligator Program 12pm Boardwalk Hike 12pm	31			

Butterfly Survey, Volunteers Needed

Saturday, January 6th at 9:00 am

View a photo presentation to learn how to identify butterflies. Then, participate in a butterfly survey to collect data for the North American Butterfly Count and Florida Butterfly Monitoring Network. Bring water, snacks, insect repellent and wear closed shoes and long pants. Meet in the auditorium in the visitor center.

Trash Bash, Volunteers Needed

Saturday, January 6th at 9:00 am

Help make the refuge a better, cleaner place by joining us on the first Saturday of each month through March to help clean up the refuge and make space for wildlife. We will meet at the Bairs Cove Boat Ramp turn off. Grabbers, gloves, and trash bags will be provided.

Open to people of all ages.

Black Point Wildlife Drive Bus Tour

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 9 am

Join a knowledgeable refuge volunteer for a guided two hours in the Refuge Shuttle bus for an opportunity to identify the varieties of birds found on the refuge such as the Reddish Egret, Florida Scrub jay, Great Blue herons and many more! Meet at the refuge visitor information center front desk. **Space is limited so please call (321) 861-0669 for reservations. Fee of \$5 per person, \$2.50 with senior or access pass.**

Dates for Tuesday: 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/30

Dates for Thursday: 1/4, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25

Dates for Saturday: 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27

Dates for Sunday: 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28

Wednesday, January 24th at 12:30pm

Guided Boardwalk Hike – Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12:00pm

Join for a guided tour of the 1/4 mile boardwalk hike around the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center to learn about the local flora, fauna and history of the area.

Alligator Program - Tuesdays at 12:00pm

Learn about the natural history of this intriguing reptile and handle gator bio-facts. Held in the auditorium of the visitor center.

Bobcat Chat– 12:30pm

View a photo presentation about the elusive creatures and learn about the bobcat's natural history.

Dates for Thursday: 1/4, 1/11, 1/25

Ranger Program: Fire at 1:00pm

Join a Ranger to learn about fire ecology on Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and its vital role in maintaining habitat for local flora and fauna.

Dates for Friday: 1/5

Dates for Saturday: 1/13, 1/20

Eagle Talk - Wednesday, January 10th and 24th at 12:30pm

Enjoy a photo presentation about the American Bald Eagle, and learn the life history of our National Bird. Held in the auditorium of the visitor center.

Kid's Christmas Bird Count– Saturday, January 6th: 9am-12pm

Kids and families will have the chance to become citizen scientists by taking part in an old tradition with a new twist, the 2018 Christmas Bird Count for Kids (CBC4K). Held at the refuge visitor center.

Please call (321) 861-0669 to register!

Birder Hike– Pine Flatwoods Trail: January 25th at 9:30am

Join a knowledgeable refuge volunteer on a guided birding hike of the Pine Flatwoods Trail. There are opportunities to view the Florida Scrub-Jay, American Bald Eagle, Bobwhite, Towhee, and many more! Please meet at the refuge visitor center prior to the hike.