

MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



# February 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 Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm Bobcat Chat 1:30pm	2	3 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Trash Bash 9am Butterfly Survey 11am
4 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	5	6 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm	7	8 Black Point Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm	9	10 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire Program 1pm
11 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	12	13 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm	14 Eagle Talk 12:30 pm	15 Black Point Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm	16	17 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire Program 1pm
18 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	19	20 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm	21	22 Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm Bobcat Chat 1:30pm	23	24 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire Program 1pm Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga
25 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	26	27 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm	28 Eagle Talk 12:30 pm			

### **Trash Bash, Volunteers Needed**

**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am**

Help make the refuge a more beautiful, 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.**

### **Butterfly Survey, Volunteers Needed**

**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 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.

### **Black Point Wildlife Drive Bus Tour**

**Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 9 am**

Join a knowledgeable refuge volunteer for a guided two hour tour 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: 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27

Dates for Thursday: 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22

Dates for Saturday: 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

Dates for Sunday: 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25

### **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 - Thursdays 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– Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30pm**

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

### **Fire Program- Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, & 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Eagle Talk - Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga– Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

The Little Yoga Hut is hosting Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga on the Indian River Lagoon. This class welcomes all levels of experience! There are three times available and each class has a max of 5 people. Classes take place at the Sandler Education Pavilion on the Indian River Lagoon.

**Class Times– 7:00am, 8:15am, 9:30am**

**Please call the refuge visitor center at (321) 861-0669 to register!**