

MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

# June 2018



The Visitor Center is open Monday - Saturday from **8 am to 4 pm** and is **closed** on Sundays.  
 Trails and wildlife drives **open sunrise to sunset daily**. For more information call **321-861-0669**.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	2 Black Point Bus Tour 9am <b>Butterfly Survey 9am</b>
3 <i>VC Closed</i>	4	5	6	7	8 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	9 Black Point Bus Tour 9am <b>Pine Flatwoods Hike 9:15am</b>
10 <i>VC Closed</i>	11	12 Boardwalk Hike 12pm	13	14 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm	15 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	16 Black Point Bus Tour 9am <b>Here Today, Gone Tomorrow 10am</b>
17 <i>VC Closed</i>	18	19 Boardwalk Hike 12pm	20	21 <b>Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga</b> Bus Tour 9am BW Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm	22 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	23 Black Point Bus Tour 9am <b>Legendary Lagoons 9am</b>
24 <i>VC Closed</i>	25	26 Boardwalk Hike 12pm	27	28 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm Alligator Program 12pm	29 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	30 Black Point Bus Tour 9am <b>Seashore Explore 9am</b>



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

**Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 of the visitor center.

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

**Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 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.**

### **Alligator Program - Thursdays at 12:00pm**

Join us to explore the natural history and biology of this intriguing reptile. You will handle gator bio-facts and learn how you can estimate the size alligators that you see. Held in the auditorium of the refuge visitor center.

**Alligator program will not be held on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.**

### **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.

**Dates for Tuesday: 6/12, 6/19, 6/26**

**Dates for Thursday: 6/14, 6/21, 6/28**

### **Pine Flatwoods Guided Hike**

**Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am**

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.

### **Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga– Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

Welcome in the summer season with our free Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga classes. No experience with yoga or stand up paddleboards is required. All ages are welcome. Space is limited so call 321-861-0669 to register. Classes take place at the Sandler Education Pavilion on the Indian River Lagoon. **Class Times– 7:00am, 8:15am, 9:30am**

### **Junior Ranger Days**

Join us for our **Summer Junior Ranger Days**, where children ages 7-12 can learn more about the refuge and the world around them. Each program will feature nature-based activities, crafts, and games! At the end of the summer, children will be awarded their badges and prizes for three out of six programs. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, and registration is required. To register, please call (321) 861-0668.

### **Here Today, Gone Tomorrow - Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's mission is to help protect wildlife and their habitats. FWS enforces the Endangered Species Act, which helps to protect endangered and threatened species. Learn which endangered animals are nearby and how we can help protect them!

### **Legendary Lagoon - Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9am**

Loads of animals call the Indian River Lagoon home either year-round or part-time. Come seine in the lagoon and conduct water quality tests to see how healthy of a home this habitat is. Participants should wear closed tie-up shoes and clothes that they can get wet.

### **Seashore Explore - Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am**

Come learn about the amazing creatures that creep and crawl in and out of the sea! This adventure will take place with our National Park Service neighbor, Canaveral National Seashore!

**The Visitor Center is closed on Sundays.**