



MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

October 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	2	3 Fire: Friend or Foe? 1pm	4 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm All About Alligators 12pm	5 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	6 Butterfly Survey 9am Black Point Bus Tour 9am Hawk Watch 10am
7 <i>VC Closed</i>	8	9	10 Fire: Friend or Foe? 1pm	11 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm All About Alligators 12pm	12 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	13 Black Point Bus Tour 9am
14 <i>VC Closed</i>	15 BYOB: Bring Your Own Boat Tour 9am	16 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	17 Bus Tour 9am Eagle Update and Viewing 12pm Fire: Friend or Foe? 1pm	18 Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm All About Alligators 12pm	19 Black Point Bus Tour 9am How Hands Changed the Land 1pm	20 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire: Friend or Foe? 1pm #Instameet 6pm
21 <i>VC Closed</i>	22	23	24	25 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Boardwalk Hike 12pm All About Alligators 12pm	26 Black Point Bus Tour 9am	27 Black Point Bus Tour 9am Fire: Friend or Foe? 1pm
28 <i>VC Closed</i>	29	30	31 Happy Halloween!			

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Sunday, October 14th – Saturday, October 20th

Black Point Wildlife Drive Bus Tour

Tuesday, October 16th - Saturday, October 20th at 9:00am

Free guided two hour tours of Black Point Wildlife Drive will be led by refuge staff and volunteers. **Space is limited so please call (321) 861-0669 to reserve your spot.**

BYOB - Bring Your Own Boat Tour

Monday, October 15th at 9:00am

Join the party to experience hidden ponds on the Refuge with Refuge Volunteer Al Brayton with your own canoe or kayak! This tour will meet at the Refuge Visitor Center. **Call 321-861-0669 to reserve your spot as space is limited on this program.**

Refuge Eagle Update and Viewing

Wednesday, October 17th at 12:00pm

Learn from our Volunteer Eagle Crew in the Refuge Visitor Center auditorium for a 45-minute presentation all about the avian symbol of our country, the eagle, and their populations here at the Refuge. Afterwards, observe eagles in the wild.

How Hands Changed the Land

Friday, October 19th at 1:00pm

Long before the Kennedy Space Center or Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge came to exist, wildlife and people alike called this place home. Learn about how as the land changed hands, hands changed the lands in this 45-minute auditorium talk.

Insider Edition: #Instameet

Saturday, October 20th at 6:00pm

Want to learn about the role photography has played in the establishment of federal lands? Just want to take sick shots during golden hour? Meet Ranger Lindsey at the Refuge Visitor Center at 6 p.m. to explore the Refuge and some hidden gems.

Hawk Watch - Saturday, October 6th at 10:00am

Join refuge volunteer, Al Brayton, at the Sandler Education Pavilion to identify a variety of raptor species for the annual survey. There are opportunities to view Peregrine Falcons, American Kestrels, Cooper's Hawk, and many more species.

Butterfly Survey - Saturday, October 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 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.**

Fire: Friend or Foe? – 1:00pm

Join a ranger to learn about fire ecology and the prescribed burning program on Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and its vital role in maintaining habitat for local wildlife. The program will be held in the auditorium of the refuge visitor center.

Wednesday: 10/3, 10/10, 10/17

Saturday: 10/20, 10/27

All About Alligators - 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.

Guided Boardwalk Hike – 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.

The Visitor Center is closed on Sundays.