



Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
W28488 Refuge Rd.
Trempealeau, WI 54661

Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

Bird Festival



Saturday
May 15, 2010
9 AM to 4 PM

Welcome to Our 2010 Bird Festival

Every year the National Wildlife Refuge System celebrates International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) to encourage support for migratory bird conservation. This day focuses attention on the nearly 350 species of migratory birds that travel long distances between breeding and non-breeding sites throughout the Western Hemisphere.

This year we celebrate...

"The Power of Partnerships"

In honor of the 20th anniversary of the innovative public/private consortium, Partners in Flight, this year's IMBD event highlights 20 inspiring stories of successful bird-protecting collaborations. The revival of the endangered Whooping Crane is one encouraging example. Despite dwindling to a population of only 15 in the 1940s, there are nearly 400 Whooping Cranes today.

Another of the 20 notable success stories focuses on the resurgence of the Peregrine Falcon. Extinction of the Peregrine Falcon was nearly certain when the impact of DDT insecticide thinned U.S. populations from 4,000 individuals to less than 50 pairs in 1975. The Peregrine Fund took action, joined by a band of volunteers, biologists and falconers who nurtured over 5,100 young falcons in captivity before releasing them. When the Peregrine Falcon was taken off the endangered species list in 1999, 3,300 adults had returned to the skies.

Join Us - May 15, 2010

THE POWER OF REFUGE PARTNERSHIPS



At Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, we work closely with a variety of partners to ensure refuge management strategies accomplish and promote sound conservation practices for all wildlife species.

We rely a great deal on the power of our partnerships such as refuge volunteers, Friends of Trempealeau Refuge, other federal, state and local agencies to reach our goals.

Thank you to all entities that work closely with this refuge, those that love this refuge and make it a place where wildlife and people come together.

You Can Be A Partner Just By Doing These Simple Things for Birds:

- ✚ Plant native plants
- ✚ Avoid using pesticides in your yard.
- ✚ Use leashes for both cats and dogs when enjoying the outdoors.
- ✚ Volunteer for a bird conservation project.
- ✚ Take some young folks birding!

To find more information about **The Power of Partnerships** and about IMBD, please visit

<http://www.birdday.org/birdday/themes/2010>

Special Hikes



“Early Bird” Gets The Worm!

7:00 AM Duration: 1.5 hours
Take an early morning walk with experienced birders to see who’s flitting around so early in the morning! *Meet at the big tent across from the Refuge Office to begin the hike.*

Birding Is For Everyone - Bird Hikes

9:00 AM & 2:00 PM Duration: 1 hour
Birding is for everyone. Available to all ages, this hour-long hike is leisurely and designed for the novice birder. Binoculars will be available. *Meet at the big tent across from the Refuge Office to begin the hike.*

Canoeing for the Birds!

1:00 PM Duration: 1.5 hours.
Take a canoe tour in search of birds on refuge pools – canoes and lifejackets will be provided or participants may also bring their own. Children must be accompanied by an adult. *Meet at the refuge boat ramp.*

Pre-registration required – call 608/539-2311 ext. 16.

Prairie Wildflower Walk

2:30 PM Duration: 1 hour
Take a walk in the prairie with Refuge volunteers to see what is blooming! *Meet at the big tent across from the Refuge Office.*

Night Hike

8:30 PM Duration: 1.5 hours.
Prowl around the Refuge at night with a Refuge guide. Enjoy the Refuge at night as it comes alive with sounds that will keep you curious along the way. *Meet at the big tent across from the Refuge Office.*

Pre-registration required – call 608/539-2311 ext. 16.

Special Guests

1:00 PM

David Slager, graduate student and researcher from Ohio State University will present information about stopover ecology of migrant warblers and their dependence on specific habitat types during migration. Dave will talk about the use of radio tracking and how it is used to understand warbler movement during their stopover at the refuge. This research project is possible through a collaborative effort of USGS, USFWS and Ohio State University.

Meet A Raptor! 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Join us at the activities tent to meet and learn about “Sky”, a red-tailed hawk used for educational purposes. Sky represents one of the most common raptors that take to the sky and are often seen perched on fence posts or on old trees alongside open fields. *Meet at the festival activities tent. Programs will be ongoing.*

I Wish I Could Fly

7:00 PM Duration: 1 hour
Join us in the big tent to experience the joy of birds through digital photography presented by Alan Stankevitz. Alan captures the pure beauty of these incredible birds and shares his passion through an awe-inspiring slide presentation put to music. *Meet at the big tent across from the Refuge Office. Warning:* some of the photography you will see is breathtaking.

Bird Banding Demonstrations

9 AM to 2 PM
Watch how wild birds are banded and recorded for research purposes. Participants will get a band for joining in! *Meet next to the big tent across from the Refuge Office.*
**Programs are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.*



Festival Activities

All activities listed below are at the Big Tent across from the Refuge Office

What’s Your Wingspan?

Come learn about birds and their amazing wings! Glide, flap, soar, and hover...there are many ways birds fly and it is all about the wings! You will be AMAZED!

CSI - Critter Scooping Investigators!

Ever wonder about all the little creepy, crawly, squiggly critters living in the water? Be an aquatic critter investigator! A small pool will be set up with water from the Refuge pools. Come by and get a close up look at all the cool critters that make a healthy wetland!

Let’s Go Outside

Adventure backpacks will be available for check out all day long. Backpacks have binoculars, bird books, and other activities that make discovering the world of nature more fun!

Make A Face

Special bird faces painting activity! Stop by and have a special artist paint your face and enjoy the festivities along the way.

Art in the Refuge

Create your own unique bird magnet. Bird festival magnets will educate and showcase several birds that are champions for bird conservation. Be a partner and put your mark on your very own artwork. Everyone can participate and be an artist for the day!

Eat Like A Bird! Tasty snacks will be on hand from our Friends Group while supplies last.



Displays on Parade...

Several exciting displays will be available for viewing at the Big Tent. Enjoy the Friends photo contest winners, Jr. Duck Stamp artwork, and migration projects from Trempealeau Elementary 3rd Grade will be here for the festival!

Books For Everyone!

Stop in at the Friends bookstore located inside the Refuge office to browse a wonderful line up of nature related books! Birds, bugs, frogs and more, you will find the perfect gift for yourself or someone special!

Bird-Song Education & Nature Products



Bird-Song will conduct a children’s bird song identification activity, using electronic calls and colorful plush birds to educate through a visual and audio birding experience. Bird-Song will also have a variety of wild bird and nature products on display for the young and not so young that want to enjoy our migratory birds in the National Wildlife Refuges or right in their own backyard.

Photo: University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, EFPA



Event Partners
Thanks to everyone who made this special day possible!

- ✚ Friends of Trempealeau Refuge
- ✚ Refuge Volunteers
- ✚ Bird-Song Nature Products
- ✚ Houston Nature Center & Their Friends
- ✚ Upper Miss Refuge
- ✚ Wisconsin DNR
- ✚ U.S. Geological Survey - La Crosse Office
- ✚ UMESC-Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center