



July 2018

## Join us on Friday, July 20th, 2018, at Lucy's Garden in Ridgefield for our Annual Fundraiser!

**LET'S CELEBRATE!**

Join us for a festive evening of dinner, drinks, silent and live auctions, & good company in support of  
**Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**

Tickets - \$80  
Table Sponsorship - \$1,000 for 10 seats

**July 20th, 2018, 6:00 - 9:00pm**  
**Lucy's Garden, 3302 NW Carty Road, Ridgefield**  
Purchase your tickets or table sponsorship at  
[ridgefieldfriends.org](http://ridgefieldfriends.org)

\* A portion of the ticket price is tax-deductible

© Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

(click to view larger or download)

Our Annual Fundraiser is right around the corner! We hope you'll join us on July 20th as we celebrate the past year and look ahead at our plans for the year ahead. Details and ticket sales for the event are below. We look forward to celebrating with you!

**WHEN** - Friday, July 20th, 6pm - 9pm

**WHERE** - Lucy's Garden, 3302 NW Carty Road, Ridgefield

**WHAT** - Dinner, drinks, silent and live auction, and a short program (\*Dress code - Comfortable! This event takes place outside in a garden, with some areas of uneven surface; please plan accordingly!)

**TICKETS** - Individual tickets are \$80 (includes one free drink); Table Sponsorships available for \$1,000 (for 10 seats); a portion of ticket price is tax-deductible.

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**Support the Refuge  
& Become a  
Member**

**Join or Renew**

### Benefits of Membership: Discounts at Local Businesses for New and Renewing Members:



Would you like to enjoy a cup of coffee from Ridgefield's Seasons after a morning hike on the Refuge? Lunch at Vinnie's Pizza in-between the River 'S' and Carty Units? Dinner and drinks at the

[For the evening's overview, to purchase your seats, or to find out more, click HERE](#)

*If you have any questions, or need an alternative means to purchase a ticket, please contact us at (360) 887-9495 or [alix@ridgefieldfriends.org](mailto:alix@ridgefieldfriends.org).*

## 2018 Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Photo Contest!

**Back, and better than ever!**



Submit your favorite nature images taken within the boundaries of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge to the 12th Annual 2018 photography competition. This year we are switching things up! We are looking for categories of photos, and adults can only win 1st or 2nd place in each category. Youth prizes stay the same. We look forward to seeing your entries! Submit by: September 3, 2018.

### ADULT CATEGORY PRIZES:

1st Place in each category: \$200 Pro Photo Supply Gift Card  
2nd Place in each category: \$100 Pro Photo Supply Gift Card  
Categories:

- **Birds** - Birds and waterfowl in their natural habitat
- **Wildlife** - Any wildlife other than birds - mammals, amphibians, fish, insects, reptiles, and invertebrates in their natural habitat
- **Plant Life** - Trees, grasses, flowers, fungi, mushrooms, and other flora in their natural habitat
- **Landscape & Structures** - The Refuge contains a mosaic of scenic views, including iconic structures such as the Cathlapotle Plankhouse

### YOUTH PRIZES:

Gift Cards from Pro Photo Supply  
1st Place: \$100 Gift Card  
2nd Place: \$75 Gift Card  
3rd Place: \$50 Gift Card

[For Rules, Regulations, Eligibility, or to Submit click HERE!](#)

Photo Credit: Raul Moreno 2nd Place 2017 Photo Contest Winner

## From the Contact Station

### Helping Wildlife Succeed

The Mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.



In 1964, a few of us might remember, there was a massive earthquake in Alaska which

Historic Sportsman's Restaurant and Lounge after a busy day of wildlife viewing (5% off with member card!)? Or maybe you would like to get a discount on some supplies at Shorty's or Backyard Bird Shop? How about a night out at Ilani, or a beautiful yard courtesy of Shorty's Nursery?

[Find out more, or become a Friend or renew your membership today,](#) and receive a member card with great discounts at these wonderful local businesses! Feel free to [contact us](#) for any questions or inquiries.

## Calling all Volunteers!

### Types of Volunteer Opportunities:

#### Habitat Restoration

Volunteers get to see the most beautiful places on the Refuge while helping to ensure that native wildlife have food and shelter. Summer work is focused on maintaining winter plantings and controlling invasive plants that threaten to take over habitat. Crews meet on most Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Contact Sean Davis at [Sean\\_Davis@fws.gov](mailto:Sean_Davis@fws.gov) or 360-887-3883 x 14

#### Refuge and Trail Greeters

Over 120,000 visitors flock to the Refuge annually to enjoy nature through participation in wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, cultural interpretation, hunting, and fishing. Volunteers help to make their experiences meaningful. Share your enthusiasm for nature and make the Refuge a welcoming place for people walking our trails, stopping at the Visitor Contact Station and driving the AutoTour. Contact Josie Finley at [josie\\_finley@fws.gov](mailto:josie_finley@fws.gov) or 360-887-4106 x 130

#### Cathlapotle Plankhouse

The Cathlapotle Plankhouse draws thousands of visitors to the Refuge each year. Help share the legacy of the Indigenous people who have tended to this place since time immemorial as a Plankhouse Docent



altered the landscape of an area where the Dusky subspecies of the Canada Goose nested. To help mitigate the impact on the Dusky (Canada) Goose population, Ridgefield, along with other Willamette Valley Refuges, was established to provide reliable and healthy wintering grounds. Each winter from November to mid-April... [Keep Reading...](#)

-Susan Setterberg, Volunteer & Board President

## Ridgefield Refuge Complex

### News & Events



## Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

### Have a Fun and Safe Summer on the Refuge!



1. **Water:** Make sure to bring water with you whether you are planning a long or a short visit. It is going to be a hot summer and there is no access to drinking water on the Refuge.

2. **Restroom facilities:** There are restrooms at the trailheads of both the Carty and River 'S' Units, and one stop right before the Kiwa Trail on the River 'S' Auto Tour Route, but there are no other facilities available to the public.

3. **Bring a Snack:** Just like with water, we want you to stay healthy and happy. Plan to bring a snack on longer walks, but keep in mind there are no picnic areas on the Refuge.

4. **Trash Receptacles:** There are no trash cans available so please pack out anything you bring in with you. We really appreciate it, and the wildlife does too!

5. **Appropriate Shoes:** If you plan to walk anywhere on the Refuge, we recommend wearing shoes that protect your feet. While Refuge staff strive to keep grasses, poison oak and stinging nettle back from the trails, they are always around, as well as fallen branches, rocks and more.

6. **Fire:** Fireworks and burning are strictly prohibited on the Refuge, please protect our wildlife.

7. **Ticks:** Ticks are crafty- even on open trails they can find their way onto humans, so make sure to check yourself after a visit to the Refuge.

8. **Heat:** If the temperatures become too extreme, the Cathlapotle Plankhouse may be closed during it's regular open hours on the weekend. Keep up to date on sudden closures by checking the [Friends Facebook page here](#). You do not need to have a Facebook account to check.

or Cultural Educator. Field trips take place during the weekdays. Docents staff the house on weekends from April - September. Contact Juliet McGraw at [juliet\\_mcgraw@fws.gov](mailto:juliet_mcgraw@fws.gov) 360-887-4106 x 123

#### Education

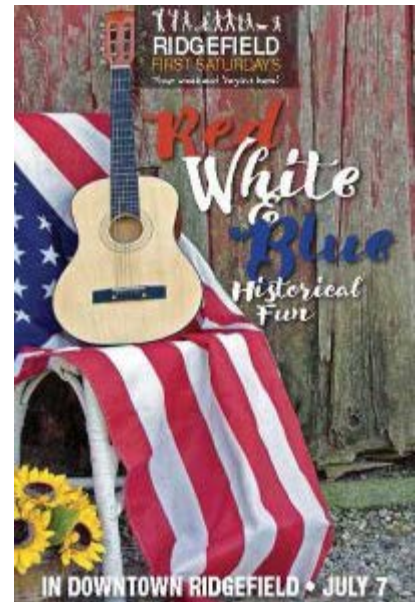
Help us inspire the next generation. Kids of all ages need hands-on learning and inspiration in the great outdoors as part of a well-rounded education. We need your help to make their visit to the Refuge fun and memorable. Field trips take place during the weekdays starting in April. Contact Josie Finley at [josie\\_finley@fws.gov](mailto:josie_finley@fws.gov) or 360-887-4106 x 130

Now you can sign up to volunteer easily on our website! [Check it out by clicking here!](#)

Don't forget to glance at the [Refuge calendar](#), your one-stop shop for fun activities and volunteer opportunities!

## Ridgefield First Saturday: Red, White & Blue Historical Fun

July 7th, 2018 9am - 3:00pm



Thank you for visiting the Refuge and supporting conservation. If you have any questions regarding activities and regulations on the Refuge, call the office Monday through Friday 7:30am to 3:30 pm at 360-887-4106.

Gain a new understanding of old Ridgefield on this day full of play and discovery. Red, white & blue costume contest, games, icy kid & adult treats, a heritage-based scavenger hunt, convening with town elders, wine & beer garden and live music.

[See the full schedule here!](#)

## Cathlapotle Plankhouse Update & Events



**CATHLAPOTLE PLANKHOUSE**  
Celebrating Ten Years ▶ 2005 - 2015

### Oaksplora the Plankhouse and Refuge this July!

July 8, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Oaksploration at Ridgefield  
National Wildlife Refuge  
On the Carty Unit, 28908 N Main,  
Ridgefield, WA 98642  
Refuge entrance fee applies

10:00 AM: "Early" Bird Walk with  
Refuge Naturalist

12:30 PM: Presentation: Oak  
Restoration Update- Deputy  
Director of Ridgefield National

## Species Spotlight

Yellow-headed Blackbird  
*Xanthocephalus*  
*xanthocephalus*



Have you been lucky enough to glimpse this striking yellow bird between the cattails this spring and summer? Within the crowds of Red-winged blackbirds, you can sometimes spot the Yellow-headed blackbird's golden head and black body (with a white patch on the wings) in freshwater wetlands and nearby fields. Like many refuge natives, these birds enjoy insects in the summer and seeds the rest of the year. They are adept at

Wildlife Refuge, Eric Anderson provides a walk and talk update on the planned Oak Restoration of the Carty Unit. Meet at the Big Oak.

**12:00 PM - 4:00 PM:** Plankhouse Tours and Activities- Explore hands-on displays inside the Plankhouse and family-friendly activities throughout the day.

**2:00 PM:** Naturalist Guided Walk- Discover the relationship that the people of Cathlapotle had with oaks, and how they managed their landscape. (click flyer to view larger or download)

### Community Partnership Award from PSU

The USFWS was honored as an Outstanding Community Partner at the annual Indigenous Nations Studies Community Awards Banquet at Portland State University for work in supporting Urban Native Culture, and connecting people to place. The Friends are proud to a part of this recognition. We have been collaborating with the USFWS and the PSU iTEK (indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge) Program over the past two years, working to revitalize and invigorate the presence of culturally significant native plants around the Plankhouse and the Oaks to Wetlands Trail. This partnership has blossomed in unexpected ways and you will need to stay tuned as we will be officially welcoming our new PSU iTEK intern this later this month!



catching insects... [Keep Reading...](#)

Photo By: Virginia Scott

## Birding Enthusiasts



See what is being seen at the Refuge this week at our [Bird Sightings and Species List](#) page



*Preserve America is a national initiative in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; the U.S. Departments of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities; and the President's Council on Environmental Quality.*



## Granting Organizations & Partners

## Habitat Restoration Updates & Events

Summer is here full throttle!

The Ridgefield NWR Habitat



Program is throttle wide-open from June through September meaning we could use all the helpful volunteers we can get. Every Wednesday (except July 4<sup>th</sup>) and Saturday from 9 AM-12:30 PM volunteers will search out and remove Ricefield Bulrush. We will meet on the River S Unit by the Hunt Gate parking area and work the wetlands along the Auto Tour Route....

We will also need a few folks with their own kayaks, canoes, or paddle boards for shoreline surveys in late July and August along Lake River and some of our sloughs. You will need some plant id skills and of course a good understanding of water safety. There will be some time required to go over plants and mapping so this is more than a one-day event... Keep Reading... (click flyer to view larger or download)

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# HABITAT RESTORATION

**9:00 AM - 12:30 PM**  
**Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**  
 (Meet at the Visitor Kiosk on the River S Unit of the Refuge. 1071 Hillhurst, Ridgefield, WA)

**HELP RESTORE HABITAT ON THE REFUGE**

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge invites you to join us in the field this summer and help make a difference. We will be walking our wetlands in search of the Washington State Class A invasive plant, Ricefield bulrush.

All work days are rain or shine. Rubber boots and gloves provided. Wear long pants. We will also provide drinking water and snacks to keep you hydrated and fueled. Arrive early to sign volunteer paperwork. Parent/Guardian signature required for those under 18.

**Volunteer & Community Service Opportunities**

**Wednesdays**  
 June: 20, 27  
 July: 11, 18, 25  
 August: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
 September: 5, 12, 19

**Saturdays**  
 June: 23, 30  
 July: 7, 14, 21, 28  
 August: 4, 11, 18, 25  
 September: 1, 8, 15

To sign up email: [Sean\\_Davis@fws.gov](mailto:Sean_Davis@fws.gov)  
 or visit [www.RidgefieldFriends.org](http://www.RidgefieldFriends.org)

Events sponsored by Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Complex and its partners, the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Service is committed to providing access to the event for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, dietary accommodations, or other accommodations needs to Keith Rutz, 360-867-3880, keith\_rutz@fws.gov, TTY 360-877-8330 with your request by close of business one week before the event.

[www.fws.gov/refuge/ridgefield](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/ridgefield)

Now you can sign up to volunteer easily on our website! Check it out by clicking here!

General Habitat Questions? Contact [Keith\\_Rutz@fws.gov](mailto:Keith_Rutz@fws.gov) for more information

## Help the Friends and the Refuge When You Shop



When you link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Friends, you help us earn donations from Fred Meyer Community Rewards. It doesn't change your regular personal shopping and fuel rewards, but it does make a meaningful contribution to our work on the Refuge.

It's easy to sign up. Just go to [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for us by our name, Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, or by our non-profit number, 89824. Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the Friends earn a donation to support the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

### Shop and Give Online at AmazonSmile.com

Log on to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), shop as you usually would and .5% of your purchase will be donated directly to the Friends.

**BirdFest & Bluegrass**

**In-Kind Support**

Lucy's Garden Winery  
 Ridgefield, Washington

**Craticle Design**

**NW Natural** We grew up here.

**Shorty's** GARDEN & HOME

**The Friends Sportsman's** Steak House & Saloon

**Donate**

Home, Facebook, Email icons



You shop. Amazon gives.

Use the special link, [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), with your existing user name and password.

To set up your AmazonSmile account, click this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-2018749>. When prompted to select a charity, choose the Friends of Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge. Begin shopping as you normally would and the Friends will receive 0.5% of eligible purchases.

### Or Shop Online and Give through Giving Assistant



Giving Assistant makes it easy to donate to Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge! Simply shop online, earn cash back, and donate as much as 30% of your purchase price—Giving Assistant facilitates the whole process. Now, you can help change the world for free while saving money at over 3,000 popular online retailers like Home Depot, ULTA, and Macy's! [Start HERE!](#)

Thanks for being an EcoShopper and helping the Refuge!

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## Follow the Friends on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Want regular updates on Refuge events and happenings? Follow the Friends on your favorite social media by clicking the logos below to stay connected even when you are off the Refuge.



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*Header Photo Credit: Javier Urquizu 2007 Photo Contest Honorable Mention*

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Address postal inquiries to:

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