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image credit: Raul Moreno, 2017, 2nd place Landscape Category, Refuge Photo Contest

The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The latest updates | January 2024

Refuge Open Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm*

**Note- Open hours change rapidly this time of year, make sure to check [the USFWS website](#) before heading out.*

Daily Entrance Fee:

- \$3.00 daily per vehicle, or up to four adults on foot.
- \$15.00 for an Annual Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge pass.

Payment by cash or check only. You can find payment envelopes at the kiosk in each unit.

The following federal lands passes are valid and must be registered at an entrance kiosk.

Note - State Discover passes are not valid at National Wildlife Refuges.

- America the Beautiful Annual Pass
- Senior Pass (Annual or Lifetime)
- Access Pass for those with a permanent disability
- Active Duty Military and Dependent passes
- Veteran's and Gold Star Families passes
- Every Kid Outdoors 4th Grade Grade Pass
- Volunteer Pass (earned with 250 hours of service)

Find out more about [fees & passes here.](#)

The Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Administration Office is open weekdays, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Please call ahead to check for staff availability. General inquiries M-F, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, may be answered at 360-887-4106.

Thank you 2023 Members, Donors, & Sponsors

You are the people that make today better for tomorrow.

(click to view larger or use a screen-reader)

Members and Donors 2023

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Jim Clapp
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Eva Daitoso
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Joy Diamond
Kaye Duncan
Champiika Edirisinghe
Wanda & Rudy Ellis -*Thinking of Susan today and missing her so much. With love.*
Lynn & Tanna Engdahl
Freya Fisher
Michelle Gardes
Judith Gardner
Judi Gilles -*In memory of Jim Gilles, Jim will be missed as an avid birder and naturalist.*
Cathy & Jim Gola
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Suzanne Whitney
Katherine Wiese
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Georgann Wingerson
Karen Wood
Peggy & Mark Wood
Marvin and Patricia Yoshinaka -*In Memory of Susan Wickersham*
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#GiveBig 2023

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Ken & Joan Turnbull
P & J VanWyhe
Suzanne Whitney
Bruce & Nicki Wiseman
Dan Heinrichs & Jennifer Wolcott
Whitney Wriston
Tom & Lisa Zeiner



Ridgefield Complex News & Events

Saturday Winter Birding Hikes

Walks start at 8:00 am at the Carty Unit of the Refuge, and pre-registration is required. While walks generally last two to three hours, you are welcome to stay or leave according to your needs. Walks are free but the \$3 refuge daily fee does apply.



Saturday Birding with Ron Escano:

- January 6, 8:00 am
- February 3, 8:00 am
- March 2, 8:00 am
- April 6, 8:00 am
- May 4, 8:00 am

Saturday Birding with Robert Vanderkamp:

- January 13, 8:00 am
- February 10, 8:00 am
- March 9, 8:00 am

[Head to the USFWS Website for Details & Signup](#)



Washington Junior Duck Stamp Contest

If you know a student in grades K-12 who enjoys observing nature and making art, this free competition is for them!

Learn more by visiting the following website:

[Washington Junior Duck Stamp Contest](#)

From the Contact Station

Gifts from Mother Nature

Sitting in my office contemplating this article I was surprised when a Bewick's wren was tapping on my window. I was REALLY surprised when I realized it was INSIDE my window. It must have come into the house when I had my garage door open this morning. It made its way to the bright windows of my office...Keep reading...

-Susan Setterberg, Contact Station Volunteer
Bald Eagles in a winter tree Photo by Susan Setterberg



Get your 2024 Refuge Photo Contest Calendars before it's too late!



View the 2023 Pro Photo Supply Ridgefield NWR Photo Contest Winners in this captivating collection!

8.5×11, XL, & Jumbo wall sizes available

Other items you don't need to rush for: photo contest image tote bags, sweatshirts, a variety of mug styles, photo cards, t-shirts, and more!

[Start Shopping](#)

Psst...if you love a good jigsaw puzzle on a winter day...

[Click Here for Puzzles!](#)

Help Wildlife with your Everyday Purchases

Let your pocket change work for you, and make a difference for nature, like helping to keep wildlife wild.

1. Head to RidgefieldFriends.org, then click the green "Donate" button on bottom-left of any page.
2. Activate any card you use for your daily purchases.
3. Set your monthly giving limit. You can change your limit at any time.
4. Every purchase you make with your designated card will be automatically rounded up, and the proceeds donated directly to the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge in support of the Refuge's programs.
5. While not required, by registering an account, you help reduce duplicates and allows you to access and edit your donation details at any time.

It's that easy!



[Donate Your Spare Change](#)

[Questions? Check out the FAQ, here.](#)

Birding Enthusiasts



Check out what species are being seen on the Refuge [here](#).

Ridgefield First Saturdays Rest & Recharge, 2024



Experts agree that even a few minutes of re-centering and calm can help you blow off some steam.

[Learn More Ways to Relax & Recharge](#)

News from Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge & the Gorge Refuge Stewards

The Gorge Refuge Stewards, a local stewardship group, has some exciting committee volunteer opportunities for those passionate about the environment, conservation, or sustainability. The Gorge Refuge Stewards support the Steigerwald Lake NWR, one of the Ridgefield NWR Complex's refuges, and help connect the community to nature.

Whether you have a couple hours a week, or only a couple hours a month, they'd love to know your interest.



Gorge Refuge Stewards
Volunteer Opportunities

Have a love of nature, conservation, or sustainability? We have opportunities for you!

The Gorge Refuge Stewards is an organization that supports the Steigerwald refuge and helps to connect the community to nature

Who are we?

Benefits | Actively helping conserve local refuges, develop professional skills for future employment, and networking opportunities

Questions? Email us at volunteer@refugestewards.org

Fill out the Interest Form to get started

Gorge Refuge Stewards Website

Stay Involved:

Friends Board Meetings

Join the Friends of Ridgefield NWR Board for their monthly meeting. Meetings start at **5:00 PM** every second Monday of the month and will be virtual through the winter. [Contact us](#) to join in!

Board Meeting Dates:

January 8, 2024

February 12, 2024



Board Seeking New Members Or, Join a Committee

We are recruiting candidates with diverse backgrounds and skills for several open board positions, in addition to candidates interested in serving on a committee (board membership not required). Find out more, and [contact us here](#)

Become a Business Alliance Member

As a member of the Friends of the RNWR Business Alliance, you invest in one of our urban metropolitan area's most unique and diverse natural and cultural resources. [Find out more](#)

Support While You Shop



When you link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Friends, you help us earn donations from Fred Meyer Community Rewards. It's easy to sign up. [Just click here.](#) Or search, Friends of Ridgefield NWR #PK822

Would you like to enjoy a cup of coffee from Ridgefield's Seasons Coffee after a morning hike on the Refuge? Lunch in-between the River 'S' and Carty Units? Dinner and drinks at the Historic Sportsman's Restaurant and Lounge? Or maybe you would like to get some supplies at Shovel & Thumb or Backyard Bird Shop? How about a night out at ilani?

Benefits of Membership



Find out more, 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.

The Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native and endangered birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest.

Sponsors:

Business Alliance Members:

In-Kind Support:



BirdFest & Bluegrass:



Granting Organizations & Partners:



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

