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Please add contact@ridgefieldfriends.org to your address book or safe senders list.
You are receiving this email because you are either a member or signed up for our mailing list.



image credit: Sandra Michaelis, 2018, 2nd place Plant Life Category, Pro Photo Supply Refuge Photo Contest

The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The latest updates | March 2024

Refuge Open Hours: 7:00 am - 6:00 pm*

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

You can enter both units of the RNWR by either paying an Entrance Fee, or using an eligible Entrance Pass.

Entrance Fee Options:

- **Pay Daily Entrance Fee - cash or check only.**
 - \$3.00 daily per vehicle, or up to four adults on foot.
- **Purchase An Annual Refuge Pass.**
 - \$15.00 for an Annual Ridgefield NWR pass
- **Become a Friends Member at \$60 or above.**
 - **Join here!** Opt-in after joining, and an Annual Refuge Pass will be mailed to you.

Entrance Pass Options:

- **Use your Federal Lands Pass.** [Check HERE](#) to see the list of eligible passes.
- Note: WA State Discover Passes are *not valid for entry.
- **View all details about [fees & passes here.](#)**

The Ridgefield NWR 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.

RIDGEFIELD NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

RIVER 'S' UNIT & CARTY UNIT

1071 S Hillhurst AVE
Auto Tour Route
Kiwa Trail

28908 NW Main AVE
Admin Office
Walking Trails
Cathlapotle Plankhouse

Interested in Volunteering?

There are just a few spots left in the two planned volunteer Orientations in March. Register by emailing RidgefieldVolunteer@FWS.gov, or scan the code on the digital flyer to the right!

Those with herbicide spraying and plant ID skills are the priority for the habitat program right now.

The Refuge needs administrative help; that includes working the front desk, helping with outreach, or just generally being a helping hand. If that sounds interesting to you, whether to learn something new or to help, they want you!

Sign up at Ridgefieldvolunteer@fws.gov



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer for the Ridgefield and/or Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuges in ways that capitalize on your interests, capabilities, and ambitions!

- ✓ Restore habitat for native species
- ✓ Greet visitors and help with clerical tasks
- ✓ Help with outreach to visitors and the community
- ✓ Engage students through nature-based experiences

No prior experience required!



Scan here to fill out the inquiry form

or email us at RidgefieldVolunteer@fws.gov

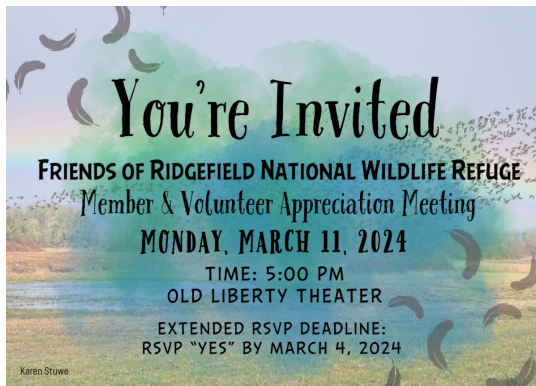


WWW.FWS.GOV/REFUGE/RIDGEFIELD

This event is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in collaboration with our partners, the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.



**Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge
Annual Member & Volunteer Appreciation Meeting**



RSVP by March 4, 2024!

Click the green button below to RSVP for our Annual Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Meeting on March 11! The Board and Staff of the Friends of Ridgefield NWR look forward to seeing you there, and celebrating our collective efforts!

Annual Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Meeting
When: Monday, March 11, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm

Where: Old Liberty Theater - 115 N Main Ave, Ridgefield, WA 98642

The evening will include the annual Spirit of the Wild Award, the Friends Annual Report & business, Refuge news, raffle, snacks, and more.

****Extended deadline: RSVP 'YES' BY March 4, 2024****

Need to join or renew? Start here: <https://ridgefieldfriends.org/>*

**The membership and donation forms have been combined, but once you start, you will see membership options to choose from.*

RSVP "YES" Here

From the Contact Station

A Lesson from a Young Bird

In about a year, I will be able to say I have been birding or have been a birder for fifty years. My interest in birds came earlier than that. One of my friends in my college biology class was a birder and was always talking about wonderful birds he had seen. We called him Hawk. So, I took an ornithology class in the spring of 1975. It has been a tremendous learning experience ever since.



Everywhere I go, I bird. I have gone down the block and around the world to bird. I live in Ridgefield to be near a national wildlife refuge where I can bird. I consider myself a good birder, but not an exceptional birder. I am still learning. The last few weeks have provided an exceptional learning experience. We have had a large and overall dark eagle flying around the refuge for about a month. I've run into several friends who have mentioned spotting an eagle that looked like a Golden Eagle. I had seen it too and that was also my thought....Keep reading...

-Susan Setterberg, Contact Station Volunteer

photo by Susan Setterberg

Birding Enthusiasts



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

Ridgefield First Saturdays Arts Month Kickoff and Color Run

March 2, 2024



Kick off Ridgefield Youth Arts Month with a Color Run in Downtown Ridgefield!

Head to Overlook Park for Color Run festivities from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

[Get the full schedule here](#)

Stay Involved:

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

Benefits of Friends Membership

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?

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.

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. Change it 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.



It's that easy!

[Donate Your Spare Change](#)

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

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

Friends Online Store

View the 2023 Pro Photo Supply Ridgefield NWR Photo Contest Winning images on tote bags, sweatshirts, t-shirts, a variety of mug styles, and

[Start Shopping](#)

Psst...if you love a good jigsaw puzzle...



also available!

photo cards!
Chinookan Steller's Jay
design, as well as BirdFest
& Bluegrass button art,

[Click Here for Puzzles!](#)

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:

March 11 - Annual Meeting, [RSVP to join!](#)

April 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

August 12

September 9

October 15*

November 11

December 9

(*moved due to federal holiday or special circumstance)

Board Seeking New Members

Or, Join a Committee

We are always 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](#)

Sponsors:

Business Alliance Members:

In-Kind Support:





BirdFest & Bluegrass:



Granting Organizations & Partners:



FRIENDS OF RIDGEFIELD
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



[Contact Us](#) | [Website](#)

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.

