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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: Oca Hoeflein, 2018, 2nd place Landscape Category, Pro Photo Supply Refuge Photo Contest

The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The latest updates | July 2024

Refuge Open Hours:
5:30 am - 9:00 pm

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

Please note: Bicycles, off-road vehicles, & ATV driving are not permitted on the Refuge.

Entrance Fee:

- **Pay Daily Entrance Fee - cash or check only.**
 - \$3.00 daily per vehicle, or up to four adults on foot.

Entrance Pass Options:

- **Purchase An Annual Refuge Pass or eligible Federal Lands Pass.**
 - \$15.00 for an Annual Ridgefield NWR pass. Purchase at Ridgefield NWR Admin Office, M-F, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; by mail; or place cash/check in an official fee envelope. Complete details [HERE](#).
- **Become a Friends Member at \$60 or above.**
 - [Join here!](#) Opt-in when joining, and an Annual Refuge Pass will be mailed to you.
- **Use your current Federal Lands Pass.** [Check HERE](#) to see the list of eligible passes. Note: State Passes are *not valid for entry to the Refuge.

The Ridgefield NWR Admin Office is open weekdays, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Office phone number: 360-887-4106.

-To verify staff availability, please call the office before you visit the Refuge.

-For general inquiries, please call the office between 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

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

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Complex News & Updates



Opening of Kiwa Trail Delayed

(estimated opening sometime in July)

For the fifth year in a row, the Kiwa Trail opening has been delayed due to Sandhill Crane Nesting activity, with a projected opening date sometime in July. Once the Refuge gets the OK, volunteers and staff will work to clear and prepare the Kiwa for visitors soon after.

Other Sandhill Cranes on the Auto Tour

There are now at least two families who have chosen to stick around our Refuge, one on the year-round side of the River 'S' Unit, and another on the Kiwa Trail. The more reclusive one has been harder for Refuge biologists to track. This important endangered species choosing to nest at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge is continued proof that the habitat work done here, to restore landscapes and remove unwanted plants, is working. With every successful family, there is the hope that their descendants will come back too.

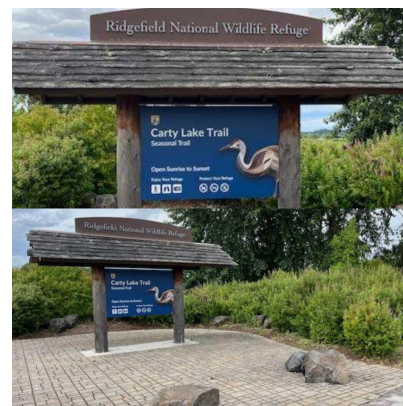


Community Nature Center Construction Continues

When visiting the Carty Unit, plan ahead by checking [the website](#) for closures, bring water, and pack out what you pack in. Temporary restrooms are the only option on weekends. Please follow all signage, for your safety and that of the construction crew.

Carty Lake Trail & Port Entrance Sign Update

It's official - the ever-empty sign frame at the Port of Ridgefield entrance to the Refuge's Carty Lake Trail finally has a sign in it! After a long wait, we are thrilled to share this exciting news with you. Come visit and take in the beauty of nature while this seasonal trail is open!



[Lean More about Visiting](#)

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Photo Contest 2024



Share your favorite Ridgefield Refuge photos in various categories (including youth!) for a chance to win prizes from Pro Photo Supply and Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. Submissions Due: September 3.

A gallery of the 2023 winners is available in the [Ridgefield Refuge Administration building](#). This is where the 2024 winners will also be hosted, starting on October 5, 2024.

[Photo Contest Info & Submission](#)

From the Friends Join the Board to Shape the Future of Wildlife Conservation



We're seeking motivated individuals to join our Board of Directors, to help guide our fundraising efforts, ensure robust board governance, and represent the vibrant community that surrounds our beloved refuge. Your expertise and dedication can make a significant impact on the preservation of this precious habitat for generations to come.



Interested? Let's chat! Email us to explore how your talents can help preserve this natural treasure.

[Contact Us to Get Started](#)

Digital Membership Cards Now Available

FRIENDS OF RIDGEFIELD NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
(One time use)

- Backyard Bird Shop** (all shops, find yours; backyardbirdshop.com)
20% off one regularly priced in-stock item.
Not applicable for gift cards & Brome Squirrel Buster Products.
- Iliani Casino Resort** (1 Cowlitz Way, Ridgefield, WA)
10% off at select restaurants.
Applicable Restaurants: Butcher + Baker, Chef Jet, Italia Restaurant, Line & Lure, Longhouse Sushi & Noodle bar, Michael Jordan's Steakhouse, Proudly Serving Starbucks, Rose & Thorn, Smashburger
- Seasons Coffee** (115 N. Main, Ridgefield, WA)
Buy one drink get one free.
- Shovel & Thumb** (19800 NE 10th Ave, Ridgefield WA)
\$5 off landscape material purchase.
- Sportsman's Restaurant** (121 N Main Ave, Ridgefield, WA)
Members get 5% off a meal.



Say goodbye to paper overload, waste, and extra expenses - we're switching things up by zapping your digital membership card straight to your email inbox.

We teamed up with Zeffy to dodge those pesky platform fees, making sure every bit of your generosity goes straight to the

Team up with us to bring the Community Nature Center vision to life! Help us outfit a space where nature, education, and wildlife party together for generations to come! [Get all the deets HERE.](#)

[Join the Friends Today!](#)

If you are already a member, you will receive the new digital card when you renew next!

Digital Volunteering

Do you love our Ridgefield Refuge Complex?
Do you want to write articles for the Friends Enews?
Do you use social media?
Do you want to volunteer for the Friends?
Do you want to combine your use of social media and volunteering?

If you answered **yes** to any of the above, let us know today to get started!



[Send a Message](#)

See us in the 4th of July Parade!

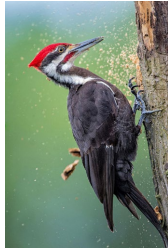
The Friends, USFWS Refuge staff, and volunteers can be caught walking in the Ridgefield July 4th Parade to remind you to join us for our 25th Anniversary BirdFest & Bluegrass Event, on October 5th, 2024! Learn more about the parade & other Thursday, July 4 details by clicking the button below:



[4th of July - What You Need to Know](#)

[Birding Enthusiasts](#)

[Ridgefield First Saturdays Market &](#)



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



Street Fair July 6, 2024

Celebrate the Farmers Market, vendors, and a street sale in Downtown Ridgefield on Saturday, July 6!

[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 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.

Benefits of Friends Membership



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.

Support While You Shop

Amazon Wishlist is back!



The Friends Amazon Wishlist is back to help you support our work and the Refuge's initiatives! We will continuously update the list, so save our page and revisit for more chances to contribute to all our projects. Whether it's habitat restoration or BirdFest & Bluegrass, we'll feature items essential to reaching our objectives. You purchase the item, and Amazon takes care of the rest. Every little bit helps!

[Amazon Wishlist](#)



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



Check out our online store to find the Chinookan Steller's Jay design, BirdFest & Bluegrass button art, and the 2023 Photo Contest winning images, on tote bags, sweatshirts, t-shirts, different mug styles, and photo cards!

Start Shopping

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

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, or in-person with a virtual option. [Contact us](#) to join in!



Board Meeting Dates:

- July 8
 - August 12
 - September 9
 - October 15*
 - November 11
 - December 9
- (*moved due to federal holiday or special circumstance)

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:



[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.



Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge | PO BOX 1022 | Ridgefield, WA 98642 US

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