

[View as Webpage](#)

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: Raul Moreno, 2017, 2nd Place, Adult Category, Pro Photo Supply Refuge Photo Contest

The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The latest updates & news | February 2026

The Ridgefield NWR Admin Office is open weekdays, as staff availability allows: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Office phone number: 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

Refuge Operation Notice:

NOTE: Impacts like down trees or other unplanned occurrences may not be announced on the websites immediately. Website updates are subject to staff availability on site.

River S/Auto Tour Route - CLOSED (2/4/2026)

River S and Auto Tour Route will be closed Wednesday, February 4, for road repairs. No vehicle or pedestrian access is permitted during this time.

Learn More: [Official Refuge Website](#)

From the Friends & the Refuge

Dive Back into Learning with a Free Workshop Series!

We are thrilled to announce a brand-new, **FREE Community Workshop Series** at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge! Hosted at the beautiful **Carty Unit**, these sessions are designed for everyone in our community to enjoy free snacks, dive back into learning, and celebrate this stunning corner of the earth we call home.

Whether you want to support local pollinators, find your creative voice, or learn how local wildlife is navigating a changing world, we have a seat for you!

Here is what's coming up:

- **Welcoming Mason Bees: A Springtime Guide (Feb 28, 10–11:30 AM)** 🐝 Join WSU Master Gardener Anne Bulger to explore the life cycle and role of these remarkable pollinators. You'll even receive a take-home, ready-to-set-up mason bee house with cocoons to help support native bees in your own backyard! *(Recommended for high school ages and up.)*
- **Writer's Workshop (April 4, 10–11:30 AM)** 📖 Led by Abby Braithwaite of the PN Farm Arts Initiative, this fun and reflective workshop will guide you through the Refuge as you share nature poems and write in provided notebooks. All ages and experience levels are welcome!



For All People in the Community! Enjoy free snacks, dive back into learning, and celebrate this beautiful corner of the earth we live on.

2/28
10–11:30am



Welcoming Mason Bees: A Springtime Guide

Join Anne Bulger, WSU Master Gardener, for a hands-on and practical presentation that explores the mason bee's remarkable life cycle, seasonal needs, and role in pollination, with clear guidance on how home gardeners can successfully support these native bees from spring through fall. Each attendee will receive a take-home, ready-to-set-up mason bee house with cocoons. *Due to the nature of the presentation, we recommend ages high school and up.*

sign up here



4/4
10–11:30am



Writer's Workshop

Join Abby Braithwaite of the PN Farm Arts Initiative as she leads you through the Refuge in a fun and reflective writing workshop. Come with a favorite nature poem to share (one of your own, or one by a favorite poet). We'll provide notebooks and pens, but feel free to bring a favorite journal! *All ages and all level of writers welcome!*



5/6
6:30–7:30pm



Adapting to Change:

How wildlife is responding to a rapidly-changing SW WA
When faced with environmental changes, organisms can either adapt, move, or perish. In this workshop with Clark College's David Zonana, PhD, participants will learn about how land use changes, introduced species, and climate change are presenting new challenges to local wildlife populations, how these animals are adapting to survive, and the Refuge's role in their success. *All ages, please join!*



This event is provided by the US Fish & Wildlife Service in collaboration with our partners, the Friends of Ridgefield NWR and is committed to providing access to all. Please direct all requests for accommodations to Sarah.Dernisky@fws.gov 360-973-7638 TTY 800-877-8339

- **Adapting to Change: Wildlife in SW WA (May 6, 6:30–7:30 PM)** 📍 Join Clark College's David Zonana, PhD, to learn how local wildlife populations are responding to land-use changes, climate change, and introduced species. This is a great opportunity for all ages to understand the Refuge's vital role in their survival.

These events are provided by **the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** in collaboration with the **Friends of Ridgefield NWR**. Space is limited, so be sure to scan the QR codes on our flyer, [visit the website](#), or click the links below, to sign up today!

[Welcoming Mason Bees Registration Link](#)

[Writer's Workshop Registration Link](#)

[Adapting to Change Registration Link](#)



Friends Online Merch The Flock Just Got Cuter!

Ready to match your favorite little duckling? By popular demand, our "Dancing Queen" and "Bird Butt" collections have expanded into **Youth and Toddler sizes!**

To top it off, we've added fresh **beanies** and **trucker caps** to keep those heads warm during winter birding. Get the whole family geared up and support Refuge conservation with every purchase.

[Shop Our Merch Store](#)

From the Contact Station The Splendor of Winter

From the beginning, I knew it was going to be an excellent day. As I eased down the entry road, a Western Gray Squirrel scampered across the road and up into a tree. It circled the trunk, checking for who knows what, and then paused for a moment and looked back at me for a great photo opportunity. We never see the squirrels at the feeder by the contact station; they prefer the deep woods habitat on the road down. I'm not prone to getting up really early in the morning...[keep reading...](#)



-Susan Setterberg, Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Contact Station Volunteer

Image of Western Gray Squirrel by Susan Setterberg

Birding Enthusiasts



Check out what bird species are being seen on the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge - both past and current archives -



A Bee Story: Beneath Our Feet: The Quiet Architects of the Garden

Mining bees belong to a large family of native bees called Andrenidae (an-DREN-uh-dee). In Washington State, this family includes four genera: Andrena, Calliopsis, Panurginus, and

Perdita. Together...[keep reading...](#)

on our website,
[here](#).

-Anne Bulger, Friends of Ridgefield NWR Board Member, & OSU Master Melittology Lead Instructor for the RNWR
Image of Mining Bee. Credit: Anne Bulger (2.2025/Ridgefield, WA)



Ridgefield First Saturday Books & Bowls February 7, 2026

Join the City of Ridgefield for the 4th Annual Books & Bowls Event on February 7! 2026
Activities include "Celebrate National Library

Lover's Month" and "Take Your Child to the Library Day"!

[Learn More](#)

Stay Involved:

Join the Friends - Become a Member

Our new membership program means that all members will receive a digital member card, a free optional tote bag, a sticker, and more!

Members over \$60 also gain access to the Soar into Wellness Program, & Members giving over \$1000 are also included in a special website highlight!



[Learn More, Join, or Renew Your Membership Today](#)

Support While You Shop

If you're looking for gorgeous nature and wildlife photography on jigsaw puzzles, we have you covered!

[Puzzle Shopping](#)



Friends Amazon Wishlist- You can directly support our work and the Refuge's initiatives! Whether it's habitat restoration or BirdFest & Bluegrass, we'll feature items essential to our many efforts toward achieving conservation and community outreach goals. Purchase from our list, and Amazon takes care of the rest! [Get started, HERE.](#)



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 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 **either** virtual or in-person with a virtual option. **Please [contact us](#)** to find out how to join in!

Board Meeting Dates 2026:

February 9, 2026

March 9, 2026

April 13

May 11

June 8

July 13

August 10

September 14

*October 19

November 9

December 14

*moved due to a federal holiday or Board decision



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

NOTE: Unsubscribing will remove you from membership renewal reminder emails as well.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!