

# FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK

*Newsletter*



Vol. 23, No. 4  
September 1, 2013

### ***Our Mission Statement:***

**The Friends of Bombay Hook is a not-for-profit corporation working in conjunction with Bombay Hook NWR and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It supports and enhances educational and recreational programs at Bombay Hook, provides volunteer services and financial assistance and serves as a link between the refuge and the public.**

---

***The Visitor Center will reopen on the weekends beginning September 3, 2013.***

***The Refuge Store will be having an Inventory Clearance Sale beginning in mid-September.***

---

Published Quarterly by  
Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc.  
2591 Whitehall Neck Road  
Smyrna, DE 19977  
(302) 653-6872

<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>

Find us on Facebook!!



### ***The President's Corner*** ***By Linda Osiecki***

As I'm writing this message to you, I'm on a break from Kevin Karlson's shorebird program at Bombay Hook - one I highly recommend. Our first site was Sheariness Pool, watching the birds feeding and sleeping, and seeing them close up as they fly overhead to their low tide feeding spots. It reminds me again of the value of Bombay Hook and how much enjoyment I get from its sights and sounds.

As I "take up the torch" passed on by Frank Rawling, I am honored by the responsibility that has been given to me. The Friends of Bombay Hook is a great organization that has a good, cooperative relationship with the Refuge staff; we have many committed members who volunteer so much of their time. Those serving on the Friends Board are hard-working and thoughtful in their decision-making.

In the coming months, the Board will be looking at opportunities to enhance and expand on what we already do. We will develop goals and focus projects that further a main component of our mission - to support and enhance education and recreational programs at Bombay Hook. Part of this will be more effectively reaching out to the general public - those who have not yet been to the Refuge, and to those who already visit the Refuge - bird watchers, nature lovers, hunters, scout and school groups, photographers, artists, and so many others.

Please think about how the Refuge and its programs can be improved with the participation of the Friends, and how you can participate with your ideas, time and talents in volunteering. If you are already a volunteer, thanks for your time and efforts. Active volunteers are essential to our ongoing mission.

\*\*\*\*

# BIRD NOTES

By Franklin Smith

Spring Period  
March through May 2013

The spring period serves as both a principle migratory period as well as the period during which most species begin nesting activities. Weather for these months is normally highly variable and this report period was no exception. Rainfall was evenly distributed and below the long term average for each month during the report period. A coastal storm ushered in March (3/06) with high winds (30-35 mph sustained with gusts to 50 mph). However, rainfall from that event was light. A high temperature of 84°F was recorded as early as 4/09 with a low of 30°F recorded on 5/14. Ospreys made their spring arrival during early March just as most migratory Canada Geese were departing for northern climes; shorebirds passed through the area with population peaks for most species occurring in May. Passerine species arrived throughout the report period with peaks by many northern nesting species occurring during early May. Remnant numbers of Snow Geese (up to 300 birds) were still evident in early April, while Shovelers and Green-Winged Teal remained abundant within the impoundments through April. Bombay Hook's Turkey population seems to be increasing as sightings were very common throughout the report period in the upland areas. Bombay Hook remains one of the few areas in the state of Delaware where visitors can hear and see Bobwhite Quail on a regular basis. State and region declines of this resident bird are not reflected in the thriving populations of these species at Bombay Hook. According to Anthony Gonzon, Delaware Fish & Wildlife, the active bald eagle nest at Bombay Hook produced one fledgling eaglet.

## Reported Sightings

Following are a collection of selected bird observations reported from Bombay Hook NWR during the report period. Sources of information include bird observation sheets by refuge visitors, internet postings of refuge sightings such as *Birdline Delaware*, data collected by state and federal biologists, as well as personal observations and communications. I urge refuge visitors to post their observations on either the sheets or on the E-Bird Tracker in the Visitor Center. I have grouped the reported observations by week throughout the spring period. I have grouped the observations by land features (in bold type) when specific locations are included with the reports, such as pool name or field location.

**3/01-3/07 - Whitehall Neck Road:** Ross's Goose; **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets (67), Black-necked Stilts (4), Wilson's Snipe; **Fields near Allee House:** Eastern Meadowlarks (12+); **Swimming Hole:** Ring-necked Ducks (12); **Field near Raymond:** American Pipits; **Sheariness Pool:** Black-crowned Night Heron; **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows (11); **Finis Pool:** Eastern Phoebe; **Marsh Opposite Sheariness:** Boat-tailed Grackles; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Brants (12), Black Vultures, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, Peregrine, Kestrel, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Common Goldeneye, Mute Swan, Canvasback.

Friends of  
**BOMBAY**  
Hook  
Newsletter

is published quarterly by "Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc. (FOBH)", a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization working in conjunction with Bombay Hook NWR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. FOBH provides financial and developmental support for environmental education programs at the refuge and in communities throughout the region.

Our readers are encouraged to share comments, provide articles for publication and/or suggestions regarding the refuge as well as notifying us of address changes.

Please direct communications to:

Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc.  
2591 Whitehall Neck Road  
Smyrna, DE 19977  
Phone: (302) 653-6872  
Fax: (302) 653-0684

email: [fohmembership@idv.net](mailto:fohmembership@idv.net)  
<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>

**3/08-3/14** - **Whitehall Neck Road:** Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs; **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets (200+), Black-necked Stilt, Short-billed Dowitchers (4); **Sheariness Pool:** American Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron; **Visitor Center:** Turkeys (18), White-crowned Sparrows; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Duck, Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Yellow Throat, Tundra Swan, Tree Swallow, Brown Thrasher.

**3/15-3/21** - **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Long- and Short-billed Dowitchers; **Bear Swamp:** Wilson's Snipe; **Sheariness Pool:** American Bittern, Great Egret, Ruddy Ducks (2), Green-Winged Teals (1,000); **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows, Turkeys (8), American Pipit; **Finis Pool:** Blue-Winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks (40+); **Sheariness Tower:** Pileated Woodpecker; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Greater and Lesser Scaup, Mute and Tundra Swans.

**3/22-3/28** - **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Dowitcher, Dunlin, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs; **Sheariness Pool:** American Bitterns (3), Glossy Ibis, Great Egret; **Bear Swamp:** Northern Lapwing, Wilson's Snipe, Pectoral Sandpiper; **Entrance Road:** Kestrels (4), Short-eared Owl; **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows; **Finis Pool:** Barred Owl; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Ring-necked Ducks, Pied-billed Grebe, Bufflehead, Ruddy Ducks, Hooded and Common Mergansers, Mute Swan, Tundra Swans (60).

**3/29-4/04** - **Raymond Pool:** Ruff (winter plumage), Short-eared Owl; **Sheariness Pool:** Glossy Ibis, Snowy Egret, American Bittern; **Bear Swamp:** Pectoral Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe (75), Snowy Egrets (40+); **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows; **Finis Pool:** Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Least Sandpiper, Black-bellied Plover, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Long- and Short-billed Dowitchers, Bonaparte's Gull, Mute and Tundra Swans, Blue-winged Teal, Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Northern Shoveler, Bufflehead, Hooded, Common, and Red-breasted Mergansers, Merlin, Peregrine, Kestrel, Pine Warbler, Winter Wren, Pileated Woodpecker.



*Mute Swan*



*Tundra Swan*

**4/05-4/11** - **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets (200+), Black-necked Stilts (3), Willets (2), Long-billed Dowitcher, Dunlin; **Bear Swamp:** Wilson's Snipe, Woodcock, Tundra Swan, Black-crowned Night Heron; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Golden Plover, Caspian Tern, Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Hooded Merganser, Little Blue Heron, Glossy Ibis, American Bittern.

**4/12-4/18** - **Raymond Pool:** American Avocets (200), Black-necked Stilts (5), Long-billed Dowitcher; **Woods near Raymond:** Yellow-throated Warblers (2), Hooded Warbler; **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows; American Pipits; **Bear Swamp:** Yellow-crowned Night Herons (2), Black-crowned Night Herons (58), Black-bellied Plovers (150), American Golden Plovers (2).

**4/19-4/25** - **Bear Swamp:** Blue Grosbeak; **Visitor Center:** White-crowned Sparrows, Junco; **Finis Pool:** Northern Waterthrush; **Impoundments and Adjacent Salt Marsh:** Pied-billed Grebe,

*(Continued on next page)*

*Bird Notes (Continued from previous page)*

Horned Grebe, Hooded, Common, and Red-breasted Mergansers, Tundra and Mute Swans, American Avocets, Black-necked Stilts (8), Willet, Black-bellied Plovers (116), American Golden Plovers (2), Semi-palmated Plover, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe (20), Tri-colored Herons (3), Cattle Egret.

**4/26-5/02 - Bear Swamp:** Hooded Warbler; **Refuge Entrance Road:** American Golden Plover, American Pipit, Bobwhite; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Chat, Prothonotary Warbler, Black-bellied Plovers (350), American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Tundra and Mute Swans, Red-breasted Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe.

**5/03-5/09 - Bear Swamp:** Least Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron; **Shearneck Pool:** Black-bellied Plover; **Entrance Road:** Black-bellied Plover, American Woodcock; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Semi-palmated Plover, Dunlins (est. 12,000), Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Yellow-breasted Chat, White-crowned Sparrows, Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Coot, Tundra Swan.

**5/10-5/16 - Raymond Pool:** Wilson's Phalarope, Semi-palmated Plover, American Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Long- and Short-billed Dowitchers; **Bear Swamp:** Horned Grebe, Least Bittern, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron; **Shearneck Pool:** Tundra Swan, Ruddy Ducks (15), Lesser Scaup; **Headquarters:** Woodcock (calling).

**5/17-5/23 - Shearneck Pool:** Horned Grebe, Common Moorhen, American Coot, Tundra Swan, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal; **Bear Swamp:** Least Bittern, Yellow-crowned Night Heron; **Finis Pool:** Prothonotary Warbler; **Uplands:** Wild Turkey, Bobwhite.

**5/24-5/31 - Shearneck Pool:** Horned Grebe, Common Gallinule; **Impoundments:** Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, White-rumped Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Least and American Bitterns, Little Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Tundra Swan, Gadwall, Ruddy Ducks; **Other Unidentified Refuge Areas:** Bobwhite, Pileated Woodpecker, Warbling Vireo, Bobolink, Magnolia Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Black Pole, Northern Waterthrush, Yellow-breasted Chat.

\*\*\*\*

In July, \$77 was raised from the Dover Pizzeria Uno Chicago Grill day. We hope to have another day in October to help celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week. On the chosen day, just hand in a raising dough paper when you pay your bill, and 20% will go to Friends of Bombay Hook.

Save your Redner's Warehouse Market receipts when you use their gas - save-a-tape card and hand them in at the Visitor Center. When we collect \$5,000 in receipts, we will be able to get 1% back from Redner's.



**S**eptember means the beginning of a new birding season for the Friends' Bird Club. We will begin at Bombay Hook as we welcome a group from the Friends of the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge near Philadelphia. They took us on a wonderful, private tour last year, and we are delighted to host them here in September.

Additional field trips are planned for Bombay Hook as well as several other interesting areas. The schedule includes Wye Island; the Sharp Farm near Odessa; Little Creek and Ted Harvey wildlife areas; Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge; Indian River Inlet and nearby areas; Chincoteague; Ponders Tract - Redden Forest; and Pocomoke River State Park. Our last outing will be at Bombay Hook in July.

If you are new to the Friends, you may not know that the Bird Club is open to all (teenagers and adults) with no dues or fees, and no meetings. We just go birding! We welcome beginners as well as experienced birders. Some people go regularly; others go once or twice a year.

The early schedule will be posted on the Friends' website. As the initial planning is done by volunteers months in advance, there can be changes in dates, times or meeting places. Final details are sent by email to all who have signed up for information. (That email list is used only for this purpose.) To be added to this email list, please email Hannah McLennan at [hmclennan@comcast.net](mailto:hmclennan@comcast.net).

Please join us! Dress for the weather and wet paths. Bring binoculars, water, snacks and bug spray depending on the time of year. A birding field guide can be very helpful.

It will be good to see everyone again and to welcome newcomers.

## ***Can't Decide What To Get For Your Favorite Gardner, Birder, Children or Grandchildren for Christmas????***

***We have the solution for you!!!!***



**The Bombay Hook Refuge Store is having a "Green Friday" Sale starting Black Friday and running through Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend (November 29 to December 1) for all your Christmas shopping needs. So put down the leftovers and pumpkin pie, turn off the football and come inside the Refuge Store — sales from the Refuge Store support activities and events at Bombay Hook NWR.**

***Shop and Support Bombay Hook!!***

## Refuge Store Report.....

The Refuge Store is headed for a record-setting year. It is exciting to see increased income because that means that the Friends of Bombay Hook can contribute more to the functioning of Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge during the year. The store provides much of the income and of the expense for Friends of Bombay Hook. A record year means that more of our members and visitors are spending more money when they visit. Thank you so much buyers and volunteers for your contribution to our successful year. It is more fun to be active than bored at the store, and it seems that we have been very busy.

For fall, the t-shirts and sweatshirts will mostly be repeats of our most successful designs from past years. There are ball caps with embroidered bills of duck and deer designs in addition to our more usual ones. In addition, we have the shorebird design on a hat and canvas bag. We keep adding jewelry, as the Wilde Bryde laser cut pins, necklaces, bracelets, and earrings are very popular. There are wind chimes hanging in one display. The Bombay Hook patches, pins and walking stick medallions are very popular too with all new designs. Finally we have a supply of postcards of Bombay Hook. They are probably more important to our more casual visitors, but if you need a supply, we are very pleased to have some now. That only took 3 years to accomplish.

We now have the 2013 Bombay Hook ornament of the Belted Kingfisher designed by Marcia Poling available exclusively at the Refuge Store.

Field guides and other resource books are the backbone of the Refuge Store. One of our visitors said that we have the best book store they had seen. We are very proud of that. At the same time we know that the purchasing of books has dramatically changed in the past few years. Internet purchases have increased. Further, people are more often using phones and iPads to look up that bird they saw or the flower on the side of the road. We continue to stock a wide variety of books for the native plant gardener and birder as well as nature books for children. At the same time, we will be planning for a future change in our backbone books.

The short sleeve t-shirts will go on sale the middle of September as will some other items as we prepare to do our annual inventory. We will also be doing a repeat of the very successful Green Friday - Sunday Sale for the traditional Black Friday after Thanksgiving for Christmas shopping.

As always, we pay attention to your suggestions and requests. They are very important to our planning what items to stock both now and in the future. So, stop in, leave us a note or a message or call with any things you'd like to have available at your Refuge Store.

# Bombay Hook NWR



2591 Whitehall Neck Road, Smyrna, DE 19977

(302) 653-6872

[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Bombay\\_Hook/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Bombay_Hook/)

## *2013 Calendar of Events*

Bombay Hook Visitor Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. year round. The Visitor Center will reopen on weekends beginning September 7, 2013. The Allee House is in need of repairs and is closed until further notice. Check the Website for additions or changes.

Saturday, September 7, 2013 - **Volunteer Opportunities at Bombay Hook (10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)** A meeting about volunteer opportunities will be held in the auditorium. The meeting will cover volunteer opportunities and upcoming activities, with the latter part of the session being a tour of the Refuge. Individuals are needed to staff the Visitor Center and operate the Refuge Store on weekends and weekdays from September through November. Volunteers are also needed to provide environmental education programs for school groups, conduct refuge tours, provide trail and landscaping maintenance, and help with highway cleanups. Volunteers may be called upon for special wildlife projects throughout the year. Training is provided.

Wednesday, September 18, 2013 - **Garden Keepers' Down and Dirty Garden Party (9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.)** After we perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape at the Visitor Center, we will proceed to a private garden in Smyrna where we will divide and pot plants to take home to enjoy in our own gardens. A complimentary luncheon is included. Space is limited and reservations are required. **Contact Quentin Schlieder at (302) 653-6449 or [gcsjr@comcast.net](mailto:gcsjr@comcast.net).**

Saturday, September 21, 2013

- **Highway Clean Up (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)** Volunteer to help clean up the roads leading to Bombay Hook. Meet at the Visitor Center. Wear shoes that can get wet and bring work gloves. Refreshments will be served after the clean-up.
- **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Native Plant Symposium – Rain Gardens Inspired by Native Plant Communities (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** Sponsored jointly by the Delaware Native Plant Society and the Bombay Hook Garden Keepers. Rain gardens are being installed all over the country but functioning and thriving examples are rare. Learn why so many plantings fail or lack the ecological and functional value they are expected to provide and take a closer look at natural plant communities and how we can learn to use them to create successful ecosystems that reduce runoff and pollution in our landscape. Speakers include Bill McAvoy, Botanist with the Delaware Natural Heritage Program, and Rob Jennings of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

*(Continued on next page)*

## ***Bombay Hook NWR 2013 Calendar of Events***

*(Continued from previous page)*

A complimentary lunch is included. The symposium is free but registration is required and space is limited. **To register, contact Quentin Schlieder by phone at (302) 653-6449 or [qcsir@comcast.net](mailto:qcsir@comcast.net).**

**Saturday, September 28, 2013 - FREE ENTRANCE Sunrise to Sunset** The Refuge's \$4.00 entrance fee will be waived to celebrate National Public Lands Day and invite people to visit Bombay Hook. National Public Lands Day is a fee-free entrance day at many federal public lands including, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or U.S. Forest Service. It's a great opportunity spend the day exploring or relaxing in nature.

Bombay Hook is open from sunrise to sunset and invites individuals and families to tour the 12-mile wildlife drive and to walk 5 short walking trails. The Refuge provides a variety of habitats for wildlife. Migratory waterfowl are starting to arrive and a variety of shorebirds and tall wading birds are still present on the Refuge. This is also a good time of year to look for migratory raptors.

**Sunday, September 29, 2013 - Tour of the Refuge (11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.

**Saturday & Sunday - October 5, 2013 through November 10, 2013 - Art Inspired by Nature Exhibit (10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)** Each weekend a different artist will display and sell their work in the Visitor Center Auditorium. Come and meet and support the talents of our local artists.

◆ October 5 & 6, 2013	Melanie Hummer	Photography
◆ October 12 & 13, 2013	John Camarote & Brad Barrie	Wildlife Wood Carver & Photography
◆ October 19 & 20, 2013	Bob Culver & Bill Roth	Wildlife Wood Carvers
◆ October 26 & 27, 2013	Tony Burton	Watercolors
◆ November 2 & 3, 2013	Harold Van Dyke	Wildlife Wood Carver
◆ November 9 & 10, 2013	Ramona Maziar	Pen and Ink Artist

**Friday, October 11, 2013 - Environmental Education Workshop (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** The workshop is for teachers, scout leaders, volunteers, and interested visitors. The workshop will introduce educators to the National Wildlife Refuge System and provide an understanding of how Bombay Hook NWR can be used as an outdoor classroom for environmental education programs. Participants will tour the Refuge; learn about bird migration; explore the brackish water, fresh water, and forest habitats; and develop an understanding of how the Refuge is managed for wildlife and habitat conservation. Lesson plans and general information about the Refuge is provided. Bring your lunch. **Call or email Tina Watson to register: 302-653-6872 or [tina\\_watson@fws.gov](mailto:tina_watson@fws.gov).**

### **Sunday, October 13, 2013**

- **FREE ENTRANCE Sunrise to Sunset** The Refuge's \$4.00 entrance fee will be waived to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge System week and invite people to visit Bombay Hook. It's a great opportunity spend the day exploring or relaxing in nature. Migratory waterfowl are arriving and a variety of shorebirds and tall wading birds are still present on the Refuge. This is also a good time of year to look for migratory raptors.

Bombay Hook is open from sunrise to sunset and invites individuals and families to tour the 12-mile



## *Bombay Hook NWR 2013 Calendar of Events*

wildlife drive and to walk 5 short walking trails. The Refuge provides a variety of habitats for wildlife.

- **Bird Identification Station (12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.)** Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the auto tour route with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Check in at the Visitor Center for the exact location.

### Wednesday, October 16, 2013 - **Garden Keepers Wildflower and Autumn Color Walk (9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)**

Enjoy a tour to see many autumn wildflowers and autumn color at Bombay Hook and learn how to grow and enjoy them in your own garden. Following the walk, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitor Center. Light refreshments will be served.

### Saturday, October 19, 2013 - **Movie Night at Bombay Hook – Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week (5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.)**

Join us for an informative fun night at the movies. The first 70 minute feature will be *“Green Fire – Aldo Leopold and a land ethic for our time”*. The movie explores the life and legacy of famed conservationist Aldo Leopold and the many ways his land ethic philosophy lives on in the work of people and organization all over the country today.

The second 100 minute feature will be *“The Big Year”* a comedy starring Steve Martin, Owen Wilson and Jack Black, about two bird enthusiasts trying to defeat the brash, cutthroat world record holder in a year-long bird-spotting competition. Popcorn will be served!

Sunday, October 27, 2013 - **Tour of the Refuge (11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday through Monday - November 9, 10, and 11, 2014 - **FREE ENTRANCE Sunrise to Sunset** The Refuge's \$4.00 entrance fee will be waived to honor veterans. Bombay Hook is open from sunrise to sunset and invites individuals and families to tour the 12-mile wildlife drive and to walk 5 short walking trails. Early November is a great time to observe the fall foliage colors, migrating waterfowl, and raptors.

### Sunday, November 17, 2013

- **Bird Identification Station (12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.)** Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the auto tour route with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Check in at the Visitor Center for the exact location.
- **Bike Ride on the Refuge (1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)** Join Tina Watson for an eight-mile bike ride on the Refuge. The group will make several stops for bird identification and to discuss wildlife management techniques. Bicycle should have hybrid tires. Don't forget your helmet and check the air in your tires! Meet at the Visitor Center.

### Saturday, November 23, 2013

- **National Family Volunteer Day (10 a.m. – 12:00 noon)** National Family Volunteer Day is a great opportunity for families and individuals to spend time making significant contributions to the Refuge while learning about natural gardens and landscaping techniques. Individuals will work in the landscape garden at the Visitor Center. Light refreshments will be served.
- **Bird Identification Station (12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.)** Get a close look at the different bird species in the

*(Continued on next page)*

## ***Bombay Hook NWR 2013 Calendar of Events***

*(Continued from previous page)*

impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the auto tour route with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Check in at the Visitor Center for the exact location.

- **Sunset Tour of the Refuge (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)** The tour will start in the afternoon. We will walk over the salt marsh and ride through the Refuge sighting birds, exploring habitats and finding out how the area is managed for wildlife. The tour will end shortly after sunset which brings waterfowl into the impoundments looking for an evening resting place and also arouses deer and other mammals. Meet at the Visitor Center.

**Tuesday, November 26, 2013 - Bombay Hook Refuge and Blackbird Creek Reserve Winter Tree Identification (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon)** This field trip will introduce people to the refuge and to the reserve through tree identification. The trip will begin at Bombay Hook with a tour and walk on the refuge, proceed with a scenic van ride up Route 9 to Blackbird Creek to enjoy a tour and walk on the reserve, and return to Bombay Hook by noon. At both locations participants will learn how to identify trees and learn the similarities and differences of the habitats. Space is limited. **Call or email Tina Watson to register: 302-653-6872 or [tina\\_watson@fws.gov](mailto:tina_watson@fws.gov).**

**Saturday, December 7, 2013 - Winter Bird Feeding (10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon)** Charles Shattuck, Wild Birds Unlimited in Hockessin, Del. will discuss ways to assist your backyard birds survive the winter. You will learn: what bird foods are most beneficial; what winter birds to expect at your feeders; using bird houses for roosting; and providing water during the winter. Just in time for the winter season and for holiday gift ideas.

**Sunday, December 15, 2013 - Bird Identification Station (12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.)** Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the auto tour route with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Check in at the Visitor Center for the exact location.

### **Refuge Closure dates 2013-2014 Hunting Season**

- The back section (Bear Swamp and Finis areas) of the Refuge closed:
  - \* September 6 and 13, 2013 until **1:00 p.m.** for archery.
  - \* October 14, 16, and 18, 2013 **all day** for muzzleloader.
  - \* November 15, 16, and 20, 2013 **all day** for shotgun.
  - \* December 16 and 19, 2013 **all day** for shotgun.
  - \* January 6, 2014 **all day** for Wheelin' Sportsman.
  - \* January 24, 2013 **all day** for shotgun.
  - \* Two days for Young Waterfowler's program — Unknown at this time.
- The front section (Raymond and Shearneck Pool) of the Refuge closed:
  - \* November 18 and 22, 2013 **all day** for shotgun.
  - \* December 18, 2013 **all day** for shotgun.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER TO REFUGE VISITORS....**

To protect wildlife and their habitat and to provide the best opportunities in wildlife observation and photography, it is important not to disturb, injure, or damage plants and animals of the refuge. In fact, it is a prohibited act as stated in 50 CFR27.51. This disturbance includes flushing birds and other wildlife or using electronic calls (taping) to lure birds closer for observation or photography. Please remember to take only memories and photographs and leave only footprints.

## **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING FRIENDS???**

**FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK** is a cooperating association formed with the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is a private, non-profit corporation which was founded to promote conservation, environmental education, and better understanding of and appreciation for Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.

Each year more than 3,000 students visit Bombay Hook. They use equipment to study habitats, watch videos about endangered species, and are taught from field guides - all provided by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

If you used an Auto Tour Brochure or the Bird or Mammal List, these too have been funded by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

Your Membership Dues will make it possible for Friends of Bombay Hook to continue its support of educational and recreational programs at Bombay Hook.

Proceeds from the Refuge Store in the Visitor Center at Bombay Hook also help support the Friends program and activities. Make this your place to buy field guides, books, T-shirts, Posters, and Souvenirs!

### **OUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

- 10% Discount on all items sold in the Refuge Store
- Subscription to the Friends Newsletter (published 4 times a year)
- Participation in special wildlife education programs and field trips
- Participation in the Birding Club
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting (held in June)
- Eligibility in the Dover Federal Credit Union (DFCU)
- Opportunity to meet others with similar interests in birds, other wildlife, wetlands, and the environment

And perhaps best of all, the chance to say, *"Thank you Bombay Hook, for all the great times I've had here !"*

---

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Submit completed application at the Visitor Center  
(payment by cash, check or credit card) or Mail (with check) to:

*Friends of Bombay Hook  
2591 Whitehall Neck Road  
Smyrna, DE 19977*

Or you can go to [www.friendsofbombayhook.org/membership.html](http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org/membership.html)  
and follow the instructions in applying or renewing your membership

Renewal       New Member

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

Newsletter Preference:

Print       E-mail (require E-mail address)

### **Membership Plan (Check One)**

	Annual
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18)*	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor***	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate**	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life***	\$200.00

\*Junior membership: under age 18.

\*\*Corporate sponsorship includes link to FOBH website;  
no voting privileges or store discount.

\*\*\*Sponsor and Life memberships includes family .

### **Method of Payment**

- Cash (payment at Visitor Center only)  
 Check (payment by mail or at Visitor Center)  
 Visa (payment at Visitor Center only)  
 MasterCard (payment at Visitor Center only)



2591 Whitehall Neck Road  
Smyrna, DE 19977

NON PROFIT ORG.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 408  
Wilmington, DE 198

---

## **A REMINDER...**

**The Friends of Bombay Hook Newsletter is  
available online at**

**[www.friendsofbombayhook.org/  
friendsnews.html](http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org/friendsnews.html)**

**You can apply or renew memberships at**

**[www.friendsofbombayhook.org/  
membership.html](http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org/membership.html)**