

FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK

Newsletter



Photo by Karen Dever



Vol. 27, No. 3
May 1, 2017

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.

We have new Spring items at the Blue Heron Gift Shoppe (see Page 4). If you were given a 20% discount coupon during December, please use it before June 30. We are open until June 30, Monday thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and Saturday & Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please check Facebook and our website for any schedule changes.

We continue to need Friends volunteers with operating our Blue Heron Gift Shoppe and assisting with other events at the Refuge for the Spring season.

If you are interested, please contact us either on Facebook or our phone number listed below. Training will be provided.

2017 Newsletter Schedule

Newsletter Release	Articles Due
September 1	August 7
November 1	October 7

The next newsletter will be issued on September 1, 2017

Have a Safe and Happy Summer!!!

Published Quarterly by
Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc.
2591 Whitehall Neck Road
Smyrna, DE 19977
(302) 653-8322

<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>



What's All that Construction Going on at the Refuge??? *A Brand New Maintenance Shop!*

By Oscar Reed, Refuge Manager

The new Maintenance Shop building replaces both the old vehicle repair shop and carpenter shops. It is 6,000 square feet in size and will have two drive through bays and one with a vehicle lift. This building can ac-



commodate the larger tractors and other equipment that could not fit in the old shop building. There will also be two offices and a dry storage area. Construction should be completed by June.

Constructing the new Maintenance Shop during the first phases: pouring of the concrete (top, right); preparing the framework (middle, left); and installing the framework (bottom, right).



A Reminder.....

When you shop at Redner's using your Pump Perks card, save your receipts and hand them in at the Visitor Center. At \$5,000, Friends can get the first 1% back! To locate the nearest Redner's store, go to www.rednersmarkets.com/storelocator.aspx.

Also if you shop at AmazonSmile, Friends will receive 0.5% of eligible purchases made. Go to www.smile.amazon.com for more information.

February 1 through March 31, 2017

BIRD NOTES

By Franklin Smith

The two months of the report period experienced quite different temperatures. While February was quite warm with a few days exceeding 70 degrees for highs and colder temperatures returned for March. Several days with lows in the teens were recorded during the first half of the month. No prolonged periods of total ice cover

of the impoundments occurred and no significant snowfall was recorded. A Northeast storm occurred on March 13 and 14 with over 3 inches of rain, heavy winds and high tides.

Aerial survey data collected by State biologists identified four active Bald Eagle nests within the boundary of Bombay Hook NWR on 2/22/17. Unfortunately, the high winds associated with the Northeast storm mentioned above destroyed the Eagle nest located on George's Island east of Raymond Pool.

Short-eared Owls and Peregrine Falcons were both observed from Raymond Dike during both months. The first Osprey of the Spring was reported during mid-March. Other raptors reported by Refuge visitors included Merlin, Kestrel, Barn Owl, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Harriers, and Red-tailed Hawks.

Refuge Snow Geese populations ranged between 5,000 and 20,000 birds this period based on pre-dawn and dusk observations. Up to 20,000 were recorded through 3/20. By 3/26 only 300-400 remained and I observed no Snows after 3/28 on Refuge lands.

Eight Greater White-fronted Geese were frequently sighted in Raymond Pool during February. A few sightings of Cackling Geese and Ross's Geese were reported periodically.

Tundra Swans ranged between 100-200 birds and none were observed after 3/26 although 2 Mute Swans remained.



Green-Winged Teal
Tim Bowman/USFWS

Duck populations were diverse as Black Ducks, Mallards, Green-winged Teals, Buffleheads, Ruddy Ducks and especially Shovelers remained numerous until the close of the report period while Pintails seemed to increase during the month of February only to vacate the premises by March 31. Other less abundant species were observed at times including Scaup, Wigeon, Ring-necked Ducks, Redhead, Common and Hooded Mergansers, and an occasional Red-breasted Merganser. Gadwall appeared to be more noticeable in the impoundments this year. A Eurasian Green-winged Teal was reported in Bear Swamp.

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Marbled Godwits were observed on the salt-marsh mudflat in February. A few Yellowlegs, Avocets, Dunlin, and Snipe were also noted at that time. The number of Avocets grew to over 150 by the close of the report period. The mild weather in early February apparently was to the liking of the Woodcock in the Headquarters Area as their courtship flights and calls were spectacular during the evenings this year.

Fifty to a hundred Coots were present in Sheariness Pool during much of February and March. By the third week of the month both Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons were abundant in Bear Swamp.

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) 653-8322
Fax: (302) 653-0684

email: fobhmembership@idv.net

<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>

*Friends of Bombay Hook Members
are cordially invited to attend:*

**2017 Annual Friends of Bombay Hook General Meeting
Saturday June 10, 2017
Bombay Hook Visitor Center Auditorium**

Schedule

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. - Board Meeting and nominations/voting for open board positions.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Break

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. - Catered Pollinator Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. - Presentation on Native Bees by Nancy Lawson. Nancy is the author of *The Humane Gardener: Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife*, published by Princeton Architectural Press. A columnist for *All Animals* magazine, she is the founder of Humane Gardener, an outreach initiative dedicated to cultivating compassion for all creatures great and small through animal-friendly and environmentally sensitive landscaping methods. Lawson volunteers as a master naturalist and master gardener in central Maryland. After an early career in newspaper journalism, she worked for more than 15 years as an editor and publisher at The Humane Society of the United States, leading the creative teams behind the organization's award-winning print and digital magazines.

We are thrilled to have her as our guest speaker this year!

2:00 p.m. – Awarding of Door Prize

Open to The Public

3:00 p.m. – Movie - *Silence of The Bees* - The video explores the baffling mystery of disappearing honeybees, millions have vanished from their hives without a trace. The honeybee is an important pollinator for fruits and vegetables. Follow researchers as they follow the trail of clues from across the world and scramble to discover why honeybees are dying in record numbers.

Blue Heron Gift Shoppe



Welcome back for our Spring season!

As always, we are stocked to serve our visitors with all the favorites and new items too! We have added

beeswax candles to our **Bee Natural** line and they are selling very well. We also have new designs in our ball caps, we are stocked up on visors and will be getting in nice bucket style hats this year.

The new **2017 BOMBAY HOOK COLLECTOR T-SHIRTS** ARE HERE!!!!



The theme this year is **Wetlands**. We have a standard cut shirt in a denim shade and a nice v neck for the gals in a bright sapphire blue.

The new shirts sell for \$17.95 each

Get 'em while they're hot!!!

And don't forget to check out our **Birds and Beans Coffee!**

THE CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY AND OUR LOCAL CONSERVATION PARTNERS RECOMMEND BIRDS & BEANS:

Some of our most beloved Neotropical migrant songbirds – especially our thrushes, orioles, tanagers, and warblers -- are suffering from loss of habitat when they fly south for the winter. One of the easiest things we can all do to support our migratory songbirds is to make sure that the coffee we buy comes from coffee farms that preserve bird habitat. Birds & Beans is certified by the best in the business, and makes it easy to be confident that the coffee we drink is also providing habitat for birds. -- John W. Fitzpatrick, Director of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology

We look forward to serving you this year.

Karen Dever,
Friends Coordinator



Perfect Iced Coffee

Prep Time: 8 Hours Difficulty: Easy Servings: 24

Ingredients:

1 pound Ground Coffee (Great Tasting Birds & Beans Scarlet Tanager French Roast)

8 quarts Cold Water (Spring Water is Best)

Organic Valley Half-and-Half (Healthy Splash Per Serving)

Organic Brown Sugar (2-3 Tablespoons Per Serving)

Preparation Instructions:

- In a large container, mix ground coffee with water. Cover and allow to sit at room temperature eight hours or overnight.***
- Line a fine mesh strainer with cheesecloth and set over a pitcher or other container. Pour coffee/water mixture through the strainer, allowing all liquid to run through. Discard grounds.***
- Place coffee liquid in the fridge and allow to cool. Use as needed.***

To make iced coffee, pack a glass full of ice cubes - best made from your last iced coffee. Fill glass 2/3 full with coffee liquid. Add healthy splash of Organic Valley Half-and-Half. Add 2-3 tablespoons of organic sugar and stir to combine. Taste and adjust half-and-half and/or sugar as needed.

Take home some Birds and Beans coffee today!!!

Bombay Hook's Junior Ranger and Junior Refuge Manager 2017 Programs



The Junior Ranger & Junior Refuge Manager Program is for children ages 7 to 11+ years old. This series of programs will connect children with nature teaching them about the importance of protecting land for wildlife. Fun, hands-on activities provide Rangers the opportunity to get outside and to explore nature.



Programs are held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. unless noted. Call to register, 302-653-9345.

May 20, 2017: HORSESHOE CRABS AND SHOREBIRDS – 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. High Tide at 2:38 p.m.
Hooray for Horseshoe Crabs...They help people, and migratory shorebirds! Discover the how and the why as we take you on an amazing journey into the world of two animals that come together each Spring.

June 17, 2017: WILD BABIES

Bunnies, possums, skunks, and fawns...to name a few. Learn about young wildlife, how they survive, and how you can help them. Junior Rangers will help monitor the Purple Martin houses and see the chicks.

August 19, 2017: BEAUTIFUL BATS – 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

That's right, they're not scary, they're beneficial! Discover what makes a bat unique, how they live and what they eat. This is an evening program from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

September 16, 2017: INSECT INVESTIGATION

Be a dead log detective to see what kind of insects live within. You will make a viewing jar so that you can study them without hurting them. You will then identify and journal what you see! Junior Rangers bring your notebook, we will review your progress and checklist!

October 21, 2017: THE POLLINATION PROCESS

Find out how flowers reproduce by pollination. You will discover how new seeds form, how pollen can travel, and how to identify the reproductive parts of a plant. Learn what roles birds, bees and butterflies can play in the pollination process.

November 18, 2017: EXPLORE THE BLUEBIRD BOX TRAIL & LEARN HOW TO CLEAN THE BOX

The program will cover the plight of the Eastern Bluebird and how conservation activities can benefit the species. The group will walk a 1-1/2 mile section of the Refuge, exploring the Bluebird nest boxes and the different kinds of wildlife that use them.

December 2, 2017: THE GREEN SCENE IN WINTER

Mistletoe, holly, cedar and pine...what is their significance for wildlife? Come learn why they stay green in the winter along with some fun Holiday facts. You will create a Holiday decoration to take home!

Junior Rangers bring your notebook, we will celebrate your accomplishments!

Materials provided by:



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Bombay Hook NWR

2591 Whitehall Neck Road, Smyrna, DE 19977

(302) 653-9345

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Bombay_Hook/

The Bombay Hook Visitor Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **The Wildlife Drive is open daily from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.**

The Allee House remains closed until further notice.

For more information about programs, contact Tina Watson at (302) 653-9345 or check our website above and Facebook for additions or changes.

Spring 2017 Calendar of Events

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 *Bird Walks with Marcia Poling (8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.)* - Join Marcia Poling, avid birder and artist, to look for early songbird arrivals from Mexico and South America. The group will walk several trails in search of songbirds and will stop to identify shorebirds along the Wildlife Drive. Location "To Be Determined" depending on current sightings. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 7, 2017 *Beginning Birding – Warbler Walk (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.)* – The walk will be on one or two trails along the Wildlife Drive with expert birders Eileen McLellan and Terry Willis.

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 *Bird Walks with Marcia Poling (8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.)* - Join Marcia Poling, avid birder and artist, to look for early songbird arrivals from Mexico and South America. The group will walk several trails in search of songbirds and will stop to identify shorebirds along the Wildlife Drive. Location "To Be Determined" depending on current sightings. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 13, 2017

- *International Migratory Bird Day, Spring Bird Count (7:00 a.m.)* - IMBD is celebrated in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation. Citizens can learn about birds and their migratory threats, and can make a contribution by participating in the International Spring Bird Count. Meet at the Visitor Center to participate in Bombay Hook's count. *Teams will be formed and each team will survey a section of the Refuge. The teams tabulate their bird sightings and are usually finished around noon.* Over the years, volunteer participation has become less and we encourage more volunteers to help with this important citizen science project. Meet at the Visitor Center.
- *Beginning Birding – Shorebird Program (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon)* - Eileen McLellan and Terry Willis will give a presentation about shorebirds, their amazing migrations, and simple identification techniques. After the presentation, participants will visit the Bird Identification Station to practice their new skills.
- *Protecting Pollinators in Delaware (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)* - Join Dr. Faith Kuehn, Plant Industries Administrator, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture and Dr. Thalia Pappas Environmental Consultant, Delaware Dept. of Agriculture for a presentation on pollinators. Learn the importance of pollinators to Delaware's agriculture and environment, progress on Delaware's Pollination Protection plan, and what you can do to contribute to the goals of the plan. If time permits we will take a walk through the pollinator meadow.

(Continued on next page)

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 *Toddlers/preschoolers (1 year old to 5 years old) and their guardian are free* (9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) - Bombay Hook will be free for toddlers and their guardian on the 3rd Tuesday of April and May. Children from 1 to 5 years old are developing cognitive skills and being in nature can expose them to sights and sounds that might go unnoticed in their everyday setting. Take your child on the Wildlife Drive, walk a trail, climb a tower, read them a nature book, and look at wildlife exhibits in the Visitor Center. You are never too young to explore and learn. This is a free self-study for families. You can come anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 *Bird Walks with Marcia Poling* (8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.) - Join Marcia Poling, avid birder and artist, to look for early songbird arrivals from Mexico and South America. The group will walk several trails in search of songbirds and will stop to identify shorebirds along the Wildlife Drive. Location "To Be Determined" depending on current sightings. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 20, 2017

- *Monarch Presentation and Gardening Tips for Monarchs* (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) – Learn how to identify monarchs and about their migration. Participants will receive milkweed seeds to plant and will learn about their habitat requirements. Come learn about the amazing monarch and how you can help them survive.

- *Junior Rangers go to Pickering Beach to learn about Horseshoe Crabs and Shorebirds* (4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) - New and returning children (7-11 years old) are invited to attend. Hooray for Horseshoe crabs... They help people and migratory shorebirds! Discover the connection between the species as we take you on an amazing journey into the world of two animals that come together each Spring. **Space is limited. Call to register at (302) 653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**



Sunday, May 21, 2017 *Bird Identification Station* (1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.) - Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the Wildlife Drive with scopes and binoculars to help you identify shorebirds, wading birds, and whatever else flies by. Look for the blue ID Station sign along the Auto Tour route.

Wednesday, May 24, 2017 *Bird Walks with Marcia Poling* (8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.) - Join Marcia Poling, avid birder and artist, to look for early songbird arrivals from Mexico and South America. The group will walk several trails in search of songbirds and will stop to identify shorebirds along the Wildlife Drive. Location "To Be Determined" depending on current sightings. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, May 27, 2017 *The Shorebird and Horseshoe Crab Connection Presentation* (10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) - Greg Breese, Project Manager for the Delaware Bay Estuary Project, will start the program with a presentation on shorebirds, their amazing migration journey, and Horseshoe Crabs on the Delaware Bay. The Red Knot, a robin-sized shorebird was designated as threatened under the Endangered Species Act on December 9, 2014. A "threatened" designation means a species is at risk of becoming endangered throughout all or a significant portion of its range. After the presentation, the group will go to Pickering Beach to see Horseshoe Crabs that come up onto the Bay beach to spawn. If we are lucky we will see shorebirds as well, bring binoculars and spotting scopes if you have them. NOTE: High tide is at 11:49 a.m. and we will plan to be on the beach for about an hour around high tide. Meet at the Refuge's auditorium. **Space is limited. Call to register at (302) 653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Sunday, May 28, 2017 *Tour of the Refuge* (11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.) - Join Volun-

teer 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.

Wednesday May 31, 2017 *Dates for Purple Martin Nest Checks* (11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.) - Joel Martin and Ray Gingerich will perform weekly Purple Martin gourd and house nest checks. Individuals can observe and record data, hold a chick, and count eggs and hatchlings. Hopefully, you will see an adult sitting on the nest or see a bird that spent the winter in Brazil. The nests need to be checked quickly to make sure the Martins are not disturbed for a long period of time. Meet at the Visitor Center on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 31, 2017	Saturday, June 17, 2017
Monday, June 5, 2017	Monday, June 19, 2017
Friday, June 9, 2017	Friday, June 23, 2017
Wednesday, June 14, 2017	Friday, July 7, 2017

Saturday, June 3, 2017 *Beginning Wildlife Photography Workshop* (2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) - Join wildlife and landscape photographer Terry Willis (wildthingsphotos.com) for a beginning look at how to photograph wildlife. This workshop will focus on learning how to go beyond the "Auto" mode on your camera to enhance your photographs of nature. Learn what f-stop, shutter speed and ISO mean, and how to use them. We will also look at what techniques to use to approach and capture wildlife with the camera. **Space limited, call to register at (302) 653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Saturday, June 10, 2017 *Movie Time – Silence of the Bees* (3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) - The video explores the baffling mystery of disappearing honeybees, millions have vanished from their hives without a trace. The honeybee is an important pollinator for fruits and vegetables. Follow researchers as they follow the trail of clues from across the world as they scramble to discover why honeybees are dying in record numbers.



Saturday, June 17, 2017 *Junior Rangers learn about Wild Babies* (9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) - New and returning children (7-11 years old) are invited to attend. Bunnies, possums, skunks, and fawns...to name a few. Learn about young wildlife, how they survive, and how you can help them. Rangers will also monitor the baby Purple Martins. **Space is limited. Call to register at (302) 653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Check the website later for information on a Shorebird Workshop with Kevin Karlson.



<http://facebook.com/bombayhookwildliferefuge>

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 (FOBH) is a cooperating association formed with Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge (BHNWR) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation which was founded to promote conservation, Environmental Education, and better understanding of and appreciation for Bombay Hook NWR.

Each year 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 visited our store, the *Blue Heron Gift Shoppe*, that has been financed by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

If you attended programs such as the Native Plant Symposium or a Shorebird ID presentation, they are supported by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

Your Membership Dues and proceeds from the *Blue Heron Gift Shoppe* in the Visitor Center at Bombay Hook will make it possible for Friends to continue its support of popular educational/recreational programs, services, and improvements at Bombay Hook. Make the *Blue Heron Gift Shoppe* your place to buy field guides, books, T-shirts, posters, and souvenirs!

OUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 10% Discount on all items sold at the *Blue Heron Gift Shoppe*
- Participation in special wildlife education programs and field trips
- Participation in the Birding Club
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting 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
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"/> Student (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 |

*Student 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)
- Credit/ Debit Card (payment at Visitor Center only)

How Do You Support Friends???

(It's a fact: The National Wildlife Refuge system is underfunded and understaffed)

D - O - N - A - T - E !!!

Every year as funding is reduced, job vacancies are not filled and refuges operate without a budget. To cut costs, many refuges have been consolidated to share staff and resources.

Without the financial and volunteer support of Friends, many of the programs and activities at Bombay Hook would be either cancelled or nonexistent. Friends of Bombay Hook pays for or subsidizes many of the most popular Refuge programs, services, and improvements. Within the last several years, Friends paid for the construction of the new store, the *Blue Heron Gift Shoppe*; purchased new chairs and a screen-smart TV for the Refuge auditorium for enhanced presentations as well as viewing programs, webinars and movies to educate visitors; instituted a program to assist schools in funding transportation for field trips to the Refuge; and many other expenditures. Working with Refuge staff, Friends members and volunteers helped to launch the Junior Ranger and Junior Refuge Manager programs and the *Every Kid in a Park* pass program to 4th Grade teachers at local schools; planned, organized and staffed the "Connecting Families with Nature" and the Bombay Hook Quarter Ceremony events; organized the Native Plant Symposiums for the Garden Keepers; and many other activities.

As a 501(c)(3) corporation, we receive no Federal or State funding. We rely on the membership dues and donations we collect and the profits from the Blue Heron Gift Shoppe to provide financial support for the Refuge. Your donations are tax-deductible.

There are several ways you can donate to Friends:

- You can make a donation to Friends by check made out to "*Friends of Bombay Hook Inc.*" and send to: **Friends of Bombay Hook, 2591 Whitehall Neck Road, Smyrna DE 19977** (make sure to indicate on the Memo line of the check that it is a donation) with the enclosed form provided below.
- You can go online at www.friendsofbombayhook.org/support.html and donate thru PayPal.
- You can stop in at the Visitor Center during Gift Shoppe hours (will vary in the Fall and Spring months) and make a donation (by either check, cash or credit/debit card)

We urge you to help us continue to improve the visitor experience at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge simply by making a contribution to the Friends of Bombay Hook.



DONATION FORM

Date: _____

Name

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Address

Method of Payment

City, State, Zip

- Check (payment by mail or at Visitor Center)
- Cash (payment at Visitor Center only)
- Credit/ Debit Card (payment at Visitor Center only)

E-mail (optional)