



2024 Wings Over Water Event Schedule

www.wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com

SCHEDULE IS CURRENT AS OF 02/29/2024

Registration for events is available on Eventbrite or from our website at wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com.

THE ACTIVITIES BULLETED WITH  CAN BE EXPERIENCED DURING THE FESTIVAL WITHOUT PRE-REGISTRATION.

ACTIVITIES BULLETED WITH  ARE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR KIDS.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024

*****NOTE NEW DEPARTURE LOCATION AS OF 2/29/2024*****



Bus Charter Guided Field Trip to Reifel Bird Sanctuary, Delta, B.C., Canada

Friday, March 15, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. (Return time is approximate due to unpredictable border wait times.)

Where: Departure at 8:00 am from Ben's Market #17 & Truck Stop 1300 Boblett Street, Blaine (Off I-5, Exit 275 – Truck Route). Enter parking lot from Boblett Street. Please be at the departure area by 7:45 am. *Please note: this departure location is new (different from previous years) and closer to the festival venue in Blaine.*

Cost \$60 Adults Only– Space is limited. Preregistration is required.

Registration fee includes bus charter, entrance fee and bag of bird seed.

Experience a guided field trip to one of Canada's top birding sites, George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, just 40 minutes across the border in Delta, B.C., Canada. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Please bring your own lunch (no glass). You may also purchase items for lunch, snacks and drinks in addition to Cinnabon cinnamon rolls at Ben's Market.

Important note: A passport or an enhanced driver's license is required for crossing the US/Canada border.

Sponsored by Phillips 66 - Ferndale Refinery

Hints: Bring binoculars, a camera, sturdy footwear (minor muddy conditions are possible), rain gear or umbrella (think Seattle weather). Dress in layers; it can be cool and windy. Water & snacks are good, too. There are limited snacks available at the sanctuary. Bathrooms are near the entrance of the sanctuary and there is usually a portable unit on the far side of the trail system.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bus-charter-guided-field-trip-to-reifel-bird-sanctuary-delta-bc-canada-tickets-822073332467>

*****JUST ADDED*****



Early Birds & Brew

Friday, March 15, 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area, 7290 Birch Bay Dr., Birch Bay State Park*

Cost: Free, Drop-in Activity. No registration required.

Ron Kulman, Broker of Birch Bay Realty is inviting WOW attendees to drop by the BP on Center on Friday, March 15th, between 9-10:30 am for a freshly brewed cup of bird friendly

coffee (while the coffee lasts). Ron has taken his morning coffee ritual to a new level by roasting coffee beans from around the world and grinding them fresh for each cup! He loves to share this tasty art with those who want to experience the perfect cup of coffee. We will also have a scope set up with a knowledgeable guide across the street at the beach to view the early birds that are in the bay!

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Introduction to Forest Bathing, Guided Walk

Friday, March 15, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area 7290 Birch Bay Dr. Birch Bay State Park*

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

***Please note that there is an 11 am and a 2:30 pm guided walk.**

Festival Keynote Speaker Holly Merker, Wellness Counselor and Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide, will immerse you in the experience of Forest Bathing. This is a great way to herald the spring season, celebrate nature, and be revitalized! This will include a slow-paced walk with some sitting and standing for periods to observe and tune into the birds and the natural world. Tea and light refreshments will be provided to participants.

Hints: For this program, binoculars are not necessary, though you may enjoy having them with you. Consider dressing for the elements and conditions: sturdy closed-toe shoes, layers, wind/rain jacket, etc. If you have trekking poles and find them useful, please consider bringing them. For Forest Bathing a folding chair or a small camping stool is encouraged.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/introduction-to-forest-bathing-tickets-822075709577>

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.



Alaska Packers Association Cannery and Fishing Museum

Friday, March 15, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Where: 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free (donations welcome)

Experience local maritime history! Housed in an original Alaska Packers cannery building, the museum's exhibits tell the story of days gone by and include a scale model fish trap, antique machinery, a gallery of historic photos, and an original 28-foot Bristol Bay fishing boat.

Semiahmoo Spit, Guided Birding Field Trip

Friday, March 15, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Where: Meet at Semiahmoo County Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Take a leisurely walk on a paved walking trail and along the beach to view birds close at hand. Led by Paul Woodcock and Pam Borso from North Cascades Audubon Society. This guided field trip offers both the novice and experienced birder the best opportunity to explore the abundance of birds along Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Join us afterward for our Festival Opening and Featured Artist Reception at the Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine. **Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-birding-field-trip-at-semiahmoo-spit-tickets-822077214077>

Introduction to Forest Bathing, Guided Walk

Friday, March 15, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area, 7290 Birch Bay Dr. Birch Bay State Park*

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Festival Keynote Speaker Holly Merker, Wellness Counselor and Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide, will immerse you in the experience of Forest Bathing. This is a great way to herald the spring season, celebrate nature, and be revitalized! This will include a slow paced walk with some sitting and standing for periods to observe and tune into the birds and the natural world. Tea and light refreshments will be provided to participants.

Hints: For this program, binoculars are not necessary, though you may enjoy having them with you. Consider dressing for the elements and conditions: sturdy closed-toe shoes, layers, wind/rain jacket, etc. If you have trekking poles and find them useful, please consider bringing them. For Forest Bathing a folding chair or a small camping stool is encouraged.

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/introduction-to-forest-bathing-tickets-822075709577>

WOW Festival Opening Dinner and Artist Reception

Friday, March 15, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: \$30, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended. Unsold tickets will be available at the dinner.

Join us for the 21st annual Wings Over Water Opening Dinner and Artist Reception. Enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner and no-host wine and beer. Gluten free and vegetarian options will be available. Meet this year's featured artist, Laurie Potter, and experience her expressive art portraying our natural world. Her artwork will be on display and for sale during the reception and at the Birding Expo on Saturday. The evening will also include a silent auction and an inspiring photography presentation of local waterfowl by Gregory Green: **Monet, Me, and the Mallards**.

Motivated by his professional background as a wildlife biologist, Greg melds his photography of attractive waterfowl with an appealing landscape motif. Greg also discusses the importance of camouflage, patience, and understanding of the habits of waterfowl, and predicting the daily and seasonal changes in reflected light." Greg has recently completed a stunning book. "Wild Live's", on the wildlife of the world with nature photographer Art Wolfe. The book will be available for purchase and for Greg to sign after his presentation.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wow-festival-opening-dinner-and-featured-artist-reception-tickets-822078417677>

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024



Festival Headquarters: Registration, Tickets, and Information

Saturday, March 16, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

The Festival Information Table will open at 8:30 am to provide information during the Expo on Saturday. Note that limited-space and seating events often sell out prior to the festival.

Preregistration is recommended through Eventbrite at www.wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com or on the Wings Over Water's Facebook page.

Blaine Harbor and Marine Park, Guided Birding Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Where: Meet in front of the Blaine Harbor Boating Center, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Cost: Free: Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Join Joe Meche, an avid birder, wildlife photographer and writer, on a leisurely walk along the waterfront of Blaine Harbor and Marine Park to experience the birds along the way of this most northerly Important Bird Area (IBA) of Washington. The entire walk is on level ground and will be a low-key meander along the shorelines, starting and ending at the Blaine Harbor Boating Center. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birding-field-trip-blaine-harbor-marine-park-tickets-822079330407>

Semiahmoo Spit, Guided Birding Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: Meet at Semiahmoo County Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

This guided field trip offers both the novice and experienced birder the best opportunity to explore the abundance of birds along Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor. Take a leisurely walk, led by Lynne Givler and Keith Carpenter of North Cascade Audubon Society, on both a paved walking trail and along the beach to view birds close at hand. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Allow time on your own for an opportunity to stop at the Alaska Packers Association Museum to learn about the history of the area.

Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-birding-field-trip-at-semiahmoo-spit-tickets-822077214077>

Space is limited; reservations are free and can be made ahead of time through Eventbrite at wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com. If available, reservations may also be available at the festival on Saturday, starting at 8:30 am at the WOW Headquarters, Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine.



Alaska Packers Association Cannery and Fishing Museum

Saturday, March 16, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where: 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free (donations welcome), No registration required.

Experience local maritime history! Housed in an original Alaska Packers cannery building, the museum's exhibits tell the story of days gone by and include a scale model fish trap, antique machinery, a gallery of historic photos, and an original 28-foot Bristol Bay fishing boat.



Swans of Winter, Wildlife Presentation

Saturday, March 16, 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

Join presenter Martha Jordan, well-known swan biologist and Executive Director of Northwest Swan Conservation Association, a regional non-profit. Trumpeter swans, the largest waterfowl in the world, have been brought back from the brink of extinction and once again grace our skies and waterways. Learn about the life history and biology of Washington's native trumpeter and tundra swans and ways to contribute to our understanding of these magnificent birds through the enjoyment of spending time outdoors. You'll also discover the importance of "Birding with Awareness" to create connections between ecotourism, conservation and agricultural interests and their relationship in sharing and protecting waterfowl habitats.



WOW All Day Birding Expo, Festival Headquarters and Information



Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

Cost: Donations welcome, fees may apply for some activities.

From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Blaine Community Pavilion, enjoy free activities for the whole family: Sardis Raptor Center live raptor presentations, kids' activities, art & craft vendors, wildlife exhibits, displays and more.

Expo sponsored by: BP Cherry Point Refinery

Salish Sea Open Water Birding and Wildlife Cruise, by San Juan Cruises

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Arrive at the boat dock no later than 9:45 am. Boat departs promptly at 10:00 am)

Where: Semiahmoo Resort Plover Dock on Semiahmoo Spit, 9565 Semiahmoo Dr., Blaine

Cost: \$65 per person (ages limited to 12 & up) Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Please note that there is a 10:00 am to noon and a 12:30 to 2:30 pm cruise.

Join us for a two-hour offshore cruise from Semiahmoo Spit aboard the 50-foot Salish Sea. View a diverse variety of birds in the rich waters of Boundary Bay and Semiahmoo Bay. A professional naturalist will be aboard to help spot the birds and wildlife you'll see along the way. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and a camera. The Salish Sea has indoor seating, as well as ample outdoor viewing areas on two levels of the boat. (The cruise is subject to cancellation due to rough sea conditions. If this should happen, prepaid registration fees will be refunded.)

Sponsored by: Phillip's 66 Ferndale Refinery

Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival. Purchasing tickets online ahead of time online is recommended through Eventbrite at www.wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com.

Any unsold tickets may be purchased in person on Saturday, March 16, starting at 8:30 am at WOW Headquarters, Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-salish-sea-open-water-birding-wildlife-cruise-by-san-juan-cruises-tickets-504018090677>



North Cascades Audubon Society Bird Viewing Stations

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Where: Viewing Station maps will be available at the festival headquarters, Blaine Community Pavilion, Blaine.

Cost: Free, No registration required.

Seeing is Believing! You will be amazed at the number of interesting bird species you can see close at hand and viewed through a spotting scope. Knowledgeable birders from North Cascade Audubon will assist and answer questions. Pick up viewing location maps at the Festival Headquarters table, Blaine Pavilion, 635 8th St. Blaine, WA beginning at 8:30 am on Saturday.

Sponsored by: North Cascade Audubon Society



Birdtastic Kids' Activities

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

Kids will flock here to participate in arts & crafts provided by local Ellen Clark and Blaine Birch Bay Park and Rec District 2.

Sponsored by: Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District 2



Kids' Nest Box Building

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am 'till gone

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

Cost: Suggested Donation \$2, No registration required.

Build a nest box to invite local birds to make your backyard their home!

(This activity requires adult supervision)

(For kid's up to age 14 while supplies last!)

Sponsored by: Blaine Pacific Building Center

Explore the Flora and Fauna of Birch Bay, Guided Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 10:00 am to Noon

Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area, 7290 Birch Bay Dr., Birch Bay State Park

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Join Pam Borso of North Cascades Audubon for a nature walk in the Birch Bay State Park from the Heron Center to the Nature Trail. She will cover the natural history and use of native plants. We will listen to birds along the way.

Sponsored by North Cascades Audubon Society

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/explore-the-flora-and-fauna-of-birch-bay-guided-field-trip-tickets-822079922177>



Building Birding Skills with Birding Apps

Saturday, March 16, 11:00 am to 12:30 am

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

Have you been looking to find a hands-on way to build upon your skills as a birder? Learn how and why we benefit from bird conservation by using available apps. Holly Merker will focus on understanding and maximizing the benefits of the most popular apps, *eBird*, *Merlin*, and *iNaturalist* to enhance participants' skills as birders. The program will begin indoors, then will shift outside for hands-on instruction on how to use the apps while enriching your knowledge and understanding of the birds and natural world around you.

Presenter Holly Merker is this year's keynote speaker and has been a birding instructor for National Audubon, Red Knot Outfitters Birding Guides, and the American Birding Association. She also serves as the Pennsylvania State Coordinator for Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird.org, and is a global advocate for the practice of Mindful Birding.



Live Raptor Presentation: "Hunters of the Sky," by Sardis Raptor Center



Saturday, March 16, 30 min presentations: 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

This is an exciting opportunity to have an up-close experience with magnificent birds of prey! All birds shown have injuries that prevent their return to the wild and are residents of the center.

Sponsored by Robret & Lois Franco.

There will be a second presentation at 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm



Birding Essentials

Saturday, March 16, 12:30 to 2:00 pm

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

Presenter Joe Meche offers a visual tutorial on everything you always wanted to know about becoming a birdwatcher. Even if you're already into birds, there will be things to cover that you might not have considered, like the all-important practice of bird watching etiquette. Joe will begin with the basics, including field guides, bird watching optics like binoculars and scopes and even cameras, for those who wish to capture the beauty of birds. His presentation will conclude with photographs of birds you might see locally utilizing the *Peterson Guide to Field Identification*, which is based on bird behavior and habitat selection. Joe is an avid birder, photographer, and writer who recalls learning his first birds from his Grandpa about 72 years ago—so he's been at it for a while!

Sponsored by: Whatcom Law Group, P.S.

Salish Sea Open Water Birding and Wildlife Cruise, by San Juan Cruises

Saturday, March 16, 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm (Arrive at the boat dock no later than 12:15 pm. Boat departs promptly at 12:30 pm)

**Where: Semiahmoo Resort Plover Dock on Semiahmoo Spit, 9565 Semiahmoo Dr., Blaine
Cost: \$65 per person. Ages limited to 12 & up. Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.***

Join us for a two-hour off-shore cruise from Semiahmoo Spit aboard the 50-foot Salish Sea. View a diverse variety of birds in the rich waters of Boundary Bay and Semiahmoo Bay. A professional naturalist will be aboard to help spot the birds and wildlife you'll see along the way. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and camera. The Salish Sea has indoor seating, as well as ample outdoor viewing areas on two levels of the boat. (The cruise is subject to cancellation due to rough sea conditions. If this should happen, prepaid registration fees will be refunded.)

Please note that there is a 10 am to noon and a 12:30 to 2:30 pm cruise.

***Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.** Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival. Purchasing tickets online ahead of time online is recommended through Eventbrite at www.wingsoverwaterbirdingfestival.com. Any unsold tickets may be purchased in person on Saturday, March 16, starting at 8:30 am at WOW Headquarters, Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-salish-sea-open-water-birding-wildlife-cruise-by-san-juan-cruises-tickets-504018090677>

Explore the Birds of Birch Bay, Guided Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Where: Meet at the BP Heron Center, 7290 Birch Bay Drive, Birch Bay State Park*

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Paul Woodcock and Pam Borso of North Cascades Audubon will team up to provide their expertise in birding and natural history in this nature walk along the shoreline and forested trails of Birch Bay State Park to view an abundance of birds in one of the few remaining saltwater and freshwater estuaries in north Puget Sound.

Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/explore-the-birds-of-birch-bay-tickets-822089109657>

Semiahmoo Spit, Birding Behavior & Ecology Guided Birding Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Where: Meet at Semiahmoo County Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Join David Drummond, wildlife biologist and naturalist who has done a lifetime of extensive field research on Merlin's, Peregrine falcons, as well as hawks and owls. He will take you beyond field ID to observe more intimately the behaviors of the bird species you'll see along the

trails and beaches of Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor.

Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Allow time on your own for an opportunity to stop at the Alaska Packers Association Museum to learn about the history of the area.



Live Raptor Presentation: "Hunters of the Sky," by Sardis Raptor Center

Saturday, March 16, 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Where: Blaine Community Pavilion, 635 8th Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

This is an exciting opportunity to have an up-close experience with many magnificent birds of prey, including owls, hawks, falcons, and eagles. All birds shown have injuries that prevent their return to the wild and are residents of the center.

Sponsored by: Robert and Lois Franco

Blaine Harbor and Marine Park, Guided Birding Field Trip

Saturday, March 16, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: Meet in front of the Blaine Harbor Boating Center, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Join Joe Meche, an avid birder, wildlife photographer and writer, on a leisurely walk along the waterfront of Blaine Harbor and Marine Park to experience the birds along the way of this most northerly Important Bird Area (IBA) of Washington. The entire walk is on level ground and will be a low-key meander along the shorelines, starting and ending at the Blaine Harbor Boating Center. Dress for inclement weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birding-field-trip-blaine-harbor-marine-park-tickets-822079330407>

The Ecology of Hummingbirds



Saturday, March 16, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: Free, No registration required.

This presentation by Gregory Green will provide an overview of the unique ecology of this extraordinary group of birds, contrasting the Pacific Northwest with Ecuador, and will tell the fascinating story of Anna's hummingbird's march north over the past 75 years. Greg is a career wildlife biologist and instructor at Western Washington University. Over a decade ago, Greg was asked to explain why we have a hummingbird that overwinters in the PNW (Anna's), which culminated into research and an article in *Bird Watching Magazine*. He has since been lecturing on the ecology of hummingbirds, and recently returned from the cloud forests of Ecuador where he photographed and observed a portion of the 132 species that live there.

Greg has recently completed a stunning book. "Wild Live's" on the wildlife of the world with nature photographer Art Wolfe. The book will be available for purchase and for Greg to sign after his presentation.



Featured, Keynote Presentation: *The Power of Bird Watching*, by Holly Merker

Saturday, March 16, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: Free No registration required. (Donations are very welcome!)

This presentation will delve into our connections to birds, how to maximize the wellness benefits of birding, and learn about the latest research surrounding the impact of birds on our self-care and wellbeing. Research shows that connecting with nature actively reduces stress, depression, and anxiety, while helping build a stronger heart and immune system. Birds are gateways into deeper experiences with nature, magnifying these benefits. Through observation, we can learn not only about birds, but gain insight into our own lives while exploring our connection to the world around us. This fosters stewardship and bolsters conservation. Holly will be available after the presentation to answer questions and to sign copies of her award winning book, *Ornithotherapy For Your Mind, Body, and Soul*.

Sponsored by: Team Stauffer—Windermere Real Estate

Holly is a global advocate for the practice of Mindful Birding, co-authored authored two books which guide readers into optimizing the wellness benefits birds provides us, including the award-winning Ornithotherapy For Your Mind, Body, and Soul and The Power of Birdwatching. Holly founded the Mindful Birding Network in 2021, and is co-host of The Mindful Birding Podcast. She holds a certificate in Wellness Counselor and is a Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide (ANFT.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

Birding Breakfast and Presentation: Learning the Language of Birds

Sunday, March 17, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: Blaine Senior Center, 763 G Street, Blaine

Cost: \$15, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended. Any unsold tickets will be available at the breakfast.

Join us for a classic breakfast* along with bird-friendly coffee, tea, and juice! Holly Merker's presentation will help you to identify what a bird is signaling through its calls and songs. Increase your chance of successfully finding and identifying songbirds by ear right outside your own doors by using techniques and strategies, as well as the foundational skills to build upon your birdsong memory. You'll also discover why listening to birds is good for your overall wellbeing. *Breakfast will have gluten free and vegetation options available.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birding-breakfast-and-presentation-learning-the-language-of-birds-tickets-822117795457>

Semiahmoo Spit, Guided Birding Field Trip

Sunday, March 17, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: Meet at Semiahmoo County Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

This guided field trip offers the novice and experienced birder the opportunity to explore the abundance of birds along Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor. Take a leisurely walk, led by Alex Jeffers and Helen Dolejsi from North Cascade Audubon Society, on both a paved walking trail and along the beach to view birds close at hand. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Allow time on your own for an opportunity to stop at the Alaska Packers Association Museum, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine. (Open 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm).

Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-birding-field-trip-at-semiahmoo-spit-tickets-822077214077>



Birds and Beaks: Family Bird Investigation

Sunday, March 17, 10:30 am to Noon

**Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area, 7290 Birch Bay Dr. Birch Bay State Park*
Space is limited. Adult must accompany children.**

Cost: Free, No registration required. (Best for families with children 5 & up)

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Note: This activity will also take place at 1:00- 2:30 pm

Have you ever wondered what makes a bird...a bird? Join experienced naturalists Kate Kohut and Holly Roger of Wild Whatcom for a family-oriented introduction to birding which includes fun, kid-friendly activities, and a bird walk to explore Birch Bay State Park! Discover the difference between seed-cracking, bug-eating and fish gulping beaks, and learn what to look and listen for when identifying our feathered friends. Best for families with kids 5 and up. Please bring binoculars if you have them.

This is an outdoor activity. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear walking shoes.

Sponsored by: Wild Whatcom & Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Rec Dist. 2

Blaine Harbor and Marine Park, Guided Birding Field Trip

Sunday, March 17, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Where: Meet in front of the Blaine Harbor Boating Center, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Cost: Free – Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

Join Joe Meche, an avid birder, wildlife photographer and writer, on a leisurely walk along the waterfront of Blaine Harbor and Marine Park to experience the birds along the way of this most northerly Important Bird Area (IBA) of Washington. The entire walk is on level ground and will be a low-key meander along the shorelines, starting and ending at the Blaine Harbor Boating Center. Dress for inclement weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birding-field-trip-blaine-harbor-marine-park-tickets-822079330407>



Birds and Beaks: Family Bird Investigation

Sunday, March 17, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**Where: BP Heron Center Covered Picnic Area, 7290 Birch Bay Dr. Birch Bay State Park*
Space is limited. Adult must accompany children.**

Cost: Free, No registration required. (Best for families with children 5 & up)

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Have you ever wondered what makes a bird...a bird? Join experienced naturalists Kate Kohut and Holly Roger of Wild Whatcom for a family-oriented introduction to birding which includes fun, kid-friendly activities, and a bird walk to explore Birch Bay State Park! Discover the

difference between seed-cracking, bug-eating and fish gulping beaks, and learn what to look and listen for when identifying our feathered friends. Best for families with kids 5 and up. Please bring binoculars if you have them.

Sponsored by: Wild Whatcom & Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Rec Dist. 2

Birch Bay, Birds and Brew Guided Nature Walk

Sunday, March 17, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm*

Where: Meet at BP Heron Center, Birch Bay State Park, 7290 Birch Bay Drive, Birch Bay State Park, Birch Bay.*

Cost: Free Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park. A pass can be purchased at kiosks in the park.

Join Pam Borso of North Cascades Audubon Society along with Mike Price, local geologist, for a guided nature walk in Birch Bay State Park to learn about the natural history of this unique area and the birds and native plants that thrive here.

After the walk, come and socialize over beer (no host) at the Beach Cat Brewery, 7876 Birch Bay Drive.

Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birch-bay-birds-and-brew-guided-nature-walk-tickets-822122549677>



Alaska Packers Association Cannery and Fishing Museum

Sunday, March 17, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Where: 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, (donations welcome), No registration required.

Experience local maritime history. Housed in an original Alaska Packers cannery building, the museum's exhibits tell the story of days gone by and include a scale model fish trap, antique machinery, a gallery of historic photos, and an original 28-foot Bristol Bay fishing boat. A museum volunteer will be available to provide a presentation about this rich time in Blaine's history.

Semiahmoo Spit, Guided Birding Field Trip

Sunday, March 17, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Where: Meet at Semiahmoo County Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine

Cost: Free, Space is limited. Preregistration is recommended.

This guided field trip offers the novice and experienced birder the opportunity to explore the abundance of birds along Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor. Take a leisurely walk, led by John & Jane Aspnes from North Cascade Audubon Society, on both a paved walking trail and along the beach to view birds close at hand. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Allow time on your own for an opportunity to stop at the Alaska Packers Association Museum, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine. (Open 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm).

Sponsored by: North Cascades Audubon Society

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-birding-field-trip-at-semiahmoo-spit-tickets-822077214077>