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INSIDE

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SANIBEL & CAPTIVA ISLANDS, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 5, 2018

## "DING" DARLING DAYS

30TH  
ANNUAL

OCTOBER 12-14, 2018 SANIBEL, FLORIDA



### FRIDAY, OCT. 12 FREE Let's Get Outside Day

- Free Hiking & Biking on Wildlife Drive
- Bunche Beach Birding Tram
- Free and discounted tours & activities

### SATURDAY, OCT. 13 FREE Conservation Art Day

- Meet Federal Duck Stamp Artists
- Cartooning
- Nature Sketching & Painting
- Free Art Kits

### SUNDAY, OCT. 14 FREE Family Fun Day

- Live Wildlife Presentations
- Puppet Shows & Live Music
- Butterfly House
- Archery Clinics
- Hot Dogs
- Free Wildlife Drive Admission & Tram Tours

See inside  
for full calendar  
of events



J.N. *Ding* Darling National Wildlife Refuge  
DINGDARLINGDAYS.COM 239-472-1100





# "Ding" Darling Days 2018

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EC="Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center (1 Wildlife Dr., Sanibel, FL), TBE= Tarpon Bay Explorers (900 Tarpon Bay Rd., Sanibel, FL)

### FRIDAY

# 12

## LET'S GET OUTSIDE DAY

**7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Wildlife Drive is open FREE to hikers/bikers only;** closed to vehicular traffic except special, discounted TBE trams throughout the day

**8 - 11 a.m. FREE Bunche Beach Birding Tram,** meet at EC flagpole\*

**8:30 - 10 a.m.** 25% off Breakfast Nature & Sea Life Cruise, TBE\*

**9 - 10 a.m. FREE** Beach Walk at the Perry Tract with Educator Sara, Meet at Gulfside City Park pay station, city parking fees apply

**9:30 - 11 a.m. FREE** Refuge Birds & Wildlife Tour Caravan with Ranger Jeff, meet at EC flagpole

**10 a.m. - 12 noon** 25% off Low Tide Paddling Tour, TBE\*

**10 am, 11:30am, 1pm, 2:30pm, 4pm** 25% off special Friday Narrated TBE Wildlife Drive Tram Tours

**Ongoing 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. FREE** Animal Olympics Games at Bailey Tract, self-guided, Tarpon Bay Rd.

**10 - 11:30 a.m. FREE** Refuge Bike Tour with Ranger Toni, meet at EC flagpole

**11 - 12:30 p.m.** 25% off Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**1 - 2 p.m. FREE** Showing of *Million Dollar Duck* film, EC Auditorium

**1 - 2 p.m. FREE** Hike & Storytime at Wildlife Education Boardwalk with Ranger Monica, meet at EC flagpole

**1 - 3 p.m.** 25% off Commodore Creek Paddle, TBE\*

**5 - 7 p.m.** 25% off Sunset Rookery Kayak Tour, TBE\* (Experience necessary)

**5 - 7 p.m.** 25% off Evening Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**TIP** Make sure to check out the new public restrooms #LearningLav

**25% off Tarpon Bay Explorers (TBE) tours during "Ding" Days:**

- Breakfast Nature & Sea Life Cruise (\$22.50 adults, \$13.50 children)
- Guided Commodore Creek Paddle (\$22.50 adults, \$13 children)
- Sea Life & Nature Cruise (\$17.25 for adults, \$11.25 for children)
- Evening Sea Life & Nature Cruise (\$22.50 adults, \$13.50 children)
- Sunset Rookery Kayak Tour (\$30 for adults, \$18.75 for children)

### SATURDAY

# 13

## CONSERVATION ART DAY

All **FREE** activities at "Ding" Darling Visitor & Education Center **9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. FREE** admission to Wildlife Drive; look for Plein-Air Artists

**ALL DAY: 10% off select art items in the Refuge Nature Store**

**FREE** Chalk Art Drawing in the Parking Lot

**FREE** Wildlife Artist Nancy Tome Painting Demo

**FREE** Santiva Chronicle Dress-Up Photo Booth

**FREE** art kits for the first 100 kids

**10 am, 11:30am, 1pm, 2:30pm, 4pm** 25% off special Friday Narrated TBE Wildlife Drive Tram Tours

**10 a.m. - 12 noon** 25% off Commodore Creek Paddle, TBE\*

**10 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. FREE** Face-Painting, EC

**10 a.m. - 12 noon** 25% off Low Tide Paddling Tour, TBE\*

**Ongoing 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. FREE** Meet the Blue Goose for chances at prizes, EC

**11 a.m.** Personalized Wildlife Cartoons by Dave Horton for the first 50 people

**11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** 25% off Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Conservation Cartoon Awards, EC Auditorium

**12:30 p.m. - 1 p.m.** "Ding" Darling Days Nature Photography Contest Awards, EC Classroom

**1 - 3 p.m. Meet the Champs: Winning Duck Stamp Artists; Junior Duck Stamp (JDS) Awards,** EC Auditorium

Meet & greet current Federal Duck Stamp winner, Bob Hautman, plus Junior Duck Stamp winner, Rayen Kang, and State Junior Duck Stamp winner, Anna Grace Swanson.

(1:45 p.m. Intermission: snacks and duck stamp signing)

**1 - 3 p.m.** 25% off Commodore Creek Paddle, TBE\*

**1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.** 25% off Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**5 - 7 p.m.** 25% off Evening Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

### Choice of FREE Art Activities Sign up at EC front desk

**3 - 4 p.m. Make & Take Nature Portrait** (limited to first 25 children who sign up that day), EC Classroom.

**3 - 4 p.m. Nature Sketching** at the Wildlife Education Boardwalk with Nancy Tome. First 25 to sign up get free nature journal & charcoal pencil. Meet at flagpole



### SUNDAY

# 14

## FREE Family Fun Day

A **FREE** day valued at \$75 per family of four

**9:45 a.m.** Flag-raising ceremony, EC entrance

**10 a.m. Sing to "Ding" FREE** birthday cake to celebrate "Ding" Darling's 142nd Birthday & giveaway of free reusable goody bags to the first 250 kids, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**10 a.m. - 12 noon** 25% off Commodore Creek Paddle, TBE\*

**10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. FREE** Live Music from Americana Community Music Association

**10:30 a.m. FREE** Walk on the Wildlife Side Puppet Show, Littleton Elementary, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**11 a.m. FREE Wildlife Presentation: Birds of Prey** by CROW, EC parking lot

**11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** 25% off Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**12 noon FREE One Tiny Turtle story & sea turtle craft** with Ranger Toni, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**12 noon FREE Make & Take Nature Portrait** (limited to first 25 middle school children who sign up that day), EC Kidz Kool Zone Classroom

**12 noon FREE People & Panthers program** Florida Wildlife Commission, EC parking lot

**12:30 p.m. FREE** The Black Water Mystery Puppet Show, Littleton Elementary, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**1 p.m. FREE Kids Animal Yoga program** by Ambu Yoga and Ranger Toni, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**1 p.m. FREE Live Wildlife Do's and Don'ts of Animal Rescue** by CROW, EC parking lot

**1 p.m. - 3 p.m.** 25% off Commodore Creek Paddle, TBE\*

**1:30 p.m. FREE** The Spiny Stranger Puppet Show, Littleton Elementary, EC Auditorium Kidz Kool Zone

**1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.** 25% off Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

**2 p.m. FREE Snakes Alive! program** with Calusa Herpetological Society, EC parking lot

**2 p.m. FREE Techie Show-&Tell: Refuge Reddish Egret & Mangrove Cuckoo Studies,** Dr. Ken Meyer, EC Auditorium

**5 p.m. - 7 p.m.** 25% off Sunset Rookery Kayak Tour, TBE\*

**5 p.m. - 7 p.m.** 25% off Evening Sea Life & Nature Cruise, TBE\*

### FREE & CONTINUOUS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

#### In the EC Kidz Kool Zone

Group Let's Get Outside canvas painting  
Face painting  
DIY nature crafts  
Dress-up photo station  
Special 2017 Federal & Junior Duck Stamp Art Exhibit, EC Auditorium

#### Outside

Free parking at Special Events Parking site (look for signs)  
Shuttle service  
Hands-on nature crafts  
Naturalist-narrated 60-minute tram tours (check in at tram booth upon arrival)  
Butterfly House  
Hot dogs

Archery demos, adjacent to overflow parking lot  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service response vehicles & demos  
Flyfishing lessons  
Ongoing Learning Lavatories Scavenger Hunt  
Informational booths & environmental displays with giveaways



### Friday - Sunday

10 am, 11:30, 1 pm, 2:30, 4 pm:  
25% OFF Narrated TBE Wildlife Drive Tram Tours\*: \$9.75 adults, \$6 children\*

Daylong: FREE Special 2017 Federal Duck Stamp Art Exhibit, EC Auditorium

Daylong: FREE Santiva Chronicle Dress-Up Photo Station, EC

Daylong: 10% off select gifts in the Refuge Nature Store

### Get Connected

Scan for more info about "Ding" Days:



Don't forget to download our app and connect with us on social.

tinyurl.com/dingapp



Co-presented by:



1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, FL 33957  
(239) 472-1100  
dingdarlingdays.com

\* indicates reservations recommended: Call (239) 472-8900 or visit tarponbayexplorers.com





# J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge 'DING' DARLING DAYS

OCTOBER 12-14, 2018

Thanks to the following sponsors who are making this year's event possible:

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