

National Wildlife Refuge Week! Sign up NOW!

[Register with us in one easy step!](#)

October 6 thru 13 - Ten Thousand Islands Refuge Habitat Research and Adventures

Connect with Nature and learn about the unique aspects of your coastal resources! Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve helps co-manage the tidal islands of the Ten Thousand Islands Refuge. Program costs include admission to the Environmental Learning Center. **Sign up using their website:** <http://RookeryBay.org> or call (239) 417-6310:

10/8 _Slithering Snakes_ MONDAY, 10:30am - 11:30am Learn about the snakes that live in Florida's environment and how to tell which are venomous. Come see a live snake as our naturalist dispels some of the myths about these slithering reptiles. (\$5)

10/9 _Plant Walk_ TEUSDAY 10:30am - 11:30am Throughout history, Florida's native plants have provided people with medicine, shelter, food and recreation. Join a Rookery Bay naturalist on a walking tour of the grounds and discover many of the fascinating uses for native plants.(\$5)

10/10 _Kayak Research Trip_ WEDNESDAY 9:30am -1:30pm Explore an uninhabited subtropical island and learn about the estuary ecosystem on this guided kayak trip through Rookery Bay! Narrated by local naturalist, Geoff Trager, PhD, this trip includes the rental of kayak, paddle, and life jacket. (\$60)

10/10 _Native Orchids of Southwest Florida_ WEDNESDAY 10:30am -11:30pm Join our naturalist Sarah Falkowski, on a photo journey through Southwest Florida in search of native orchids. Learn about the biology of these unique plants in this awe-inspiring presentation. (\$5)

JOIN US on OCTOBER 13 for Refuge Day Celebration at Port of the Islands! ALL EVENTS BELOW ARE FREE!

10/12 Friday 9am _See the Ten Thousand Islands_ Canoe Tour Free!

_ Oct 12. 9am Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve Will help 12 adventurous people explore the East River, winding through the marshes and mangroves of the water-driven system. The trip will give participants an appreciation for the diversity of habitats, and learn about the intricate connections between people and the natural world.

The canoe trip will take about 4 hours and participants should be in relatively good health for a moderate to easy canoe trip. Bring a hat, sun protection, water, snacks, binoculars, and a camera (in a waterproof container) and be ready to experience WILD Florida!

Call (239) 353-8442, ext. 233 Between 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Reservations will be made on a first-come-first-serve basis until Oct 12. All activities are available only by reservation because space is limited.

10/13 Saturday Host Sponsor: Port of the Islands Hotel & Marina Meet Photographer Clyde Butcher, Rookery Bay volunteers, and the Friends of Florida Panther Refuge to learn how you can do your part!!

Mangroves to Manatees: The Mysteries of the Ten Thousand Islands Refuge

12:30 _ 1:15 Mangrove Ecology Samantha Whitcraft, NOAA

1:15 _ 2:00 Restoring the Flow: Tales of Everglades Restoration Judy Haner, SFWMD

2:00 _ 2:45 Why Manatees Need Refuges: Threats & Conservation Efforts Denise Boyd, FWC

3pm-3:45 Manatee Cruise Thanks to Double R Charters

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED Call: 239-353-8442 x 233

SIGN-UP FOR REFUGE DAY Ends Oct. 12 Call between 9 am to 3:30 pm Reservations fill up fast!

Thanks to All of Our Sponsors: Port of the Islands Marina, Ten Thousand Islands Refuge, Friends of Florida Panther Refuge, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Rookery Bay, Collier County Audubon Society; Digital Photography Club; Boy_s and Girl_s Club of Collier County, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission_s Team OCEAN, University of Florida_s Sea Grant program, Fish Florida, the Sport Fish Restoration Programs, and Ace Hardware.

Files

[Raffle items! Take a look](#)

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