

Birds & Butterflies of Aiken

2010 Nature Series Schedule

Tuesday, January 19

Identifying Backyard Birds

Tips to help you identify more than 60 species of birds that you could encounter in our area. See the best field guides available. A good introduction for those who are new to the Aiken area.

Tuesday, February 9

How to Attract & Enjoy Eastern Bluebirds & Other Cavity Nesters

Information on bluebird biology, what makes a good nest box, installation and placement of boxes for best results, feeding bluebirds and monitoring nests.

Monday, February 15

Owl Prowl at Silver Bluff Audubon Center

Learn about our native owls and hear (and possibly see) owls in the wild. Led by Paul Koehler, Director of the Silver Bluff Audubon Center. Meet at Silver Bluff Visitors Center at 7:30PM. Maps available at Birds & Butterflies. Limited to 25 participants.

Tuesday, March 16

Hummingbirds - Nature's Jewels

Learn interesting facts about this incredible bird. See slides of nests and young, and many species that occur across the U.S. Discussion of feeders, food, feeder maintenance and plants that attract hummingbirds.

Tuesday, April 13

Culture and Care of Orchids

Learn how to grow orchids in your home. Presented by Emory Brown, who has 45 years experience growing orchids. Orchids will be for sale after the presentation.

Sunday, April 18

Bluebird Trail Field Trip

Learn tips for monitoring bluebird nest boxes as we check an actual bluebird trail in Aiken. Begins at 1:30PM at a location to be designated.

Saturday, May 1

Spring Bird Walk/Service Project at Silver Bluff Audubon Center

Join Paul Koehler, Director of Silver Bluff Audubon Center, on a field trip to identify wild birds, including spring migrants, at Silver Bluff. Meet at Silver Bluff Visitors Center at 8:00AM sharp. Limited to 15 individuals. After the bird walk we will assist the Center with litter pickup along the public roads through the area.

Tuesday, May 4

South Carolina Wildflowers

Learn to identify more than 70 species of beautiful South Carolina wildflowers, interesting facts and where to find them.

Sunday, May 9

Wildflower Walk in Hitchcock Woods

Take a wildflower walk in Hitchcock Woods with Ron & Dori Brenneman. Meet at the "Stable On The Woods" entrance to Hitchcock Woods at 1:30PM.

Tuesday, June 8

Butterflies of South Carolina and Georgia and Butterfly Gardening

Identification tips for more than 30 species of butterflies found in our area. Learn what plants the adults and caterpillars feed on and how to attract them to your garden. Butterfly plants will be available for purchase at the seminar.

Tuesday, July 13

Raptors of South Carolina, Including Live Owls & Hawks

Presented by biologists, Carol & Larry Eldridge, who have been wildlife rehabilitators for 29 years focusing on raptors for the past 17 years. They will be bringing live owls and hawks to the seminar (depending on availability of birds at that time).

Tuesday, August 10

Breeding Season Ecology of the Red-headed Woodpecker

Dr. John Kilgo, Research Wildlife Biologist and Mark Vukovich, Biological Technician, U.S. Forest Service, will present results of their recently completed study of the Red-headed woodpecker.

Tuesday, September 14

Reptiles and Amphibians of The Savannah River Area

Dr. Whit Gibbons, Professor of Ecology, Univ. of Georgia's SREL will be bringing live animals to this presentation. Dr. Gibbons' series of books will be available for purchase and signing by the author. This seminar will be held at historic Rose Hill Estate in downtown Aiken. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages served. \$20.00 per person. Advanced registration and payment required. This is one of our most popular presentations.

Tuesday, October 5

Images of East Africa

See breathtaking images of birds, wildlife and scenery through the lens of Aiken's Forrest Roberts. You will truly enjoy this presentation.

Tuesday, October 12

History and Management of Hitchcock Woods

Learn about the history and management of one of the largest urban forests in the United States. Doug Rabold, Executive Director, Hitchcock Woods Foundation, and Bennett Tucker, Woods Superintendent, will tell us about this unique area in our backyard.

Saturday, October 16

Hitchcock Woods Field Trip

Dr. Harry Shealy, past president of the Board of Directors of Hitchcock Woods Foundation and Professor of Biology at USCA, will lead a tour of Hitchcock Woods. Learn about the history of Hitchcock Woods and become familiar with this Aiken gem. Great for those new to the Aiken area and those who have lived here for a while. Meet at the Tea Cottage Gate off of Dibble Road at 9:00AM. Wear comfortable walking clothes. Relatively easy walking.

- Seminars begin at 7:00PM at Birds & Butterflies, 117 Laurens St. NW in downtown Aiken unless otherwise noted. Most seminars last 45-60 minutes.
- Unless noted, seminars and field trips are free but space is limited, so **reservations are required** by calling 649-7999.
- If a particular seminar is full, additional sessions may be scheduled.
- Unless otherwise noted, seminars are presented by Ron Brenneman, Certified Wildlife Biologist and owner of Birds & Butterflies.
- Shop discounts & special door prizes and refreshments at each seminar at Birds & Butterflies.

NOTE: Sometimes we have a significant number of individuals who make reservations for seminars and then do not attend. This means that individuals who want to attend are turned away because we have reached our capacity, but we end up with empty chairs at the seminar. We look forward to your attendance at our seminars, but please be considerate of others and call as early as possible to cancel your reservation if you cannot attend. Remember to put the dates on your calendar when you make reservations