

Birds & Butterflies of Aiken - 2018 Nature Series Schedule

January - April

"The purpose of Birds & Butterflies seminars and field trips are to foster the love and appreciation of the natural things God has created for our enjoyment."

Tuesday, January 9

Identifying Birds In Our Area

If you want to improve your bird ID skills this is the seminar for you. We will provide tips to identify more than 60 species of birds that are either residents or migrants to our area. Learn what field guides are available to help you. This continues to be a very popular seminar.

Tuesday, February 6 (NEW)

Migration: Are You From South Carolina?

Migration as it pertains to South Carolina shorebirds and seabirds will be defined. We will discuss information gained from following shorebirds and seabirds on migration, how birds are followed, and give specific examples from South Carolina. Presented by Mary-Catherine Martin, Wildlife Biologist with the SCDNR.

Tuesday, February 13

Owl Prowl at Anderson Pond

Join us after dark as we 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. We will meet at the Anderson Pond site on Anderson Pond Road (approximately 2 miles off of Silver Bluff road) at 6:30PM. Limited to 25 participants. Rain date Thursday, February 15. Wear footwear for walking and bring a flashlight.

Tuesday, February 20

Owl Prowl at Silver Bluff Audubon Center

Join us after dark as we 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, we will meet at the Visitors Center at 6:30PM. Maps are available at Birds & Butterflies. Limited to 25 participants. Rain date February 22.

Saturday, February 24 (FREE)

Build a Bluebird Nest Box

Kids 12 and under can learn about bluebirds and build a bluebird nest box to take home. The South Carolina Bluebird Society will be a partner in this project. Parents welcome and encouraged. Limited to 20 kids. The program begins at 10:00AM.

Tuesday, March 6

How to Attract & Enjoy Eastern Bluebirds & Other Cavity Nesters

Learn how to attract this common and beautiful bird to your yard. We will discuss nest box requirements, installation and placement of boxes, feeding bluebirds and monitoring nests. An information table will be available from the South Carolina Bluebird Society.

Tuesday, March 20 (NEW)

Ecology of the Gopher Tortoise in South Carolina

Presented by Dr. Tracey Tuberville, Associate Research Scientist, SREL and Rebecca McGee, UGA Graduate Student. An interesting and informative presentation about this uncommon, large, terrestrial tortoise in our area.

Saturday, March 24 (NEW)

Field Trip to the Gopher Tortoise Preserve

Learn first-hand about the research being conducted on the gopher tortoise and other interesting features of the Gopher Tortoise Preserve, which is managed by the SC Department of

Natural Resources. The field trip will be led by Dr. Tracey Tuberville, Dr. Kurt Buhlmann and Rebecca McGee of the Savannah River Ecology Lab, and Barry Kessler, Wildlife Biologist with the SC Department of Natural Resources. Tour will begin at 9:00AM at the kiosk on Oak Ridge Club Road. Directions available at Birds & Butterflies.

Saturday, April 7

Spring Bird Walk at Anderson Pond

Join us for an early morning bird walk at the Anderson Pond site on Anderson Pond Road (approximately 2 miles off of Silver Bluff Road). Peter Stangel, with the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities will be our trip leader. Meet at Anderson Pond at 7:30AM. The walk will last 3-4 hours. Limited to 15 people.

- Space is limited, so [reservations are required](#) by calling 649-7999.
- There is a \$5.00 non-refundable charge for each seminar or field trip when the reservation is made. Children 16 and under are free.
- Seminars begin at [7:00PM at Birds & Butterflies, 117 Laurens St. NW in downtown Aiken](#) unless otherwise noted. Most seminars last 45-60 minutes.
- 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.