

## Field Trip Opportunities – Sunday, June 3, 2012

### Cape Canaveral Wetlands (*Tour is Limited to 20 people*)

#### Itinerary:

8:00am	Vans depart Caribe Royale Hotel
8:00am-9:00am	Travel to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge visitor center
9:00am-10:00am	Tour visitor center, boardwalk and get orientation
10:00am-11:30am	Black Point Wildlife Drive
11:30am-12:00pm	Travel to Cape Canaveral National Seashore for Lunch
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch and explore beach/dune system
1:00pm-2:00pm	Tour dike restoration
2:00pm-2:30pm	Look for Scrub Jay
2:30pm-3:30pm	Vans return to hotel



**What to wear and bring:** During the field trip we will be in and out of the air conditioned bus and engaging in brief walks of less than an hour in the hot Florida sun that can change into a downpour in a matter of minutes. Sunscreen, a hat and possibly a long-sleeve shirt to protect from the sun is a good idea, bring a rain coat just in case we end up in a downpour, and you might want a light jacket if the air conditioning gets uncomfortable. As for our walks, bring comfortable shoes and if you want to stay dry our main path will not require you to get wet, however for those of you who can't get your feet wet around water there will be several opportunities to wade into the wetlands or the ocean. You may also want to bring bug spray as although we will be out during the day and there is usually a breeze along the coast, we may encounter some saltmarsh mosquitoes or biting flies. Make sure to also bring your binoculars and camera.

**Food Offered:** Water and lunch will be provided.

**Driving Distance:** Is approximately 83 miles each way.  
Map: [g.co/maps/vypjt](http://g.co/maps/vypjt)

**Cost of Tour: \$75.00 per person**  
(Fees include lunch and transportation)

#### Description:

The tour will start at the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center where you will get an over view of the natural history of this expansive refuge that surrounds much of the Kennedy Space Center. While at the visitor center we will explore the boardwalk and get oriented to some of the wetlands of the refuge and the restoration efforts being conducted. We will then proceed to the Black Point Wildlife Drive where we will drive along impounded dikes to view a gradient of freshwater marshes, salt marshes and mangrove wetlands many of which are within impoundments first constructed for mosquito control and now managed for waterfowl habitat and many are in various phases of restoration. Along the way there will be ample opportunities to observe many species of local birds as well as reptiles that are common to the area. After we exit the Black Point Wildlife Drive we will travel to Cape Canaveral National seashore to look over a relatively recent impoundment restoration and dike leveling and see the coastal barrier island and beach along the Atlantic Ocean. If time permits we will also see if we can catch a glimpse of the threatened and endangered, and charismatic Scrub Jay.



#### **For Questions about the Tour Site, Contact:**

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#### **For Questions about Tour Logistics, Contact:**

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