

## [SCDNR Spring 2016 Coastal Explorations Series Calendar](#)

All events are free (unless noted otherwise by \$\$\$\$) and open to the public.

Registration is required for all events via the website and opens 30 days in advance.

<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/NERR/seminarseries.html>

- Once registered, participants will receive directions and further event details at least one week prior to the offering.

- Please direct any questions to the following:

Lauton Sutley, SCDNR//ACE Basin NERR, 843-953-9354 or [sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov)

*Please Read First!* - "The Coastal Exploration Series (CES) largely highlights managed properties, projects, and expertise of the Reserve staff and that of the SCDNR. In that effort CES events are often held outdoors and activities and conditions could include, but are not limited to, extreme heat or cold, exposure to insects, walking or standing for long periods of time on unstable surfaces, climbing onto or out of boats, docks, and trailers, etc.

Please contact Lauton Sutley by phone at 843-953-9354 or by email at [sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov) prior to registration if you have a disability that you feel might prevent your participation in an event."

### [Botany Bay WMA by Bicycle](#)

**Speaker:** Bess Kellet, Lauton Sutley

**Date:** March 24th

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** Botany bay WMA

Limited to 20 people.

Come out and explore Botany Bay Plantation as few get to, by bike! We will begin at the entrance to the property and see boneyard beach, upland hardwoods, freshwater swamps, and much more. Additionally we will learn about the unique history of this property and step back in time as we ride around plantation ruins and historic structures. Total distance is between 7-8 miles at a very leisurely pace. BYOB (bring your own bike).

### Caw Caw Rice Tour

**Speaker:** Shawn Halifax

**Date:** Wednesday, March 9th

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** Caw Caw Interpretive center  
Limited to 20 people.

Journey from the past to the present and heritage to habitat at the Ravenel Caw Caw Interpretive Center. Rich in natural, cultural and historical resources, Caw Caw was once part of several rice plantations and home to enslaved Africans who applied their technology and skills in agriculture to carve the series of rice fields out of cypress swamps. The trip will start at the main exhibit and then work around the property to see and operate some tools and artifacts that are appropriate to the period. This outing will involve extensive walking outdoors.

### Yawkey Wildlife Management Area

**Speaker:** Jamie Dozier/Jim Lee, SCDNR

**Date:** Friday March 18<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10 AM to early afternoon

**Location:** Ferry landing, Georgetown, S.C.  
Limited to 13 participants

The Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center was willed to DNR in 1976 by the late Tom Yawkey. Participants will catch a glimpse of the 31 square miles of marsh, managed wetlands, open beach, longleaf pine and maritime forest which together create what is considered one of the most outstanding gifts to wildlife conservation in North America. The Yawkey Wildlife Center is utilized for research and is primarily managed as a wildlife preserve. Participants will have a firsthand experience of this property, learning about the abundant plant and wildlife that inhabit it and why these areas are so important to protect. Pack a lunch and any other food or drink you may want for the day.

### Santee Coastal reserve

**Speaker:** Jim Lee, SCDNR

**Date:** Monday March 21st

**Time:** 10 AM – early afternoon

**Location:** Santee Coastal Wildlife Management Area, McClellanville ,S.C.  
Limited to 20 people.

Santee Coastal Reserve is a 24,000 acre Wildlife management Area located in Northern Charleston County. Freshwater, brackish, and tidal wetlands dominate this landscape and provide habitat for a vast array of wildlife species. Visitors may expect to see many different resident and migratory birds and other wetland dependent species as they explore and learn about the history of rice culture in coastal South Carolina.

We suggest you bring binoculars (spotting scope if you have one) and water. Dress appropriately for weather and bring any food and drink you may need for the day (we will be there over lunch)

### [Congaree](#)

**Speaker:** John Cely

**Date:** Tuesday, April 5th

**Time:** 10:30 AM

**Location:** Congaree National Park

Limited to 20 people.

The Congaree NP is the largest old growth bottomland hardwood forest remaining in America and is the home of four national champion trees and more than two dozen state champions. It is one of the tallest hardwood forests in the temperate world and one of the most biologically diverse parks in the country, with more than 90 species of trees and shrubs and at least 26 species of vines, more than any other park. It currently features the tallest known tree in SC, the national champion loblolly pine, nearly 170 feet tall.

### [Bonneau Ferry WMA](#)

**Speaker:** Will Carlisle

**Date:** Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10 AM -2 PM

**Location:** Bonneau Ferry WMA

Limited to 20 people.

The SC Department of Natural Resources acquired Bonneau Ferry Wildlife Management Area (WMA) from MeadWestvaco in 2004. The area covers 10,700 acres of pine savannahs, bottomland hardwoods, wildlife openings, wetlands and reservoirs. Recreational opportunities abound, from hunting and fishing to bird watching, hiking and viewing the area's rich cultural attributes, such as the ruins of the Comingtee Plantation House, the Rice Mill and the nearby Childsbury Heritage Preserve. Join us and learn how the SCDNR is working hard to manage this special property to provide quality outdoor experiences for the public as well as habitat for

native wildlife of all kinds, including white tailed deer, wild turkey, bobwhite quail, waterfowl and a variety of non-game species, including bald eagles and endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers.

### [Birding at Harbor Island](#)

**Speaker:** Nick Wallover

**Date:** May 13th

**Time:** 8:30-11:30 AM

**Location:** Harbor Island SC

Limited to 20 people.

Every year, thousands of shorebirds on their spring migration stop at Harbor Island to feed on millions of horseshoe crab eggs laid in the sand around the time of the Spring full moon. On this morning shorebird walk, we hope to observe shorebirds foraging as the tide begins to fall, exposing horseshoe crab eggs laid the night before in the intertidal zone. This time of the year is one of the best for viewing shorebirds in South Carolina, both in numbers and also diversity, as they are fueling for flights to their nesting grounds. The walk will be followed immediately after by a talk about shorebirds and horseshoe crabs in the Harbor Island classroom. The walk will cover over a mile on boardwalk and sand, wear comfortable shoes and plan for cool breezy conditions. Binoculars are recommended, although there will be optics to share among the group.

### [Night Sounds at Donnelly WMA](#)

**Speaker:** Tony Mills

**Date:** Tuesday, May 24th

**Time:** 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM

**Location:** Check station, Donnelly Wildlife Management Area

Limited to 20 participants.

Event will consist of classroom segment followed by open wagon ride through Donnelly WMA with stops at selected locations to look and listen. Dress for weather, may be cool on wagon in evening; bring flashlight habitats including rice impoundments, longleaf pine forest and tidal marsh. This event, led by Tony Mills, a herpetologist with The Lowcountry Institute, will begin with a presentation highlighting a few animals that depend and thrive upon these isolated wetlands. Participants will venture out into the evening in a wagon-style vehicle, to experience the sounds of the night. As dusk settles in, the forest will come alive showcasing an array of lightning bugs, frog sounds and more. Although this event is our latest in the day, it is one not to

be missed! Bring evening meal, drinks. Event will consist of classroom segment followed by open wagon ride through Donnelly WMA with stops at selected locations to look and listen. Dress for weather, may be cool on wagon in evening; bring what you need. Bring evening meal, drinks.

### Horseshoe Crabs

**Speaker:** Dr. Al Segars

**Date:** Saturday May 21st

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.

**Location:** Harbor Island, S.C.

Limited to 20 participants.

Join DNR veterinarian Al Segars and DNR staff in a spawning survey and tagging of the fascinating Horseshoe Crab! Join us for an opportunity to learn about the critical role Horseshoe Crabs play in both wildlife populations and human health!

Event will start with classroom session and then head to beach (approximate one mile walk each way!). Be prepared to wade in knee deep water in the dark on return beach walk. No sandals, need closed toe shoes for wading.

Bring flashlight, bug spray, jacket (cool to cold at night on beach).

Once you join group on beach you must stay until conclusion and return with group.