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January 2012

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Greetings!

Welcome to the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre Newsletter. Here are some upcoming and noteworthy events happening this month.

Snowshoe Workshop
 Saturday, January 14 - 1 to 3 p.m.

It is believed that snowshoes were likely invented 6000 to 8000 years ago by mimicking some wildlife adaptations. Many animals, such as the snowshoe hare, jackrabbit and lynx have oversized feet enabling them to move quickly through deep snow. Snowshoes were essential for aboriginal peoples, fur traders, trappers and anyone whose life or living depended on the ability to get around in areas of deep and frequent snowfall. Join experienced snowshoer, **Dusty Molinski**, and learn about the different styles of snowshoes and their history. A snowshoe walk in the marsh and hot chocolate will follow. Pre-registration is required. Workshop fee is \$5 plus admission.

[For more information about this workshop...](#)

Astronomy Night - Exploring the 2012 Night Sky
 Thursday, January 19 - 7 p.m.

Astronomy is one of the oldest sciences. Prehistoric cultures left behind astronomical artifacts such as the Egyptian monuments and Stonehenge. Early civilizations such as the Babylonians, Greeks, Chinese, Indians, and Maya performed methodical observations of the night sky. Today, with the use of telescopes, the science of astronomy has leaped to an amazing level and is the leading science used in understanding the nature of the universe and its contents. Amateur astronomers have contributed to many important astronomical discoveries and can still play an active role, especially in the discovery and observation of transient phenomena such as comets. Join us and enjoy an evening of stories while exploring the night sky as we begin the year's first astronomy night session. Special theatre presentations and stargazing sessions from the rooftop observation deck will help you gain an appreciation for this heavenly hobby.

[For more information about this event...](#)

World Wetland Day Colouring Contest
 From January 2nd to February 2nd

February 2nd is **World Wetlands Day**. It marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on February 2, 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. Each year since 1997 the **Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre** has been celebrating this event with many activities including a colouring contest.



It is particularly fitting for **Oak Hammock Marsh** to celebrate as the theme for World Wetlands Day this year is **Wetlands and Tourism**.

To participate in the colouring contest, click on the link below to print the colouring sheet. Colour the page and drop it off or mail it to **Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre** before February 2nd; judging will take place on that day.

[Click here for the colouring sheet...](#)

Kid's Nature Craft Club
 January 28 - 1 p.m.

Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre is introducing **Kid's Nature Craft Club**.

Join us at 1 p.m. on the fourth Saturday of every month to explore a different topic and make a special craft. The Club is most appropriate for children **ages 5 to 10**. Pre-registration is recommended. You can sign up for one workshop or as many as you would like. Each workshop fee is **\$5 plus admission**. You can also purchase a Club Card to be used for six different workshops which make great gifts. Themes include:



- Stars
- Wetland animals
- Birds
- Recycling
- Animal calls
- Microscopic world
- Plants
- Getting ready for winter
- Migration
- Bird feeding
- Snow

[For more information about Kid's Nature Craft Club](#)

First Goose of the Year Contest
 Starting January 30

Make sure to enter our **First Goose of the Year** contest, which for us marks the official arrival of spring. Guess the date and time of the arrival of first Canada Goose at **Oak Hammock Marsh** and you could win a great prize! Traditionally, the first goose arrives between the end of February and the first of March. Last year, the first goose was seen on March 15th. To enter the contest, fill out a ballot at the **Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre**. The contest will close on March 1st or when the first goose is seen.

[For more information...](#)

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The Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre is located 30 minutes North of Winnipeg on highway 67 between highways #7 and #8. For more information call 467-3300.

Sincerely,

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