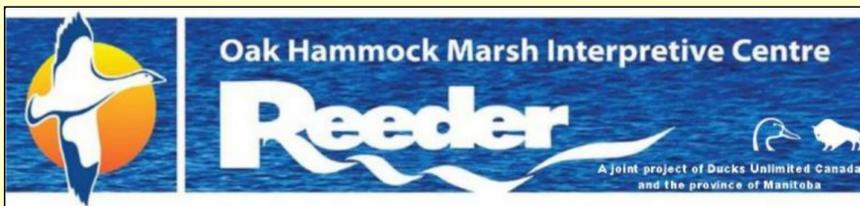


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February 2016

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Greetings!

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

World Wetland Day / Groundhog Day

February 2

Join us on February 2 to learn more about wetlands as Oak Hammock Marsh, designated a Wetland of International Importance, proudly celebrates **World Wetlands Day**.



Manitobans also mark February 2 as the day they find out if spring will arrive early.

While ordinary groundhogs living in Manitoba are still sleeping soundly in early February, **Manito Merv**, the weather predicting groundhog, takes on the annual task of coming out of his den to announce the arrival of spring.

If **Merv** sees his shadow at sunrise, a late spring will follow. But if no shadow is seen, an early spring is on its way!

[For more information about this event](#)

Decoy Carving Workshop - Redhead

February 7, 14 and 21 - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Learn to carve your very own Redhead decoy from award winning carvers. This three-day course will teach you the classic North American art of decoy carving.



Pre-registration is required.

Workshop fee is **\$90 for Oak Hammock members, \$120 for non-members**.

[For more information about this workshop](#)

Birding Hour Workshop - Bird Nesting

February 13 - 1 p.m.

Bird nests are fascinating. Some species use a simple depression in the ground while others will build architectural marvels.



Let our **Resident Naturalist, Paula Grief** guide you through this most interesting facet of the avian world.

Workshop fee is **\$5 plus admission**.

Pre-registration required.

[For more information about this workshop](#)

Candlelight Dinner

February 14, 6 p.m.

Enjoy a romantic dinner with that special person. **Oak Hammock Marsh** is a unique venue to share a meal on this special day. Chef Kelley will prepare an exquisite four-course dinner featuring locally grown and harvested ingredients.



A complimentary glass of wine is included.

Members \$45 / non-members \$50.

Pre-registration and payment required by Wednesday February 11.

[For menu information](#)

Voyageur Day

February 15

Learn about the Voyageurs while having fun at the marsh! Try our Voyageur Challenge and get ready to test your Voyageur skills. Practice Bannock Tossing as well as many other a fun activities.



You can also learn how to make your own delicious Bannock at 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

Bring your skates and gently glide on Cattail Pond or take up sponge hockey in the sheltered bay. Sticks, nets and pucks are available for your use.

Join an interpreter on a snowshoe walk and look for clues of wildlife activity. Jackrabbits, coyotes and winter birds are still present and active in the marsh.

[For more information about this event](#)

Astronomy Night - Sketching the Night

February 18 - 7 p.m.

Let your inner artist come out.

Sketching the night sky is the act of drawings astronomical objects, as they appear in a telescope's eyepiece.



Silvia Graca from the **Royal Astronomical Society of Manitoba** will teach you the art of sketching the night sky.

An indoor presentation in our theatre will be followed by an outdoor observation session with telescopes from the rooftop.

First Goose of the Year Contest

Until February 29 or the arrival of the first goose.

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 end of March. Last year, the first goose was seen on March 10th.

To enter the contest, fill out a ballot at the **Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre**.

The contest will close on February 29 or when the first goose is seen.

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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 (204) 467-3300.

Sincerely,

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