



The Delta News

5 Rivers Delta Resource Center



Volume IV, Issue II

February 2012



We appreciate your support for Alabama's Forever Wild Program

Let everyone know you have helped to preserve our state's natural history by purchasing a Forever Wild car tag. The \$50 fee includes free personalization, and 100% of the funds go to buying land for recreation, nature preserves, additions to wildlife management areas, and state parks. For more information, visit AlabamaForeverWild.com

WHAT ARE ...

5 RIVERS OUTDOOR ADVENTURE NIGHTS?

An adventure is always more fun when you can share it with friends—otherwise who is ever going to believe that you really saw a 15 foot alligator, or flushed a flock of a hundred wild turkeys, or caught a 10 pound bass?!

A great way to meet other people interested in some of the same hobbies as you is to come to one of 5 Rivers' Outdoor Adventure Nights. The first and second Tuesday of every month, 5 Rivers hosts groups that bring people together to learn about conservation issues, to share adventure stories and advice, and to plan hiking, kayaking or photography trips with new and old friends.

Always wanted to go on a day hike to see a beautiful waterfall? Join the Alabama Hiking Trail Society one evening and talk to some of the members. Want to know where to see bald eagles or osprey in Alabama? Peek in on the Mobile Bay Audubon Society, and I bet you'll hear about not only about eagles and osprey, but also when and where was the latest sighting of a burrowing owl. Hear all the hints of tips of Delta paddling from the Mobile Bay Canoe and Kayak Club members, or meet someone to go paddling with. Join an informative presentation with the Sierra Club members. The public is always welcome to visit and participate at no cost—and you may enjoy yourself so much you want to join!

First Tuesday of the month:

- AL Hiking Trail Society (6pm)**
- Mobile Bay Canoe & Kayak Club (7pm)**
- Mobile Bay Sierra Club (7pm)**

Second Tuesday of the month:

- Mobile Bay Audubon Society (7pm)**



Time to get your bluebird houses cleaned and ready for nesting season!

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Anyone can help with this year's annual backyard bird count! Join us on **Saturday, February 18 at 8am** for a **FREE** birding walk through the trails led by University of South Alabama's **Joel Borden**. Bring your family, some binoculars and maybe some bug spray. We will have a couple pair of children's binoculars on hand. You don't have to be an expert, and you can meet new people and pick up some birding tips along the way. Tag along afterwards for a birding boat tour from 10-11am (call 259-8531 to reserve!). You can also participate from your very own back yard. See www.birdsource.org/gbbc for details.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Saturday Adventure Series: Learn and explore the natural resources Alabama has to offer, great for all ages!

- 2/4: Saturday Adventure: Grade 3-5 "Predators". 10am-Noon; Free, Registration Required
- 2/11: Saturday Crafts: Valentines! (1pm-3pm; Free)
- 2/18: Backyard Bird Count—8-10am with USA Biologist Joel Borden, Free
- 2/18: Birding Ecotour aboard the Pelican (10-11am, \$11adult).
- 2/18: Saturday Crafts: Masks! (1pm-3pm; Free)
- 2/19: Birding 101: presentation and birding walk with guest speaker Carol Furman
- 2/25: Val Webb's Nature Drawing Workshop: "Winter's Tale in Pen and Ink". \$60pp, register at studio@valwebb.com
- 2/25: Family Safety Day: 1-4pm FREE. Fingerprinting, free DNA kits, fire prevention, fire bouncy house, fire truck, loads of fun!

Outdoor Adventure Night: Two Tuesdays a month, we host groups that can help you get outside and explore the delta! It's free and you don't have to be a member to come!

- 2/7: AL Hiking Trail Society (6pm)
Mobile Bay Canoe & Kayak Club (7pm)
Sierra Club (7pm)
- 2/14: Mobile Bay Audubon Society (7pm)
Hunter's Education Course: Required
Registration, call 626-5474

StoryTime: Sit back and let us do the reading! 10am-11am. Arts and crafts follow the reading. This month's stories are:

- 2/7: "Cottontail at Clover Crescent" by C. Drew Lamm
- 2/14: "Verdi" by Janel Cannon
- 2/19: "Perky Pelican" by Suzanne Tate
- 2/28: "Butterfly Birthday" by Harriet Ziefert

Growing Up Wild: Encourages our preschoolers to begin thinking about things found in nature. 1-2pm. Free, Registration Required:

- 2/3: Skullology!
- 2/17: The Great Backyard Bird Count

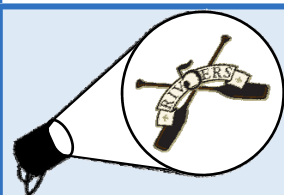
Sunday Matinee: From 2-3pm every Sunday, step inside our Tensaw Theater and catch a free film that is sure to please the whole family! This month's features are:

- 2/5: The Loneliest Animals
- 2/12: Lincoln: The Untold Story
- 2/19: The Beauty of Ugly
- 2/26: Springs Eternal: Florida's Fountain of Youth

5 Rivers Delta Safaris Eco-tours: Go on a boat tour aboard the *Pelican* and explore the lower delta! Daily tours by reservation. Charter tours and canoe/kayak rentals also available. Call 259-8531 to plan your adventure:

- 2/11 and 2/12: Valentine's Day Paddling Adventure

Don't let February's cold fool you! It's a great time to see the Delta, whether by paddle or by "Pelican!"



Family Safety Day! @ Cypress Gift Shop Feb 25: 1 - 4pm



Spanish Fort Police Department will be on hand to give safety talks, and to distribute and assist with child identification kits which will help parents collect information such as fingerprints and DNA samples. Spanish Fort Fire Department will have a fire truck for kids to explore. Kids will love the Home Safety Bouncy House while they learn about home fire safety! Join us for a fun and educational family day!