



Program Schedule: July 3 - 9, 2016



Location	Program	Sun 3	Mon 4	Tues 5	Wed 6	Thurs 7	Fri 8	Sat 9
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Free as a Bird *</b> (2 hours, ¾ mile)	8:00 am						
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Birding With a Ranger</b> (1 hour window) ♿		3:30 pm		1:30 pm			4:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Story by the Sea</b> (30 minutes) ♿ ⭐	10:30 am		1:00 pm	1:00 pm		12:00 pm	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Ocean Pharmacy</b> (30 minutes) ♿							12:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Aquarium Talk</b> (30 minutes) ♿ ⭐	3:00 pm	3:00 pm	12:00 pm		2:00 pm	3:00 pm	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Plant Rant</b> (15 minutes) ♿		12:00 pm	11:30 am		11:30 am	2:00 pm	10:00 am
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Creature Feature</b> (15 minutes) ♿ ⭐	12:00 pm	2:30 pm	3:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	10:00 am	1:30 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Assateague Detectives</b> (45 minutes, ¼ mile) ⭐	4:00 pm						
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Marsh Madness</b> (1 hour, ½ mile) ⭐		10:30 am					
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Under the Boardwalk</b> (45 minutes, ¼ mile) ♿	1:00 pm						
Naturalist Shack Lot #1	<b>Secrets of the Sand</b> (1 hour, ½ mile)					3:00 pm		
Naturalist Shack Lot #1	<b>Hook, Line &amp; Sinker</b> (2 hours, ¼ mile)			7:30 am				
Naturalist Shack Lot #1	<b>Night Hike</b> (45 minutes, ¾ mile) ⭐	8:30 pm				8:30 pm		
Beach at Lot #1	<b>Beach Campfire</b> (45 minutes) ⭐							8:30 pm
Lifeguarded Beach	<b>Surf Rescue Demo</b> (45 minutes) ⭐		10:00 am		10:00 am		10:00 am	
Bayside of Lot #3	<b>Marine Explorers</b> (1 hour) ⭐		9:00 am					
Bayside of Lot #3	<b>Kayak in the Cove*</b> (2 hours) \$20 fee per person				9:00 am	10:00 am		
Turn Circle at Park Entrance	<b>Pinchers of Power</b> (45 minutes) ⭐	9:30 am						2:00 pm

**Special Note: Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.**

- ⚡ Advanced Reservations Required. Register at the Toms Cove Visitor Center.
- ⭐ These programs are especially popular with children.
- ♿ Wheelchair accessible programs



## Program Descriptions

Sun screen, drinking water & bug spray are recommended when outdoors.

**Free as a Bird - (Advance registration required, limit of 25).** Discover some of Assateague's most colorful summer residents on this walk designed for beginning birders. A limited number of binoculars and bird guides are provided.

**Birding With a Ranger** - See what birds the ranger is viewing off the Toms Cove Visitor Center deck. Come and go as you please anytime during the 1 hour window. Some binoculars and field guides will be available.

**Story by the Sea** - You're never too old for a story by the sea. Come learn about an animal that calls Assateague home. Make a craft to share with family and friends.

**Ocean Pharmacy** - Learn about the amazing potential that the oceans and its creatures may offer for human health.

**Aquarium Talk** - Horseshoe crabs, hermit crabs, fish and more! Get a peek at who is swimming around out there with you by joining a ranger who will let you in on the secret lives of these diverse creatures.

**Plant Rant** - "Lettuce" dig up the dirt on plants to unearth their roots and blossoming potential!

**Creature Feature** - Gather 'round the ranger and today's mystery "guest." Learn the life and lore of a special Assateague resident during this informal discussion.

**Assateague Detectives** - Do you want to become a detective? Want to help rangers find out what kind of "criminal" activity is going on? Join us as we venture down the boardwalk looking for evidence left behind by animals that live here on Assateague.

**Marsh Madness** - Use your senses to discover the many mysteries of the salt marsh. What sights, smells, sounds, tastes or feelings might you experience here that are found nowhere else? **Wear shoes (no flip-flops) & clothing that you don't mind getting wet and muddy.**

**Under the Boardwalk** - What's in bloom? Who made those tracks? Why are the crabs waving at me? You never know what you'll see under the boardwalk!

**Secrets of the Sand** - Ever wonder why the island looks different every time you visit? If so join us for a beach walk to see what life is like beneath your feet and consider the power of the ocean!

**Hook, Line & Sinker - Program is limited to those 12 years and older.** If sitting on the beach bores you, you might just get hooked on surf fishing. Designed for those with limited surf fishing experience, this program includes demonstrations of equipment, bait and casting techniques. Equipment is provided, however, actual practice time depends on group size.

**Night Hike** - Scared of the dark? No need to be! Join a ranger for a leisurely stroll along the surf to experience the beach at night. A flashlight and insect repellent are suggested.

**Beach Campfire** - A campfire on the beach recreates the mood of days gone by. Join park rangers for a fun and educational program covering a variety of topics on the rich cultural and natural history of Assateague Island. You are welcome to bring marshmallows and roasting sticks. A flashlight and insect repellent are suggested.

**Surf Rescue Demonstration** - Keep your family safe at the beach this summer. Learn how to survive being caught in a seaward current and what to do in a lightning storm. National Park Service lifeguards will explain beach hazards and demonstrate surf rescue techniques.

**Marine Explorers** - Join a ranger and investigate the island and creatures found in the cove. Expect to get wet! **A snug pair of wading shoes is required, no flip-flops.**

**Kayak in the Cove** - Interested in seeing Toms Cove from a different perspective? Try a kayak tour! Children between the ages of 6 and 12 years old must be with an adult in a tandem kayak (as a passenger **only**). Children must be 13 yrs or older to paddle kayak alone **and** a parent or guardian must be on the trip. Children must be 16 or older to paddle on a trip alone. One person per seat. All equipment is provided. Wear clothing and shoes (no flip-flops) for wading. **Note: Reservations must be made in person at the Toms Cove Visitor Center. There is a \$20.00 per person fee, payment due upon reservation** (non-refundable except for weather cancellations).

**Pinchers of Power** - Come learn about the feisty and tasty blue crab by watching its powerful pinchers latch on to your bait! Equipment is provided. This program is catch and release. Sunscreen and bug spray are advised. **Parking is limited. Bicycling to program is encouraged.** Meets at the bridge before the Refuge entrance.



*The National Park Service assists the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in interpretation and recreation management, but only in the Toms Cove area of the Virginia portion of the island. The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge provides many other activities throughout the rest of the refuge. Contact them at 757-336-6122 for program details.*