

FIELD TRIP: Ware Creek Wildlife Management Area

Led by Joe Howren, Steven Living and David Norris (DGIF)

MAXIMUM 20 participants

Meet at 1 p.m. on April 8 at the main entrance to the downtown Hilton.

Emergency Contact: Joe Howren (804) 513-6679



Join a field trip to the recently acquired (2016) Ware Creek Wildlife Management Area in New Kent County and experience an opportunity to learn about DGIF's WMA habitat and wildlife management practices as well as opportunities for scenic bluff-top views overlooking the York River and neo-tropical bird migration watching. Located on the York River and bound by Philbates and Ware Creeks, the Ware Creek WMA offers extensive wetlands, mixed hardwood, pine forests, open fields and two miles of frontage on the York River.

The uplands of Ware Creek WMA are comprised primarily of variously aged mixed pine and hardwood forests with some pine plantation. Agricultural fields offer upland habitat variety along with small wildlife clearings. Wetlands include rich saltmarshes as well as tidal freshwater marshes and small interior ponds and beaver wetlands.

Each participant will need to be able to-

- Get on and off a 15-passenger van at the hotel
- Remain seated in the van for the 45 minute trip to the WMA (and return in the same manner)
- (Optional) Exit van at the WMA tour for birding / viewing opportunities

Things to know and bring if you plan to walk around at the shuttle stops-

- The group will walk in the vicinity of the shuttle stop to engage in bird viewing, habitat viewing (various stage forest stands, early successional habitat, scenic overlook viewing and general exploration)
- Dress for the weather, we will go no matter what, unless there are thunderstorms
- Wear comfortable walking boots (shoes may suffice if landscape is dry)
- Bring: water bottle, rain and sun protection (jacket/poncho and hat/sunscreen), any medications you may need, bug spray (tick repellent), cameras

Specific meeting point: Main Entrance to downtown Hilton: 37.5421° N, 77.4375° W

Give yourself time to park and register at the hotel before meeting promptly at 1 p.m. to leave on the two DCR 15-passenger vans.

This field trip is sponsored by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.