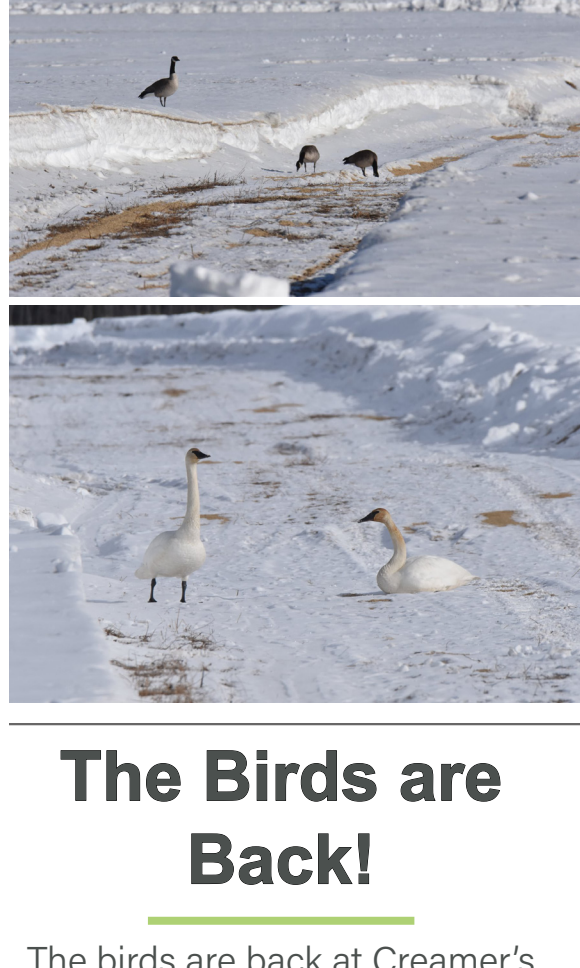


Field Notes

April 2022



Greetings Friends!

We are kicking off our summer of events this month with the Spring Migration Celebration! Join us on April 30th from 12:00pm - 4:00pm to celebrate the return of our feathered friends! You will have a chance to participate in various activities and crafts, meet with several different outdoor organizations, and view the new arrivals to the Refuge.

We will also be hosting a volunteer training on Wednesday, April 13th at 6pm at the Farmhouse Visitor Center. Be sure to attend if you are interested in volunteering in the visitor center or being a nature walk leader this summer!

See you at the Refuge!

Grace & Melanie
Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Top Photo: Canada geese feed on barley in front field.
Bottom Photo: A pair of swans rest in front field.

The Birds are Back!

The birds are back at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge!

Please be mindful of the birds in the fields and stay out of the plowed areas.

Thank you!

Plowed Areas in Field are Closed to People,

Migratory Birds are in and *More soon to Arrive*

Please, Stay Out of Plowed Areas.

Thank You

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Training

Join Friends of Creamer's Field and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game on **Wednesday, April 13 at 6pm** at the Farmhouse Visitor Center for a volunteer orientation. Anyone is welcome and no commitment is required. For more information call 907-978-8457.



SPRING MIGRATION CELEBRATION

Celebrate the change of seasons...

at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge
located at 1300 College Rd, Fairbanks, Alaska

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022
12:00 - 4:00 PM

Enjoy crafts, bird viewing, nature walks, and meeting local outdoor organizations!

For information visit friendsofcreamersfield.org or call (907) 978-8457.



Photography Contest

The Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival Committee is looking for submissions of original photos to be used as the primary festival art for the 2022 Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival. The image should be an appropriate image for the Sandhill Crane Festival at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. The winning photographer will receive a cash prize and be featured as our 2022 festival artist.

THE FRIENDS OF CREAMER'S FIELD PRESENTS...

Photography Contest

The winning photo will receive a cash prize and be the primary art for the

2022 Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival

The photo submitted should be an appropriate image for the Sandhill Crane Festival at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

To enter, submit a photo (minimum 600 dpi) to program@friendsofcreamersfield.org before **May 31!**

For more information visit www.friendsofcreamersfield.org or call (907) 978-8457.

Field Sketch

Presented by ADFG Biologist, Mark D. Ross

Field Sketches:
Mark D. Ross

The Canada Geese visiting Creamer's Field are a small variety; only about 6 to 8lbs.

Wildlife in a Rush!

Rapidly increasing daylight brings burgeoning spring to interior Alaska. Arrivals are coming in one after another. At this writing (Apr 7), the first flock of **Canada Geese** winged in at 9:27am. Yesterday two **Trumpeter Swans** touched down.

A flock of forty **Snow Buntings** arrived April 4th.

Trumpeter Swans on the other hand are one of the heaviest of flying birds, a large male may approach 40lbs. Swans beat geese to the fields this year.

*Spreading of spring grain at Creamer's Field is a spring tradition. Started by the Tanana Valley sportsman group at the end of WWII, the fields are first plowed by airport personnel and grain is spread in anticipation of waterfowl arrival. The **Borealis Kiwanis** carry on*

Volunteers spreading grain in the front fields.

*Woodchucks are out and rushing about! True hibernators, woodchucks (*Marmota monax*) enter burrows in September and don't awake until late March or early April. Woodchucks most often hibernate alone.*

This year the first sighting was on March 31.

Males emerge first from snow covered burrows. You may see them or their tracks as they rush around the barns and buildings visiting other burrows.

hind foot 3" length

Rush on over to:

Volunteer training at Creamer's Field
Wed, Apr 13, 6PM, at the Farmhouse by the barns. 978-8457

Spring Migration Celebration:
Sat, Apr 30, Noon, at the Creamer's Field Farmhouse
Information: 978-8457

Camp Habitat

A nature education and ecology camp for youth ages 4 - 11.

Camper registration is still open! Click the link below for more information or to register.

Pre-School Programs *Half-Day Program*

Nature Sprouts *Ages 4 - 5 \$150*

You can register a camper for either one, or both weeks!

June 13-17	12:00 pm - 4:30 pm
June 20-24	12:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Children explore Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge through developmentally appropriate hands-on activities and games. Your kids will experience the natural world with sensory exploration, discovery hikes, ecology-themed games, songs, and creative craft projects.

Day Camp Programs *Full-Day Program 9AM - 4PM*

You can register a camper for only one week out of the two weeks listed for their age group!

Ages 6 - 7	\$250
Nature Detectives	July 11-15
Nature Detectives	July 18-22
Ages 8 - 9	\$250
Water Striders	July 11-15
Water Striders	July 18-22
Ages 10 - 11	\$250
Refuge Adventurers	July 11-15
Refuge Adventurers	July 18-22

Campers learn about the natural history of Interior Alaska through engaging activities, games, hikes, projects, and guest speakers. They will explore the natural world through themes such as plants, animals, birds, fish, habitats, and people & the environment.



Join Our Team This Summer!

WE ARE HIRING!

Camp Habitat Instructors & Counselors

Visit www.friendsofcreamersfield.org for application materials.

Instructors

Camp Habitat Instructors are responsible for the complete curriculum planning, leadership, and supervision for one group of 10-12 children per week. Instructors develop, organize, and implement developmentally appropriate, fun, and educational activities to facilitate children's exploration and discovery of nature.

Counselors

Camp Habitat Counselors are responsible for the daily set up/take down of camp, prep work for lessons, leadership, and supervision with an instructor for one group of approximately 10-18 children per week. Counselors help instructors organize and implement developmentally appropriate, fun, and educational activities to facilitate children's exploration and discovery of nature.

Shop Friends of Creamer's Field Online Store

Purchase Creamer's Field merchandise from the comfort of your own home.

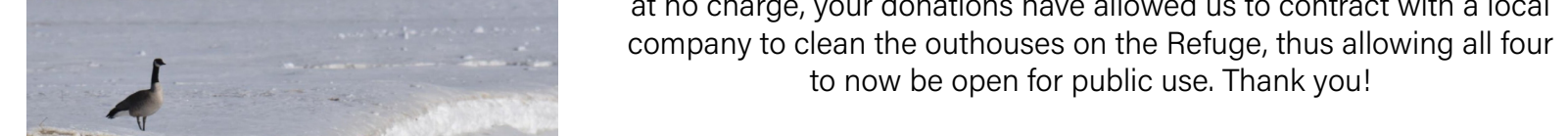


FAIRBANKS EARTH DAY

Celebrate Earth Day 2022 with the Fairbanks Community Earth Day Committee! They will be hosting various events leading up to Earth Day on April 22, 2022. Join the Facebook group (linked below) for more information and updates!

Thank you for being a Friend!

In addition to allowing us to provide our Refuge programs and events at no charge, your donations have allowed us to contract with a local company to clean the outhouses on the Refuge, thus allowing all four to now be open for public use. Thank you!



Our Contact Information

Friends of Creamer's Field
P.O. Box 81065
Fairbanks, AK 99708
(907) 978-8457
director@friendsofcreamersfield.org
www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

Mission Statement

"Inspiring environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge."