

Field Notes

May 2022

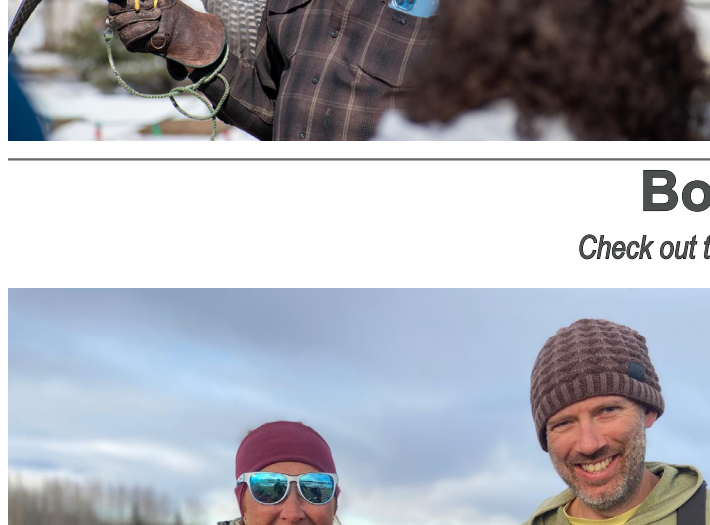


Greetings Friends!

It has been an exciting spring at Creamer's Field!

Our 2022 programs kicked off on April 30th with Spring Migration Celebration. Big thank you goes to everyone who came out and made the event a success!

Camp Habitat will kick off their summer season on June 13th. There are still a few spots left in the half-day program, Nature Sprouts (Ages 4-5). Be sure to sign up quickly as space is limited.



We are still looking for nature walk leaders and visitor center attendants. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at director@friendsofcreamersfield.org or call 907-978-8457.

See you at the Refuge!

Grace & Melanie
Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Top Photo: Attendees show off their sparrows at the Spring Migration Celebration on April 30, 2022. Photo by Grace Nelson.
Bottom Photo: Local falconer, Randall Compton talks to attendees at the Spring Migration Celebration on April 30, 2022. Photo by Grace Nelson.

Boreal Buzz

Check out the latest Boreal Buzz post!



Research on the Refuge
Learn more about the research being conducted at Creamer's Field by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Statewide Waterfowl Program regarding white-cheeked geese.



The Friends of Creamer's Field Silent Auction is back!

Traditionally held during the Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival, the FOCF Silent Auction will be held virtually this year from May 14th - June 1st.

All silent auction proceeds will support our mission to inspire environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation, and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

Upcoming Events

2022 Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk
June 26, 2022 | 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge



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 programsefriendsofcreamersfield.org before **May 31!**

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

Spring Migration Celebration Recap

On Saturday, April 30th, 500 community members welcomed the birds back to Fairbanks at our Spring Migration Celebration. Attendees had the chance to interact with various outdoor organizations, complete bird-themed crafts, and participate in the inaugural Parade of the Swallows!



Become a Board Member!

Do You Love Visiting Creamer's Refuge?
Do those visits enhance your and your family's outdoor experiences?
Do you want to make sure the Refuge is protected and will always be here?
Do you want to ensure that the educational opportunities continue to be available for everyone?

If you can answer 'yes' to any or all of the above, please consider joining our Friends of Creamer's Field Board of Directors, because that's exactly what we do! We have a few spaces available for new board members, and you can truly make a difference in the future of the Refuge! Come join us!

For more information, contact us at director@friendsofcreamersfield.org.



Field Sketch

Presented by ADFG Biologist, Mark D. Ross

Mark D. Ross
Field Sketches:
Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. "A place for Wildlife and People"

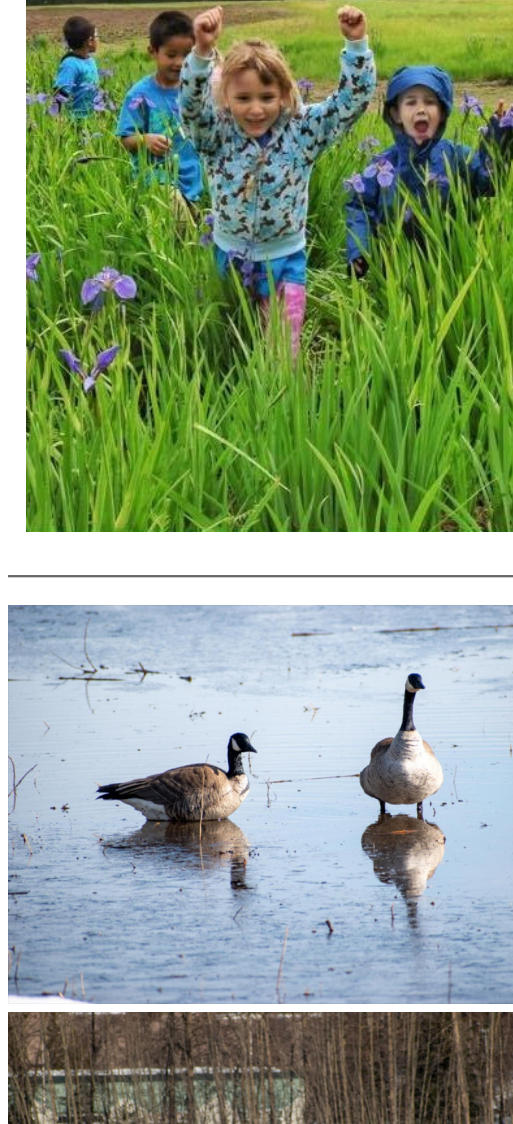
The Tanana River is about to experience a flood. Just like clockwork it happens every year at this time. As I write, the stream is only a trickle, but in a few weeks the flood gates will open releasing waves of color, song and, for wildlife enthusiasts, excitement! Millions of migratory birds are winging their way north into the Tanana River Valley.

The Tanana River flows through the mountains of the Alaska Range, providing a lowland corridor for passage into Alaska's vast interior. Pictured here are a few of the 150+ species of migratory birds that live and nest in Alaska's interior. Accompanying their common name is the average date of first arrival in the Fairbanks area.

White-crowned Sparrow May 1
Nothern Pintail April 15
American Robin April 20
Least Sandpiper May 8
Peregrine Falcon April 20
Yellow Warbler May 13
Ruby-crowned Kinglet April 23

Welcome Arrivals!

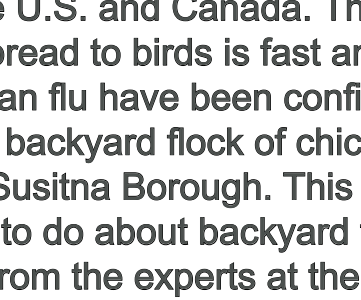
Camp Habitat



There are still spots available for the Nature Sprout half-day programs (Ages 4-5).

June 13 - 17 from 12:30p.m. - 4:00p.m.
June 20 - 24 from 8:30am - 12:00p.m.

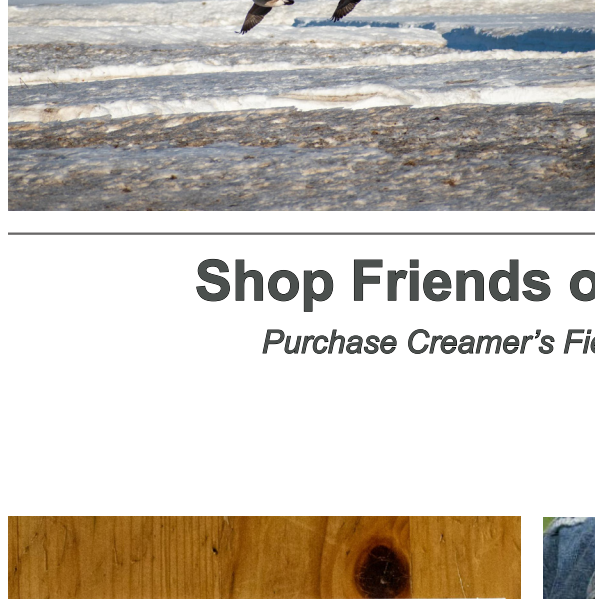
Financial aid is available!
Click the link below to download the application.



FYI: Avian Flu

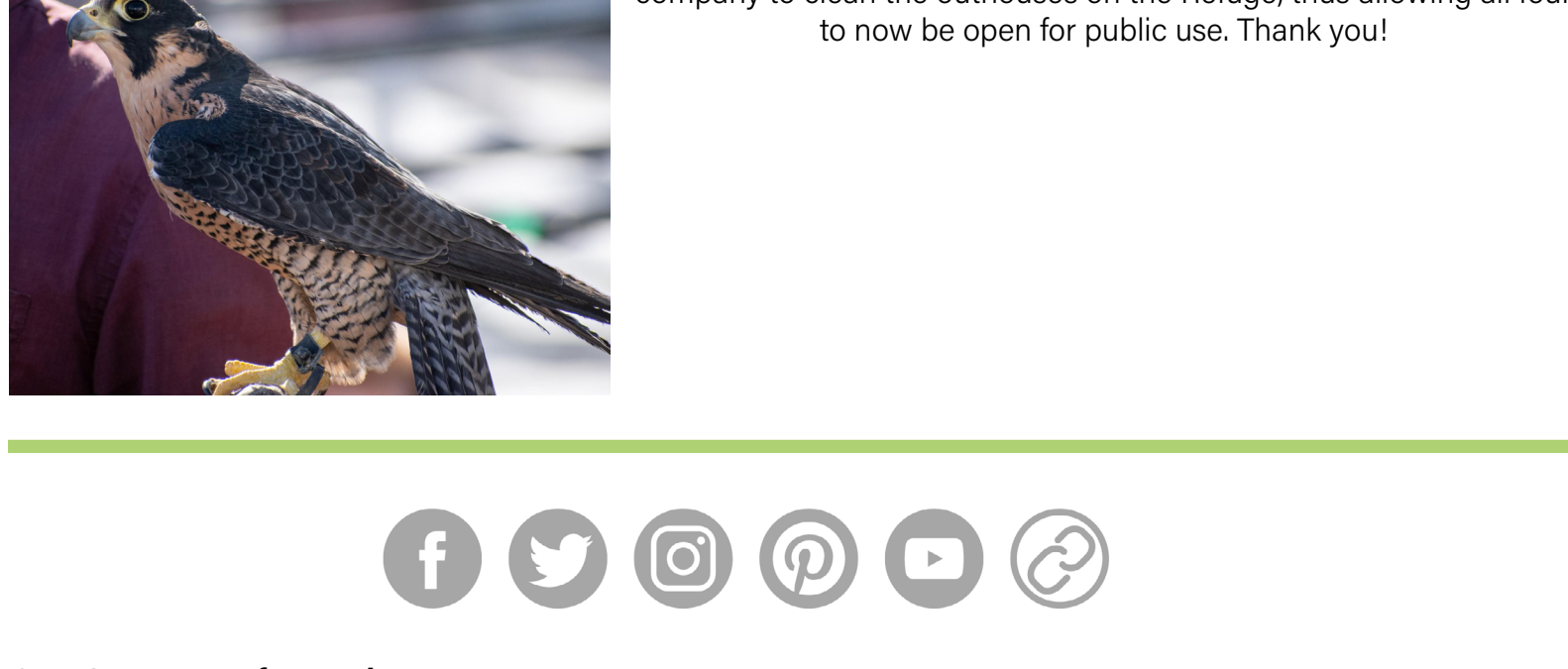
Many people are concerned about the 2022 outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), or bird flu, that is affecting domestic poultry, waterfowl, raptors, and some shorebirds in the U.S. and Canada. The risk to humans is low, but the spread to birds is fast and often lethal. The first cases of avian flu have been confirmed in Alaska in a non-commercial backyard flock of chickens and ducks in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. This has many people wondering what to do about backyard feeders. Here is some advice from the experts at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Please report your sightings of sick and/or dead birds at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Alaska Sick/Dead Bird Hotline: 1-866-527-3358.



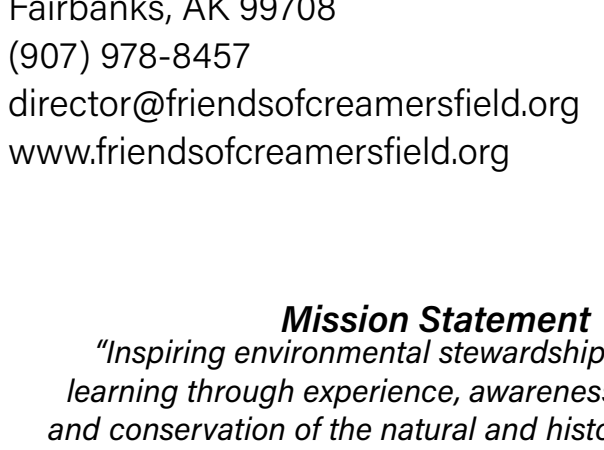
Shop Friends of Creamer's Field Online Store

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



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."

