

# Field Notes

## April 2024



### Greetings Friends!

We are anxiously awaiting the first arrivals to Creamer's Field! The front field was cleared on Tuesday by Airport staff and the Kiwanis Club will be spreading grain tomorrow (Saturday) to welcome our winged friends to the Interior.

In the meantime, we have some fun things to share with you!

The 2024 Spring Migration Raffle is now open. You can enter for your chance to win a Fly/Drive Arctic Circle Adventure for two, generously donated by the Northern Alaska Tour Company, or a pair of Vortex Viper 8X42 Binoculars! Tickets can be purchased online at the link provided or in person at the Fairbanks Outdoor Show on April 19-21 at the Carlson Center. We will be at Booth #87.

Spring Migration Celebration is right around the corner! Be sure to stop by on April 27th between 12:00PM and 4:00PM to celebrate the return of the birds with us. Attendees will enjoy activities, guided walks, and have a chance to chat with several local outdoor organizations.

See you at the Refuge!  
**Grace & Melanie**  
 Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Photo: Airport staff clear the front field for the incoming birds. Photo by Grace Nelson.

**2024 Spring Migration Raffle**

Enter for your chance to win a Fly/Drive Arctic Circle Adventure for 2 courtesy of Northern Alaska Tour Company OR a pair of Vortex Viper 8X42 Binoculars and Case!

All proceeds support community programs at Creamer's Field!

Drawing will be April 27, 2024 at 4:00 PM. Need not be present to win.

Alaska Gaming Permit #1894. 1000 tickets available.

**1st Prize**  
Fly/Drive Arctic Circle Adventure for 2

**2nd Prize**  
Vortex Viper 8x42 Binoculars and Case

**\$10 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$25**

**DRAWING DATE:** April 27, 2024 | 4:00 PM  
Need not be present to win.

[www.friendsofcreamersfield.org](http://www.friendsofcreamersfield.org)

1000 tickets available | Alaska Gaming Permit #1894

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## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

*Celebrate the change in seasons...*

**SPRING MIGRATION CELEBRATION**

AT CREAMER'S FIELD MIGRATORY WATERFOWL REFUGE

**APRIL 27, 2024**  
12:00 - 4:00 PM

### Spring Migration Celebration

The migrating birds and awakening wildlife will be celebrating the coming of spring at our Spring Migration Celebration! Come celebrate with the Friends of Creamer's Field, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and more local outdoor organizations on April 27 from 12-4 pm at Creamer's Field! This event is FREE to the public and will bring fun for all ages! Activities include meeting local outdoor organizations, nature walk, treats, wildlife viewing, and crafts for kids and families.

Please dress for the weather and wear boots!

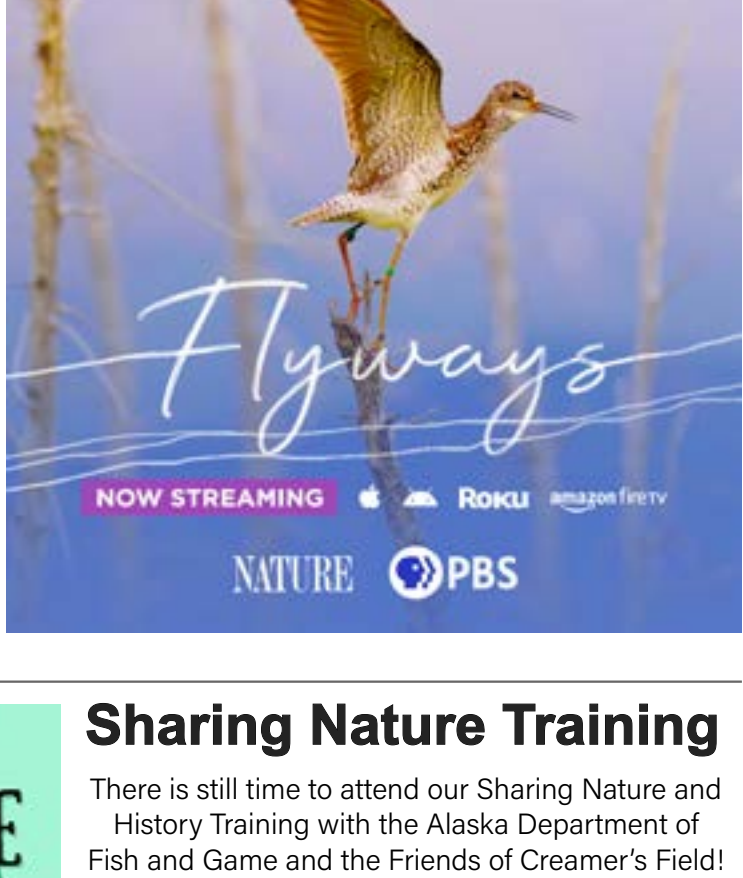
For more information, visit the link below.

### Flyways Screening

Get ready to soar into spring! In preparation for our Spring Migration Celebration, come to a screening of the film Flyways on Friday, April 26 at 12:00 pm at the Morris Thompson Cultural & Visitors Center auditorium (101 Dunkel St). Admission is free.

The documentary shines a spotlight on an awe-inspiring phenomenon of shorebird migration. The film follows Far Eastern Curlews, Lesser Yellowlegs, Red Knots and Hudsonian Godwits as they undertake some of the longest and most grueling migrations in the animal kingdom, in which they fly for days nonstop without food or water from their feeding grounds in the southern hemisphere to the Arctic and back again. The film also sounds an alarm as dozens of shorebird species have suffered precipitous population declines in the past few decades. Researchers are trying to understand the perils the birds encounter along migration paths that were once shrouded in mystery.

Flyways, a film from HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, premiered on PBS Nature on February 7, 2024.



**SHARING NATURE and History at Creamer's Field**

April 3 - May 15  
Wednesday Evenings  
6:00 - 8:30 PM

Volunteers learn how to share nature and local history with summer visitors on the refuge trails and in the visitor center

### Sharing Nature Training

There is still time to attend our Sharing Nature and History Training with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Friends of Creamer's Field! Participants will learn how to share nature and local history with summer visitors in the visitor center and on the refuge trails. The sessions are on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00 pm running from April 3 - May 15 at the Farmhouse Visitor Center.

For more information, contact Mark Ross at mark.ross@alaska.gov or call (907) 459-7301.

### Applications Open

#### Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk

Are you or do you know an artist? Join Friends of Creamer's Field for the 17th annual Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk! Applications are now open.

This annual community event that promotes the unique qualities of Creamer's Field as a venue for nature observation and artistic inspiration. Our goal is to encourage visitors to explore the Refuge beyond the front fields. The event is a fundraiser for Friends of Creamer's Field's year-round programs and events that promote environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation, and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

**Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk Applications Open!**

Due May 24

[www.friendsofcreamersfield.org](http://www.friendsofcreamersfield.org)

Design Alaska

## 2024 Earth Day Activities

Earth Day is a special time to re-center and celebrate all the resources we care about our common home. This year, nonprofits, artists and vendors are coming together to focus on the theme of sustainable food.

Check out the wonderful programs happening during this year's Earth Day celebration!

### Earth Day Fair

April 20, 2024 | 12:00 - 4:00 PM

Bring your family for kid-friendly activities including a compost workshop, seed planting, and games. Food available for purchase. The main event will be in the gym, including an old time music jam session and over 25 local vendors, with quieter workshops in the multipurpose room. Please bring a reusable bag to carry your purchases. Thank you for supporting the health of our environment!

For more info, please email Christin Swearingen at events@northern.org

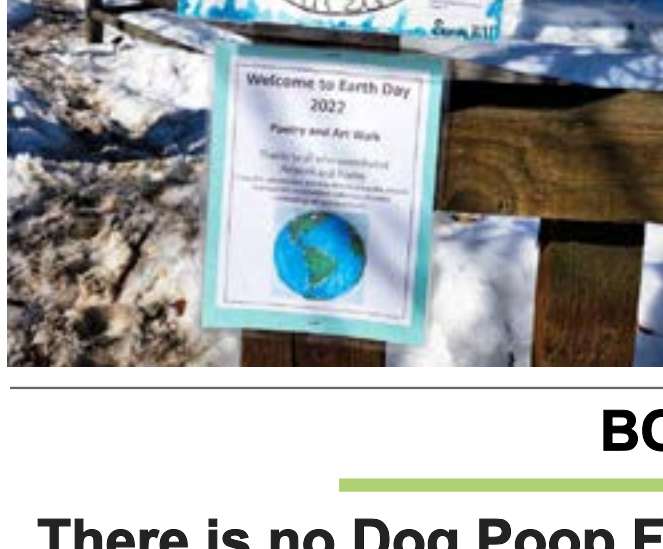
**Celebrate Earth Day 2024**

FILM SCREENING - COMMON GROUND  
Friday / April 19 / 7-9 PM  
UAF Marie Auditorium  
209D N Koyukuk Dr

EARTH DAY FAIR AND MAKERS MARKET  
Saturday / April 20 / 12-4PM  
Barnette Magnet School  
725 10th Ave

INTERFAITH PRAYER CIRCLE FOR PEACE ON EARTH  
Sunday / April 21 / 3PM  
Raven Landing  
949 McGowan St

For more info visit <https://agreenstar.org> or call the Northern Center at 907-452-5092



### Earth Day Poetry Walk

#### Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge

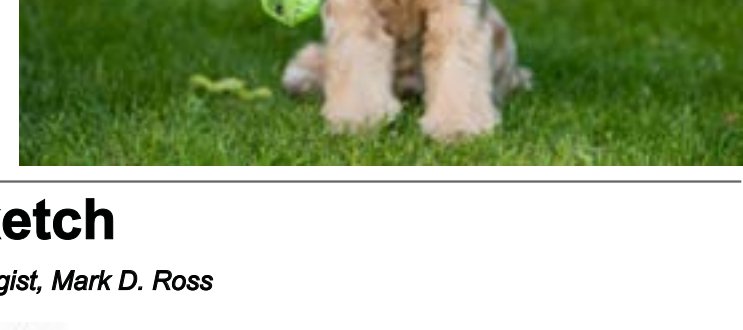
The Friends of Creamer's Field is collecting poetry and art to display at Creamer's Field for Earth Day! Drop off your art or poetry at the Farmhouse or email it to programs@friendsofcreamersfield.org by April 12!

## BOREAL BUZZ

### There is no Dog Poop Fairy at Creamer's Field

The search continues for the Dog Poop Fairy at Creamer's Field! Read our most recent Boreal Buzz Blog post learning about the impacts of dog waste in nature and what visitors can do to keep Creamer's Field litter-free!

Read the full article below:



### Field Sketch

Presented by ADFG Biologist, Mark D. Ross



## Camp Habitat 2024

### Registration is Full!

Camp Habitat registration filled up in record time this year! We are very excited to be hosting over 200 youth at Creamer's Field this summer!

If you have a child who would like to attend Camp Habitat this summer but did not get a chance to register, we have opened up a waitlist, which you can access on our website.

**Camp Habitat**

NATURE ECOLOGY CAMP FOR KIDS  
Registration Opens March 18th

Nature Strikers (ages 4-5)  
June 17-21, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm

Nature Detectives (ages 6-7)  
June 24-28, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm

Nature Strikers  
July 8-12, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm  
July 15-19, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm  
July 22-26, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm

Nature Strikers  
July 8-12, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm  
July 15-19, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm  
July 22-26, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm

Age Adventurers (ages 10-11)  
July 8-12, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm  
July 15-19, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm  
July 22-26, 2024 9:00am-4:00pm

Register at [www.friendsofcreamersfield.org](http://www.friendsofcreamersfield.org)

### Thank you for being a Friend!

As a 100% community funded organization, your support allows us to offer free educational programs to the Fairbanks community and its visitors. This year we intend to expand our educational outreach, resurface the parking lot closest to the barn, improve trail accessibility, and update our interpretive signage throughout the Refuge.



**Our Contact Information**  
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 Fairbanks, AK 99708  
 (907) 978-8457  
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[www.friendsofcreamersfield.org](http://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."