

Field Notes

March 2025



Happy Spring, Friends!

The Refuge is slowly coming back to life—birdsong is filling the air, and the mountains of snow are finally beginning to melt. Our first big event of the year, the Spring Migration Celebration, is just over a month away, and we're so excited! Join us on April 26th from 12PM-4PM as we welcome the birds back with an afternoon full of crafts, nature walks, educational presentations, and more—for all ages!

We're also kicking off our Volunteer Naturalist Training: Sharing Nature next week. This training dives into the ecology and history of the Refuge, and equips you with the tools to share your knowledge with visitors. Certified teachers can also earn continuing education credit through the University of Alaska.

We hope to see you soon—whether it's at the celebration, the training, or simply out on the trails!

Grace
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Sharing Nature Training April 2 - May 14 | Wednesday | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

We are looking for new volunteers at Creamer's Field! Come attend our Sharing Nature and History Training this spring with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Friends of Creamer's Field! Volunteers will learn how to share nature and local history with summer visitors in the visitor center and on the refuge trails. The course is designed to follow the changing of seasons from winter to spring here at the refuge. The sessions will be on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00 pm running from April 2 - May 14 at the Farmhouse Visitor Center.

Certified teachers can get credit for the class through the University of Alaska!

Spring Migration Celebration April 26th | 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Let's all celebrate 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 26 from 12-4 pm at Creamer's Field! This event is FREE for the public and will bring fun for all ages! Activities include meeting local outdoor organizations, a nature walk, treats, wildlife viewing, and crafts for kids and families. Please dress for the weather and wear boots!

Return of the Trumpeters Film Screening April 25th | 6:00 PM

In preparation for the Spring Migration Celebration, we will be hosting a FREE film screening of Return of the Trumpeters on April 25 at the Morris Thompson Cultural & Visitor Center! Doors open at 5:30 pm and the film will start at 6:00 pm. Talk with us about spring migration and the upcoming Saturday event!

In Return of the Trumpeters, experience the majestic Trumpeter Swan, North America's largest waterfowl, who was once hunted to the brink of extinction. Thanks to the remarkable efforts of a new generation, this iconic species is making a comeback. Experience one of the greatest conservation success stories of our time!

Support Friends of Creamer's Field through your PFD!

You can support Friends of Creamer's Field through your 2025 Permanent Fund Dividend by choosing to Pick, Click, and Give!

PFD applications are available from January 1 to March 31.

For more information about the Pick.Click.Give program, visit the link below.

2024 Annual Report

2024 was an exciting year at the Refuge—full of growth, milestones, and meaningful moments. Discover the highlights and get a glimpse of what's planned in 2025 in our Annual Report!

Camp Habitat

Get ready for another summer of adventure, exploration, and fun at Camp Habitat! We're thrilled to welcome Fairbanks' youth back to Creamer's Field to discover the wonders of nature through hands-on activities, outdoor exploration, and wildlife observation.

Scholarship is OPEN and spots are going fast! Be sure to sign up soon.

Scholarship applications are available. Click the link below to apply. Questions? Email camphabitat@friendsofcreamersfield.org or (907) 888-7304.

Scholarship

Camp Name	Age Group	Cost	Dates	Time	Spots Left
Nature Sprouts	ages 4-5	\$210	June 16-20, 2025	9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.	Only 3 spots left!
Nature Detectives	ages 6-7	\$325	June 23-27, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 7-11, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 14-18, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 21-25, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
Water Striders	ages 8-9	\$325	June 23-27, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 7-11, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 14-18, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 21-25, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
Refuge Adventurers	ages 10-11	\$325	June 23-27, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	
			July 7-11, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	Only 1 spot left!
			July 14-18, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	Only 1 spot left!
			July 21-25, 2025	9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.	

Register at www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

Artist Applications Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk

We are currently accepting artist applications for the 18th Annual Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk! Join us for this annual celebration of nature and creativity at Creamer's Field! The event will take place on Sunday, June 22nd from 11AM - 4PM.

We will have food, music, and of course lots of art. Check out the application below for more information about the event.

Boreal Buzz: Refuge Races



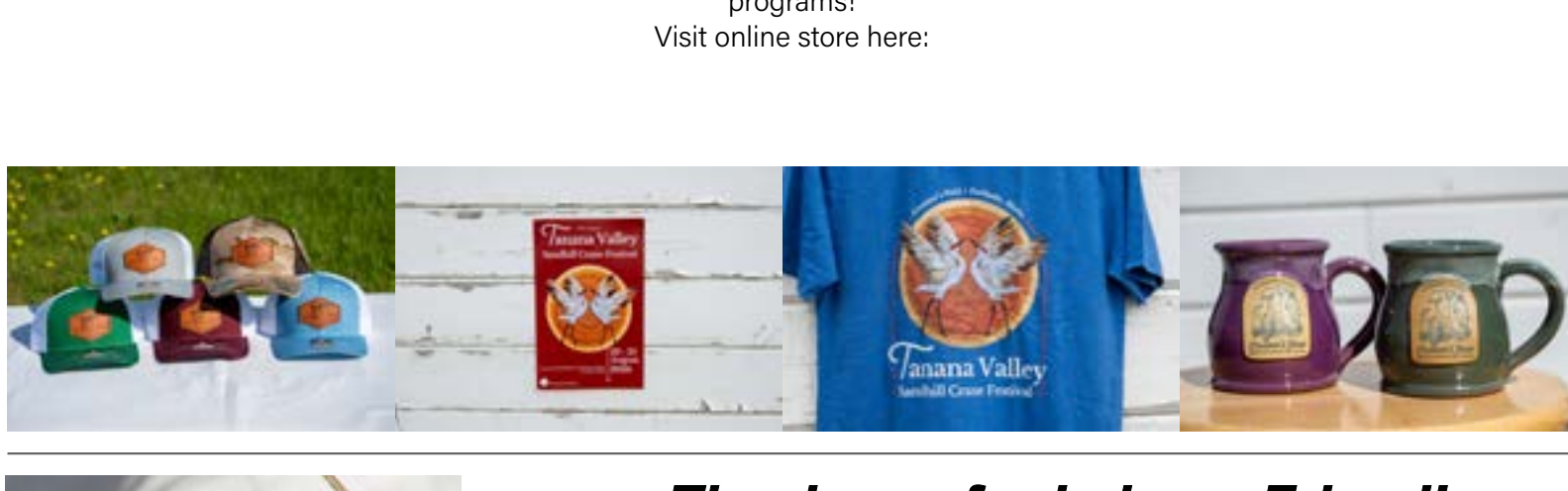
The Open North American Championships (ONAC) is a premier sled dog race held annually in Fairbanks. Established in 1946, the event has become a cornerstone of the local mushing community. Originally conducted along the Chena and Tanana Rivers, the race moved to the Creamer's Field area in 1953, where teams compete in three-day heats covering distances of 20, 20, and 30 miles.

The Alaska Dog Musher's Association (ADMA), founded in 1948, organizes the ONAC and maintains the Jeff Studdert Race Grounds at Creamer's Field, ensuring well-groomed trails for mushers and spectators alike. The 2025 ONAC marked the 79th iteration of the race, underscoring Fairbanks' reputation as the "sled dog racing capital of the world."

Creamer's Field Online Store

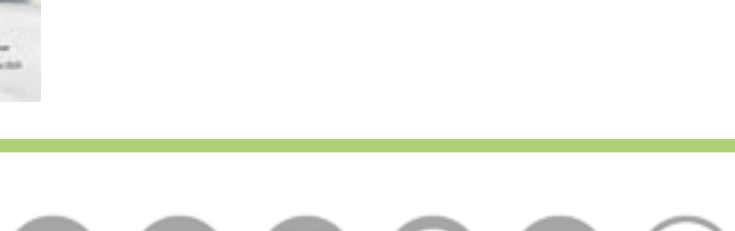
Support our mission with a purchase from our online store! Explore a collection of gifts, books, apparel, and souvenirs, perfect for every Creamer's Field enthusiast. Every purchase supports our mission and allows us to continue providing free community programs!

Visit online store here:



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 barns, improve trail accessibility, and update our interpretive signage throughout the Refuge.



Our Contact Information

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Mission Statement

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

