



2018 Summer Public Field Trips at the Rachel Carson Reserve

Every summer the Rachel Carson Reserve offers free field trips for visitors to explore and learn about the estuarine habitats that are home to a diverse array of coastal species. Join Rachel Carson Reserve volunteer naturalists from 8:30-10:30 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays in June, July and August. Last year, over 150 visitors participated in these boardwalk trips, nature hikes, and circumnavigation trips around the reserve.

Nature Hikes (June 21; July 5, 10, 19; August 2, 7, 21)

Take a short boat ride across Taylor's Creek to hike around Town Marsh and Bird Shoal, on the western side of the Rachel Carson Reserve. Be prepared to get your shoes wet and muddy as you explore the marshes, beach, and maritime forests at low tide! You may have the chance to wade in the water on the nature hike if interested, so dress accordingly.



Boardwalk Trips (June 12; July 12, 17, 24, 26, 31; August 9, 14, 16, 23)

Walk along the Carrot Island boardwalk past the forested part of the island to observe wildlife from the marsh communities below. A stop at the end of the boardwalk make for a great birdwatching along the marsh and creek.

Circumnavigation Cruise (June 14, June 28)

Cruise around the entire reserve on our 27' skiff. Weather permitting, view the habitats at Middle Marsh, the most isolated part of the Reserve in Back Sound. On the way back, if there is time, take a brief stop at the boardwalk to observe wildlife on Carrot Island.



All programs are open and free to the public, but reservations are required as boat space is limited. Any visitor interested in supporting the Reserve can [donate](#) to our nonprofit organization, [Friends of the Reserve](#). For your safety, life jackets are required on our boat and will be provided. We also require visitors to wear closed-toe shoes on and off the boat. On all three trips, we encourage you to bring sunglasses, hats, binoculars, water and sunscreen.

To sign up, visit: nccoastalreserve.net/web/crp/summer-public-field-trips.