



## Program Schedule: June 30 – July 6, 2024

Location	Program	Sun 30	Mon 1	Tues 2	Wed 3	Thurs 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Free as a Bird</b> ✨ (1 hour, ½ mile)	8:00 am						
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Birding with a Ranger</b> ♿ (1 hour window)		9:00 am		2:00 pm			
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Aquarium Talk</b> ♿ ✨ (30 minutes)	11:00 am		1:00 pm		11:00 am		11:30 am
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Hello Horseshoe Crabs</b> ♿ ✨ (1-2 hour window)	11:30 am - 12:30pm	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Story by the Sea</b> ♿ ✨ (30 minutes)				10:00 am		11:30 am	3:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Creature Feature</b> ♿ ✨ (15 minutes)	3:30 pm	2:00 pm	11:30 am		3:30 pm		2:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Plant Rant</b> ♿ (15 minutes)	1:30 pm	3:00 pm		11:30 am		1:00 pm	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>History's Mysteries</b> ♿ (15 minutes)		1:00 pm	10:30 am	1:00 pm	12:30 pm		
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Under the Boardwalk</b> ♿ (30 minutes, ¼ mile)		10:30 am			10:00 am		
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Assateague Detectives</b> ✨ (45 minutes, ½ mile)			3:00 pm			3:00 pm	
Turn Circle at Park Entrance	<b>Pinchers of Power</b> ✨ (45 minutes)			9:30 am				
Naturalist Shack Lot #1	<b>Hook, Line &amp; Sinker</b> (2 hours)				8:00 am			
Bayside of Lot #2	<b>Marine Explorers</b> ✨ (1 hour)						9:00 am	
Bayside of Lot #2	<b>Kayak in the Cove</b> ✨ (2 hours)							9:00 am

Special Note: Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.

✨ Advanced registration required. Register at the Toms Cove Visitor Center

✨ These programs are especially popular with children.

♿ Wheelchair accessible programs.

**Program Descriptions** →

## Program Descriptions

**Sunscreen, drinking water & bug spray are recommended when outdoors.**



**Free as a Bird - (Advance registration required, limit of 25).** Discover some of Assateague's most colorful residents on this walk designed for all levels of birders. A limited number of binoculars and bird guides are provided.

**Birding With a Ranger** - See what birds the ranger is viewing off the Toms Cove Visitor Center deck. Come and go as you please anytime during the 1-hour window. Some binoculars and field guides will be available.

**Aquarium Talk** - Horseshoe crabs, hermit crabs, fish and more! Get a peek at who is swimming around out there with you by joining a ranger who will let you in on the secret lives of these diverse creatures.

**Hello Horseshoe Crabs** - Stop by the visitor center anytime within the listed time window for a "meet and greet" with the Horseshoe Crab! Learn, observe, and touch a few of Assateague's marine residents.

**Story by the Sea** - You're never too old for a story by the sea. Come learn about an animal that calls Assateague home. Make a craft to share with family and friends.

**Creature Feature** - Gather 'round the ranger and today's mystery "guest." Learn the life and lore of a special Assateague resident during this informal discussion.

**Plant Rant** - "Lettuce" dig up the dirt on plants to unearth their roots and blossoming potential!

**History's Mysteries** - What's that building on the horizon? Why is the lighthouse so far inland? Come learn about the cultural history, Park's legends, lore, local tales and more!

**Under the Boardwalk** - What's in bloom? Who made those tracks? Why are the crabs waving at me? You never know what you'll see under the boardwalk!

**Assateague Detectives** - Do you want to become a detective? Want to help rangers find out what kind of "criminal" activity is going on? Join us as we venture down the boardwalk looking for evidence left behind by animals that live here on Assateague.

**Pinchers of Power** - Come learn about the feisty and tasty blue crab by watching its powerful pinchers latch on to your bait! Equipment is provided. This program is catch and release. Sunscreen and bug spray are advised. Parking is limited. Bicycling to program is encouraged. Meets at the bridge before the Refuge entrance.

**Hook, Line & Sinker - Program is limited to those 12 years and older.** If sitting on the beach bores you, you might just get hooked on surf fishing. Designed for those with limited surf fishing experience, this program includes demonstrations of equipment, bait and casting techniques. Equipment is provided; however, actual practice time depends on group size.

**Marine Explorers** - Join a ranger and investigate the creatures found in and around Toms Cove. Expect to get wet! **A snug pair of wading shoes is required, no flip-flops.**

**Kayak in the Cove** - Join us for a paddle in Toms Cove to discover what's beneath the boat. Be ready to get wet! Children must be 13 years or older to paddle kayak alone and a parent or guardian must be on the trip. Children must be 16 or older to paddle on a trip alone. One person per seat. All equipment is provided. Wear clothing and shoes (no flip-flops) for wading. **Note: Reservations must be made in person at the Toms Cove Visitor Center. There is a \$20.00 per person fee, payment due upon reservation by credit card** (non-refundable except for weather cancellations).



*The National Park Service assists the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in interpretation and recreation management, but only in the Toms Cove area of the Virginia portion of the island. The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge provides many other activities throughout the rest of the refuge. Contact them at 757-336-6122 for program details.*