



## Ranger-Led Programs

June 22 - 28, 2025

Location	Program	Sun 22	Mon 23	Tues 24	Wed 25	Thurs 26	Fri 27	Sat 28
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Aquarium Talk</b> (30 minutes)  	2:00 pm	1:30 pm			11:30 am	2:00 pm	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Assateague Detectives</b> (30 minutes, ¼ mile) 			11:00 am			3:00 pm	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Birding with a Ranger</b> (1 hour window) 			3:00 pm – 4:00 pm		2:30 pm – 3:30 pm		
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Creature Feature</b> (15-20 minutes)  		12:30 pm	1:30 pm	11:30 am	12:30 pm		10:00 am
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Free as a Bird</b> (1.5 hours, ½ mile)	8:00 am						
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Hello Horseshoe Crabs</b> (1 hour window)  	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>History's Mysteries</b> (15-20 minutes) 	11:00 am	11:30 am		1:30 pm			
Naturalist Shack/Parking Lot #1	<b>Hook, Line and Sinker</b> (1.5 hours)					8:00 am		
Bayside Parking Lot #2	<b>Kayak in the Cove</b> (2 hours) 						9:30 am	9:30 am
Bayside Parking Lot #2	<b>Marine Explorers</b> (1 hour) 	9:00 am						
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Plant Rant</b> (15-20 minutes) 	1:00 pm			12:30 pm	1:30 pm	11:30 am	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Story by the Sea</b> (30 minutes)  			10:00 am	10:30 am		10:30 am	
Toms Cove Visitor Center	<b>Under the Boardwalk</b> (30 minutes, ¼ mile)		10:00 am					3:00 pm

**Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult on all programs.**



These programs are especially popular with children.



Wheelchair accessible programs.



Advanced registration required.

**Program descriptions on back**

## Program Descriptions

**Aquarium Talk** - Shellfish, 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.

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

**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.

**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.

**Free as a Bird** - Discover some of Assateague's most colorful residents on this walk designed for birders of all skill levels. A limited number of binoculars and bird guides are available.

**Hello Horseshoe Crabs** - Stop by the visitor center anytime in this 1-2 hour window for a "meet and greet" with the Horseshoe Crab! Learn, observe, and touch a few of Assateague's marine residents.

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

**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.

**Kayak in the Cove** - Join us for a paddle in Toms Cove to discover what's in the cove. Be ready to get wet! Program is limited to those 13 years and older. Children must be 16 or older to paddle on a trip without a parent or guardian. One person per boat. 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 CARD ONLY via Pay.gov (non-refundable except for weather cancellations).**

**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.**

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

**Story by the Sea** - You're never too old for a story by the sea. Come learn about an animal that calls Assateague home. An activity or craft related to the story will follow.

**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!



*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.*