

Everglades

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior

Everglades National Park



Gulf Coast Ranger - Guided Programs Dec. 24, 2011 through April 8, 2012*

Activities are free of charge, unless noted. Reservations are only needed for specified programs.

Everglades Activities	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Nature Walk – 8:30 am (1 hour). Learn about the plants and animals of the area. Meet in front of the visitor center. * Program offered February 10 through April 5.						*	●
Nature's Notebook: 10,000 Island Boat Tour – 9:30 am (1½ hours, fee charged). Become a citizen scientist and help us “take the pulse of the planet” while learning about the mangrove estuary. Working with the park and the National Phenology Network, you can play an important role in helping identify trends in populations through simple yet critical observations of bird behavior. Program is included as part of the 10,000 Island Boat Tour ticket.							●
Canoe Explorations – 10 am (4 hours). With a ranger as your guide, paddle through the 10,000 Islands to look at wildlife and mangroves and learn about the park’s natural and cultural history. If tide and weather allow, trip may include a short walk on an island. Bring your own canoe/kayak or rent one. Call 239-695-3311 to make reservations (up to 14 days in advance).	●				●		●
Bike Tour – 10 am (2 hours). Learn about the history of Everglades City and its surrounding area. Bring your own bike or rent one. Bike helmets are required for participants under age 16 . Meet at the visitor center. *Program offered February 9 through April 5.			*		*		
Ranger Talk – 11 am & 2 pm (20 minutes). Join a ranger for a short talk on Everglades ecology, history, and environmental issues. Wheelchair accessible. ♿	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Afternoon Canoe Trip – 2 pm (2 hours). With a ranger as your guide, paddle along the shoreline near the visitor center to look for wildlife and learn about the park’s natural and cultural history. Bring your own canoe/kayak or rent one. Call 239-695-3311 to make reservations (up to 14 days in advance). *Program offered February 9 through April 5.					*	*	
Nature Walk – 4:15 pm (35 minutes). Learn about the plants and animals of the area. Meet in front of the visitor center.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Evening Canoe Trip – 5 pm (3 hours). Leave the road behind as you paddle into the Ten Thousand Islands as the sun sets and the night life emerges. Bring your own canoe/kayak or rent one. Call 239-695-3311 to make reservations (up to 14 days in advance).	January 31, February 17, and March 3						
Estuary Exploration . Become a scientist for a day and dig a little deeper (literally!) into what makes an estuary so productive and amazing! Use scientific equipment to test salinity, turbidity, pH, abundance, and to reveal more about important characteristics of an estuary. Learn about the marine organisms that spend a life in the tides. Discover why the water is so brown! And why male fiddler crabs have different sized claws! Bring shoes that can get wet and a sense of adventure! Family Fun Activity.							
Where the Wild Things Play! Can you run as fast as an alligator? Can you jump as far as a panther? Join kids of all ages to learn more about how and where some of the magnificent animals of Everglades National Park live. Stop by between 1:00 and 3:00 PM to participate in Everglades Animal Olympics, piece together a giant map of Everglades ecosystems, test your knowledge with a quick game of Jeopardy, and more! Family Fun Activity.							
A Beginner's Guide to Saltwater to Fishing – Stop by between 1 - 3 pm. Are you new to fishing or just want to get a refresher? Join the rangers to learn about the saltwater fish of SW Florida, how to identify fish, how to cast, and how to throw a cast net. Fun for all ages. **March 24 program will be in the morning from 10 am to 12 pm.							●
Introduction to Paddling – 9:30 am (2 hours). Free. The best way to see the 10,000 Islands is by canoe and kayak. If you have never canoed or kayaked or feel it has been too long since you last paddled, then sign up to get a 2-hour introduction to paddling. You will learn basic strokes and gain the confidence to paddle with a ranger in the Everglades. Call 239-695-3311 to make reservations (up to 14 days in advance).							
Boat Tours - offered every hour from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm (1½ hours, fee charged). Discover the Ten Thousand Islands of the Gulf Coast. Concession operated boat tours. Every day, year round.	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Please note, regular programs (except boat tours) will **not** be held on March 31st & April 1st in order to celebrate Calusa Days.

*Due to unforeseen circumstances this schedule is subject to change.