

Environmental Education Programs

Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

Rev. Oct 2012



Outreach Programs – We will come to your Cameron or Willacy County school free of charge. Includes hands-on experience with animal artifacts, adapted to age group and audience size.

- **Endangered Species of South Texas** – Discover the stories of our local endangered animals including the Aplomado falcon, Kemp’s ridley sea turtle and Ocelot. Find out why they are endangered, what the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is doing to help them and what you can do to help.
- **Wild Cats of South Texas** – Discover the stories of our wild cats including jaguar, mountain lion, bobcat, ocelot and jaguarundi. Compare and contrast their habitats, behaviors and pelts. Find out why some are surviving well and others are endangered or gone.
- **South Texas Wildlife** - Discover your local wildlife from Texas indigo snakes to green jays to armadillos. Find out where these species call home and their adaptations to live there.
- **Sea Turtles of the Gulf of Mexico** – Discover the habits and history of the five gulf sea turtles including Kemp’s ridley, Atlantic green, leatherback, loggerhead and hawksbill. The Kemp’s ridley is the most endangered sea turtle in the world and it nests on South Padre Island. Find out how you can make a difference for these turtles.

Field Trip Opportunities - Nothing compares to visiting this vast natural area in person! No entrance fee for school groups.

- Any of the outreach programs listed above can be done on-site at our outdoor, covered amphitheater.
- **Tram Tour** – View wildlife in their natural habitats as you explore the refuge on our open-air tram or your bus. Discover how each habitat provides for the needs of wildlife. This 2 hour adventure takes you through thornscrub forest, coastal prairies, freshwater lakes and the salt-water Laguna Madre. Student worksheets available. Binoculars are available for loan. Tour donation - \$1.50 per person.
- **Teacher-led Activities including:**
 - Nature Journaling** – Walk the trails and observe plants, animals and their interactions.
 - Bird Observations at Laguna Atascosa freshwater lake**
 - Native Plants of the Thornscrub forest**

In Your Classroom - Incorporate environmental education into your curriculum.

- We have many resources available to help you plan curriculum. Call the Ranger for more information.

Reservations - Call and discuss your program needs with the Ranger and reserve your date(s). 956-748-3607