

Spring Equinox by Rebecca Lexa

Next Tuesday is the Spring Equinox, one of two times in the year when day and night are equal lengths. As our days are getting longer, this is a great time to start planning more outdoor activities!

The Willapa National Wildlife Refuge has many ways for you to make the most of the extra daylight. The spring migration is underway, which means waterfowl and other birds are on the move. Many of them use the wetlands and other habitats at the Refuge as a waystation. Birds who nest here for the summer are beginning to arrive. The Refuge offers many opportunities for birding, including at our bird blind at the Tarlatt Unit.

Over the next several weeks plants and spring mushrooms will be popping up all over. If you take time to enjoy one of the many Refuge trails you may start seeing fresh green shoots and even flowers appear. As the weather warms, amphibians, reptiles, insects and other cold-blooded animals will come out of their winter hiding places. Keep your eyes open for spring salmon in our waterways, too.

The Friends of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge are gearing up for another busy volunteer season, with many great events planned over the next few months. Whether you want to help us repair trails damaged by winter weather, run information tables at events on the Long Beach Peninsula, or make a financial contribution to help fund our efforts, you can get involved at our website at friendsofwillaparefuge.org.