

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Caption: A showing of the film *Bag It!* will be part of the refuge's free annual Earth Day activities.

Caption: Meet Bagzilla, an incarnate reminder of our plastic bag addiction.

Biking, hiking, programs on tap for Earth Day at the Refuge

Bike or hike Wildlife Drive for free, watch a free film, and take advantage of free programs at this year's Earth Day at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island, on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

The refuge will celebrate the 47th anniversary of Earth Day in partnership with Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS). The day's highlights include an earth-friendly Family Story & Craft, free Gators & Crocs and Birding the Refuge programs, and the appearance of Bagzilla, a "bag monster" dressed in the average person's annual plastic bag consumption. The multi-award-winning film *Bag It!: Is Your Life Too Plastic?* reveals, in an entertaining manner, just how plastic crazy we really are and how we can change the pattern.

Below is the full schedule for earth-friendly and free fun throughout the day:

7 a.m.-7 p.m. Wildlife Drive is open free to bikers and hikers only (\$5 fee per vehicle).

10-10:30 a.m. Family Craft & Story, Visitor & Education Center

10 – 10:30 a.m. Gators & Crocs Program, Crossdike Pavilion

11-11:45 a.m. *Bag It!: Is Your Life Too Plastic?* Film Showing, Visitor &
Education Center Auditorium

1-1:30 p.m. Birds of the Refuge Program, Crossdike Pavilion

For more information on Earth Day at the Refuge, call [239-472-1100](tel:239-472-1100).

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop proceeds.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

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