

**Saturday, November 18, 2017, 9am Central time/10am Eastern
The Great Marsh Trail (Migration Pit Stops)
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**

A last minute addition. We will join Harbor Country Hikers from New Buffalo Michigan on Saturday at 9:00 AM Central Time for an exploration of the Great Marsh in Beverly Shores, Indiana, led by Stacey LaRocco, Program Committee Chairwoman and Director of Harbor Country Hikers and Project Coordinator for Chikaming Open Lands. Stacey will be talking about migratory routes and pit stops at the Observation Deck. We will certainly have a firsthand view of the marsh and, possibly, a migratory bird sighting. After the talk, Stacey will lead us through the remainder of the trail complex (primitive trail).

We will meet at on Broadway Avenue, Beverly Shores, IN. north of US 12 on Broadway Avenue at the trail head parking lot. The southern parking lot is the main trail head. The northern lot is handicapped parking only. We will meet in the south parking lot and hike to the Observation Deck first. Those who need to use the ADA parking and paved path can join us on the deck for the presentation. There is a bench on the deck. After the hike, we will walk up Broadway and onto Beverly Drive to see even more of the marsh.

The Great Marsh is a nice birding hike with views of the largest wetland complex in the Lake Michigan watershed. Flocks of coots, mallards and wood ducks now glide over the wetland's surface. Kingfishers, tree swallows and rusty blackbirds rest during migration. Green herons stalk the shoreline while beaver play in the channels. The Great Marsh abounds in the diverse animal activity of a healthy wetland ecosystem..

Presenter: Stacey La Rocco, Harbor Country Hikers and Chikaming Open Lands

Estimated Presentation Time: 15 minutes

Estimated Hiking Time: 1-1/2 hours

Hiking Distance: 1.26 miles

Physical Difficulty: Easy