



Loonapalooza 2025

Celebrating 90 Wild Years of Seney Refuge

Join Friends of Seney National Wildlife Refuge as we celebrate 90 years of conservation, culture, and community at Loonapalooza 2025 — a milestone event happening Friday, August 22, at the Erickson Center for the Arts in Curtis, Michigan, with a bonus Refuge Tour on Saturday, August 23.

Loonapalooza Lectures

Time: 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Location: Pine Performance Center, W9224 Saw-Wa-Quato St., Curtis, Michigan.

Admission: Free and open to the public



2:10 – 2:50 PM

Dr. Russell M. Magnaghi, Professor Emeritus, Northern Michigan University) will present “Seney Before the Wildlife Refuge,” tracing the area’s story from Indigenous history through its wild railroad era.



2:55 – 3:35 PM

James Myster, retired USFWS archaeologist, will speak on “The Long and Fascinating History of the Seney National Wildlife Refuge,” highlighting the Civilian Conservation Corps and conscientious objectors who helped shape the refuge.



3:50 – 4:50 PM

Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of Braiding Sweetgrass, will share a pre-recorded talk titled “Restoration and Reciprocity,” with a live introduction and discussion by Danielle Fegan, Wildlife Program Manager for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.





4:55 – 5:45 PM

Joe Kaplan, Director of Common Coast Research & Conservation, will offer insights into loon conservation in “The Past, Present, and Future of Loons.”

Evening Celebration for Friends of SNWR Members

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Erickson Center for the Arts W9224 Saw-Wa-Quato St. Curtis Michigan

Admission: Free for Friends members and their guests. RSVP required. Celebrate Seney Refuge’s 90th birthday in true U.P. fashion — with a silent auction, refreshments, cash bar, good company, and fun activities.

How to Join the Celebration

RSVP for the Lectures and Celebration: 231-333-4419 or friendsofseney.org/loonapalooza2025

Learn More: friendsofseney.org/contact

Not a member yet? Join here and be part of this once-in-a-generation celebration. friendsofseney.org/join

Explore the Refuge: Guided Tour

Saturday, August 23, 9:00 AM

Take part in an exclusive behind-the-scenes guided tour of Seney National Wildlife Refuge led by current and retired staff. You’ll discover hidden corners of the backcountry, learn about 90 years of restoration, and experience the refuge like never before. **Reserve your spot: Email Jennifer_Wycoff@fws.gov**



90 Wild
YEARS AND COUNTING!