

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Edwin B. Forsythe

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

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Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

This incredible National Wildlife Refuge protects more than 46,000 acres of southern New Jersey coastal habitats and wetlands. The refuge extends for 50 miles along the coast. At least 322 species of birds have been observed on the refuge. Over 6,600 acres of the refuge are designated as the Brigantine Wilderness Area which includes two of the remaining undeveloped barrier beaches in the state.

The most popular place to view birds is the Wildlife Drive near Smithville. This eight-mile, one-way, unpaved road leads you through wetlands and woodlands. There are two observation towers and one ADA accessible observation deck equipped with spotting scopes to help you view birds. Hiking trails provide opportunities to get away from the car to experience a variety of wildlife.

Bird checklists, refuge brochures, guided activity schedules, and self-guided auto tour guides can be picked up at the entrance to the Wildlife Drive. Call the refuge at least two weeks in advance to schedule guided activities for school or youth groups.

