

**Celebrations for the World Wetlands Day 2006
at Akrotiri village and wetlands, Cyprus
26/1/06 – 4/2/06**



Akrotiri Community Council and Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre, organised a series of events for the celebration of the World Wetlands Day 2006. The events were organised in cooperation and with the support of many stakeholders:

- Environment Service of the Republic of Cyprus
- Game Fund of the Republic of Cyprus
- Forestry Department of the Republic of Cyprus
- Fisheries Department of the Republic of Cyprus
- Asomatos Community Council
- Cherkez Chiftlik Community Council
- Foresters Association – Graduates of the Cyprus Forestry College
- Akrotiri Village Environmental Association
- Akrotiri Village Cultural Association
- Akrotiri Expatriates' Association
- Birdlife Cyprus
- Terra Cypria
- Atlantis Consultants Ltd
- LIFE European Programme



The events took place at the Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre (AEEIC), at the village, at the Akrotiri primary school and at the local wetlands. The events attracted a lot of interest, with more than 1000 people participating.

<div style="text-align: center;">  Πρόγραμμα όλων των εκδηλώσεων </div>		
26/01/2006	Παρουσίαση στο ΚΕ' Δημοτικό Σχολείο Λεμεσού	9:30-10:30
27/01/2006	Εκπαιδευτικό Πρόγραμμα για τους μαθητές του Δημοτικού Σχολείου Δαλίου Β' στο Κέντρο Περιβαλλοντικής Εκπαίδευσης και Ενημέρωσης Ακρωτηρίου	9:30-12:00
28/01/2006	Εκδρομή Πτηνοπαράτηρησης στην περιοχή των υγρότοπων Ακρωτηρίου. Σημείο συνάντησης το Κέντρο Περιβαλλοντικής Εκπαίδευσης και Ενημέρωσης Ακρωτηρίου	10:00-11:30
31/01/2006	Εκδήλωση στο Δημοτικό Σχολείο Ακρωτηρίου με θέμα την καλαθοπλεκτική	10:00-11:30
02/02/2006	Εκδήλωση στην αίθουσα του Κοινοτικού Συμβουλίου Ακρωτηρίου με σύντομες παρουσιάσεις αποτελεσμάτων έρευνας και θεατρική παράσταση με τίτλο "Η Ανομβρία" συγγραφέας και σκηνοθεσίας Χρυσάνθου Χρυσάνθου	6:20-8:00
03/02/2006	Εκπαιδευτικό Πρόγραμμα για τους μαθητές του Δημοτικού Σχολείου Πύργου Λεμεσού στο Κέντρο Περιβαλλοντικής Εκπαίδευσης και Ενημέρωσης Ακρωτηρίου	9:00-12:00
04/02/2006	Εξόρμηση στους υγρότοπους Ακρωτηρίου για αναγνώριση φυτών. Σημείο συνάντησης το Κέντρο Περιβαλλοντικής Εκπαίδευσης και Ενημέρωσης Ακρωτηρίου	10:00-11:30

Programme of all the events in Greek language

On 27/01/06 the AEEIC and the Cyprus Foresters' Association visited the 25th Elementary School in Limassol and talked to more than 450 school children and teachers about 'Akrotiri Peninsula and Akrotiri Ramsar Site'.



School children attending a presentation

On 27/1/06, a primary school from Nicosia was in the area for an educational programme related to the World Wetlands Day. Another event was organised on 28/01/06 at AEEIC which included a presentation by the Game Fund on the 'Avifauna of Akrotiri Peninsula', bird-watching by Birdlife Cyprus and activities for children by the Foresters' Association.



Event for birds at Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre

On 31/1/06 an event was organised in cooperation with the Forestry Department at the Akrotiri primary school, and the children and other people had the chance to learn the basics about basketry from local people.



Event at the local school about traditional basketry

The main event of the celebrations took place on the evening of 2/2/06 at Akrotiri Village. The communal building was packed with more than 250 people from Akrotiri and other villages, representatives from all above organisations, and other guests. After short speeches and presentations of local environmental and cultural studies, excitement climaxed when the Akrotiri Cultural Association presented a play related to the local wetlands, written (and directed) especially for the occasion by Mr Chrysanthos Chrysanthou. After a programme of traditional music and dances the night ended with a buffet offered by the Akrotiri Community Council.



Presentations from the local school and other stakeholders



Theatre play and dances

On 3/2/06 the Pyrgos (Limassol) Elementary School participated at an educational programme at the Akrotiri Environmental Education and Information Centre.



Educational programme at the AEEIC

The celebrations concluded on 4/2/06, with a botanical outing organised by the Forestry Department and the AEEIC, where several important species of orchids and other plants were identified and explained to people who were attracted to the event from all over Cyprus.



Botany field trip