

Blue Jay Point County Park's Songbird Celebration



Saturday April 24, 2010 9am-3pm

Bring your family to a **FREE** day-long Songbird Celebration at Blue Jay Point County Park in recognition of International Migratory Bird Day 2010. This year's International Migratory Bird Day theme is "The Power of Partnerships in Bird Conservation." Come experience fun and learning as you see how agencies large and small all provide pieces to the same bird conservation puzzle. A great outing for scouts and other youth groups, celebrate the return of our migratory songbirds while you enjoy bird-related activities throughout the park.

For more information, to register for programs, or to **volunteer - this is an excellent opportunity for Scout groups or teens needing community service hours** - contact the Blue Jay Center for Environmental Education at (919) 870-4330 or e-mail bluejaypoint@wakegov.com.
All volunteers must register in advance!

Songbird Celebration events are free, but these programs require pre-registration. Limited registration is available the day of the event.

For preschoolers (and parent) —

Nature Stories "Flight of the Fledgling": 11-11:30am or 11:30am-Noon

Join Blue Jay's Miss Sue and Diana Gawron from the North Regional Library to listen to a story about a Kestrel trying its wings for an exciting first flight in busy New York City. Try YOUR wings too. . . Be sure to check out The Travelling Teacher Show's "Super Songbird Celebration Show" in the Garden when you are done!

Nature Stories "Feathers for Lunch": Noon-12:30pm or 12:30-1pm

Join Blue Jay's Miss Sue and Diana Gawron from the North Regional Library to learn about common backyard birds as you listen to this entertaining story of a cat unsuccessfully trying to catch a bird for lunch. Make your own puppets to act out the story. Be sure to check out The Traveling Teacher Show's "Super Songbird Celebration Show" in the Garden when you are done!

For adults—(ages 13 and over)

Adult Bird Hike: 9-10 am

What could be better than birding on a fine spring morning? Join NC State Park Ranger Brian Bockhahn on a hike to locate spring migrants through bird song and observation. Enjoy a cup of shade-grown coffee when you get back!

What is NC Partners in Flight?: 10-10:30 am

Join Jeff Hall from the NC Wildlife Resource Commission for a short talk about NC Partners in Flight's history, partnerships across the state, and future in bird conservation.

For families—

Family Bird Hike: 10-11:45 am

Birdwatching is cross-generational—ask avid birders today where they got their start and you'll almost always find that it was through the birding interest of a parent or grandparent. Start your family on the track of a lifetime hobby by taking a trek around Blue Jay with NC State Park Ranger Brian Bockhahn in search of our springtime bird residents!

Osprey Hike: 11am-Noon or 1-2pm or 2-3pm

Join a park ranger from the US Army Corps of Engineers for a short hike down the Sandy Point Trail to observe a man-made osprey nesting platform and this year's avian inhabitants. Although frequently mistaken for a Bald Eagle, learn about the osprey's special adaptations that give it the alternate name of "fish hawk".

Wake Audubon Family Bird Hikes: Noon-12:45pm or 1-1:45pm

Join members of Wake Audubon for a family bird hike around Blue Jay. Be sure to stop by the Wake Audubon booth for great information and a peek at their bird related merchandise!

Bluebird Hike: 2-2:45 pm

The NC Bluebird Society, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the future of the Eastern Bluebird and other cavity nesting birds native to North Carolina. Learn about how Eastern Bluebird populations have been brought back from the brink by Citizen Science efforts like those at Blue Jay as you scope out Blue Jay's Bluebird Trail and take a peek into a nest box or two. Free Family Hike.

For kids—(ages 6-12 unless otherwise noted)

Birdwatching for Kids: 9-10 am

Learn about the tools of the trade for birdwatchers - binoculars, field guides and field journals before heading outside to watch for birds! Want to earn a really cool Junior Birder Patch? Let us know when you register - go on this hike, sign up for a bird class, and complete a few simple Garden Activities before 3pm, and you'll be all set!

Birdy Bodies: 10:30-11am or 1:30-2 pm or 2-2:30 pm

Develop your detective skills at investigative stations that will help you learn about the different physical features that make birds special. For kids earning the Jr. Birder Patch, the GS Birds of Carolinas Badge or for kids that just want to know more about birds!

EGGtravaganza: 10-10:30am or 2:30-3 pm

Learn about egg sizes, colors, and shapes before designing your own egg "protective packaging" and participating in an "Egg Drop"! Will you win the "Scrambled Egg Award"? For kids earning the Jr. Birder Patch or for kids that just want to know more about birds.

Songbird CSI: 11 am-1:45 pm or 12:45-1:30 pm

Light as a feather, but stiff as a board - enter our "laboratory" and help identify the victims. These victims are no ordinary stuffed birds, but study skins used by museums around the world to help scientists solve the mysteries of bird populations. These birds won't divulge their secrets easily, so get ready to get up close and personal! For young people earning the Environment for the Americas Patch or for those who just want to learn more about birds. *For ages 11-14.*

The following Songbird Celebration activities are drop-in - come and go as you please, and join the fun!

9-11am Shade-grown Coffee Hour

Drop by and enjoy a cup of coffee on us - find out why "shade-grown" makes a difference to birds.

10am-3pm Master Gardeners in the Blue Jay Garden

Drop by and talk with Wake County Master Gardeners about how to make your yard bird-friendly. Bring your gardening questions!

10am-3pm Displays and Activities in the Blue Jay Garden

In keeping with this year's International Migratory Bird Day theme "The Power of Partnerships in Bird Conservation", kids can earn a small prize by picking up a "Migration Pass" at the Information Tent and getting the pass "punched" at 12 different numbered learning stations sponsored by bird conservation partners. There will be addition bird-related games and crafts just for fun--something for everyone!

10 am-2 pm "Super Songbird Celebration" w/ the Traveling Teacher Show

Hourly highly interactive performances about special birds native to NC including cool facts about them, the sounds they make, how they play a part in our environment and what we can do to help them. Lots of audience participation opportunities - join the fun!

11am-1pm Raptor Presentation

Come by for a close-up look at one of Master Falconer Bill Davis's big beautiful birds of prey and learn about how raptors "earn a living"!

2:00-2:30 pm Birdhouse Walk

Like a cakewalk, except for birdhouses and bird-themed prizes! Everyone welcome!