



COMMUNITY FEATURE

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#OURWAKECOUNTYPARKS PHOTO CONTEST AND SEPTEMBER PARK EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Open Space is hosting its 2nd Annual Instagram Photo Contest to celebrate all the ways residents enjoy Wake County's parks and nature preserves. The contest will run from Tuesday, September 1 to Monday, November 30, 2015. To enter, participants should follow @WakeGovParks on Instagram and upload a photo that shows what they like most about Wake County Parks. All photos should be tagged using the hashtag #OurWakeCountyParks and the hashtag of the park or nature preserve featured in your entry.

Contest winners will be showcased in a photo exhibit during the spring of 2016 at Historic Oak View County Park. All submissions are eligible to be used in Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space marketing material. To enter, submit a photo via Instagram that adheres to contest rules between Tuesday, September 1 and Monday, November 30, 2015.

Full contest rules and a list of hashtags are available at wakegov.com/parks/instagram.

Other featured Park events during September include:

Friday, September 4, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. – The Little Red Hen

Will you help the Little Red Hen bake bread at [Historic Yates Mill County Park](#)? Follow the Hen through her story to learn where wheat, milk and eggs come from. Visit the old mill to find out how the Little Red Hen's grain was ground into flour and make a craft to take home. This program is for ages 5-7. The program fee is \$4/child and pre-registration is required.

Saturday, September 5, 2 – 3:30 p.m. – Calling All Crows

Blue jays, crows, ravens and magpies are all part of a family of extra smart birds called "corvids". Come find out how these birds cleverly use their big brains to do all kinds of amazing and unusual things while on a hike at [Blue Jay Point County Park](#). The fee is \$5/family or \$3/individual and pre-registration is required. For information, call 919-870-4330.

Saturday, September 12, 9 – 11 a.m. – Watch on Wetlands

Be prepared to get muddy at [Lake Crabtree County Park](#) as we study the vital role that wetland ecosystems play. We will net some macroinvertebrates, learn how to identify them and learn about their value in the aquatic environment. We will also look at other flora and fauna that inhabit a wetland. The program fee is \$5/family and \$3/person. This program is for ages 5 and up.

Sunday, September 13, 1 and 2 p.m. departures – Wagon Rides for Grandparents and Grandkids

In honor of National Grandparents Day, grandparents can bring their grandkids to the park for a FREE wagon ride along the back roads of [Harris Lake County Park](#). The program is for all ages and is free with grandparents, but costs \$5 for those who attend without their grandparents. Registration is required. Meet at the wagon near the playground.

Friday, September 25, 6:30 – 8 p.m. – Evening Bike Ride with Wildlife

Load up your bikes and come out for a twilight ride down the [American Tobacco Trail](#) to see what animals come out as the sun sets. This will be a short 3-mile ride down and back along the ATT. We will make a few stops along the way to look for wildlife and take a water break. Remember to bring a water bottle, helmet and either a bike or helmet light. This program is for ages 6 and up. The ride is free and a part of [Take a Child Outside Week](#), but registration is required. The ride will begin at the New Hill Parking Area, 1309 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road in Apex.

Saturday, September 26, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Storytelling Festival

Come out to [Historic Oak View County Park](#) for the 33rd Annual Storytelling Festival! Join featured tellers [The Healing Force](#), [Rebecca Tighe](#) and [Suzi Whaples](#) for an afternoon of continuous stories and activities for the entire family! Musical entertainment is back again this year with the [Sandbox Band](#) performing family-friendly songs! The event is free to all ages, but we ask that you bring a chair or blanket to sit on the lawn. The event will take place rain or shine.

Sunday, September 27, 2 – 3 p.m. – To Weather a Storm

Become a junior meteorologist at [Crowder District Park!](#) Through science experiments and real weather monitoring, learn the when, where and why of rain, tornadoes and hurricanes. This program is free for all ages as part of [Take a Child Outside Week](#). Preregistration is required.

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