



NEWS RELEASE

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Resolve to Start 2018 Exploring Wake County Parks

Sample of programs available at Wake County Parks in January

Eating better, losing weight and spending more time with family and friends are common resolutions made at the start of each year. For 2018, [Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space](#) offers a new resolution—exploring Wake County's eight parks and two nature preserves.

Each month, Wake County hosts programs that give visitors of all ages the opportunity to learn about animals and nature, park history and much more. The following is a sample of the programs scheduled during the month of January.

Art at the Farm

Sunday, Jan. 7, 2 - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 10 a.m. - Noon

Thursday, Jan. 18, 1 - 3 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 20, 10 a.m. - Noon

[Historic Oak View County Park](#)

Historic Oak View County Park will host four Art at the Farm acrylic painting programs throughout the month of January. The programs

are open to children ages 6 to 12 years old. Each participant will have their painting put on display in the park's Farm History Center from Feb. 1 until April 29. All supplies are provided for this free event, but [pre-registration is required](#). Historic Oak View County Park is located at 4028 Carya Drive, Raleigh.

Eagle Count

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7 - 9 a.m.

Lake Crabtree County Park

Join park staff in collecting data for the state and national count of bald eagles. Participants will be allowed in the park before it opens and will be staged at various locations around Lake Crabtree to count the eagles. A light breakfast will be available after the count. No prior birding experience is required. This program is free, but [pre-registration is required](#). Lake Crabtree County Park is located at 1400 Aviation Parkway, Morrisville.

Walk in the Woods

Saturday, Jan. 13, 11 a.m. - Noon

Crowder County Park

Take a walk in the woods, and discover the animals and plants that call Crowder County Park home. Help collect data for our Natural Resources Inventory Database and other citizen science projects. This free program is for participants ages 14 and older. Registration is not required, and all experience levels are welcome. Crowder County Park is located at 4709 Ten Ten Road, Apex.

Astronomy Evening

Friday, Jan. 19, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Harris Lake County Park

The winter's cool temperatures allow for some of the best stargazing conditions of the year. Enjoy an evening of fun astronomy activities followed by night sky viewing through telescopes. Bring your own viewing instrument if you have one, a chair or blanket, and water bottle. The program fee is \$1 per person and [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the Loblolly Shelter. Harris Lake County Park is located at 2112 County Park Drive, New Hill.

Creatures of the Beaver Creek Wetland

Saturday, Jan. 20, 1:30 - 3 p.m.

American Tobacco Trail

The Beaver Creek wetland is home to several kinds of animals. Learn about the importance of this ecosystem to these animals during this program. Meet a beaver, wood duck and others up close with our educational mounts, and hike to the Beaver Creek Bridge to experience the wetland. Bring a camera, binoculars if you have them, and a full water bottle, and wear good walking shoes. The program fee is \$1 per person, and [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the New Hill Parking Area at the lower picnic table at 1309 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road, Apex.

Family Wildlife Series: Stamping Around Blue Jay

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Blue Jay Point County Park

Have you ever wondered what letterboxing is? Well now's your chance to learn and give it a try. Letterboxing is like geocaching, but uses puzzle solving and your brain instead of technology! Bundle up for this mostly-outside program. The program fee is \$1 per person, and [pre-registration is required](#). Blue Jay Point County Park is located at 3200 Pleasant Union Church Road, Raleigh.

Mill as Muse Creative Art Session

Sunday, Jan. 28, 1 - 4 p.m.

Historic Yates Mill County Park

Explore your artistic side by creating a work of art related to Yates Mill to take home or to enter in the 12th annual Mill as Muse art contest. A variety of inspirational arts and crafts materials will be provided, and a brief slide show will be shown featuring artistic creations related to Yates Mill. The program fee is \$1 per person, and [pre-registration is required](#). Contest rules will be posted in January 2018. Mill as Muse includes youth and adult categories with mill, nature and people in the park as subjects. Entries are due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1. Historic Yates Mill County Park is located at 4620 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh

To learn more about [Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) at [@WakeGovParks](#). You can also check out each of our parks on [Facebook](#).

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