



NEWS RELEASE

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February takes Flight at Wake County Parks

Get out your binoculars, because it's time for the [Great Backyard Bird Count](#)! This four-day, annual event takes place Feb. 15 – 18 and encourages bird watchers of all ages and skill levels to count birds and report their results [online](#).

You're welcome to count the birds in your own backyard, or if you prefer to be part of a flock, Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space has organized a variety of free [special events](#). From morning bird walks to evening adventures, you'll find a multitude of ways to get a bird's eye view of our feathered friends.

Data collected during the Great Backyard Bird Count gives useful information to scientists, which enables them to better evaluate fluctuations in bird populations. To learn more, visit gbbc.birdcount.org.

Birds might be at the top of the pecking order in February, but there's a lot more going on at Wake County parks and preserves. Check out some of the other great programs happening throughout the month:

Art at the Farm Exhibit

Feb. 1 – April 3, Business hours

[Historic Oak View County Park](#)

This special show features art created by children ages 6 to 12 who attended painting classes at the park in January. Their work will be on display inside the Farm History Center during regular business hours. Historic Oak View County Park is located at 4028 Carya Drive, Raleigh.

Recreational Adventures: Weather Wisdom

Friday, Feb. 1, 2 – 3 p.m.

[Historic Yates Mill County Park](#)

The changing weather is probably the most easily observed part of the natural world and is experienced by everyone daily. Explore the four weather factors, observe the clouds and learn about extreme weather patterns. Then test your knowledge and forecast the weather. This is a free program, and [pre-registration is required](#). Historic Yates Mill County Park is located at 4620 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh.

Nature Watchers: Nutty Squirrels

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 11 a.m. – noon

[Crowder County Park](#)

Celebrate our silly squirrels! Come learn about these friendly mammals, gather nuts in a fun game and make a squirrely craft to take home. Then spy on the live squirrels at Crowder as they jump from tree to tree searching for the perfect nut. This program is free, and [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the Upper Pavilion. Crowder District Park is located at 4709 Ten Ten Road, Apex.

Family Wildlife Series: Winter Wander

Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 – 11 a.m.

[Blue Jay Point County Park](#)

Join us for a winter walk and plant ID session. Make a winter plant collage while learning about critters that depend on those plants for their winter habitat needs. Not stroller friendly—baby backpacks please. [Pre-registration is required](#). Blue Jay Point County Park is located at 3200 Pleasant Union Church Road, Raleigh.

Nature Nerds

Wednesday, Feb. 13, Noon – 1 p.m.

Lake Crabtree County Park

Expand your knowledge of our local flora and fauna by exploring a different area of the park each month. Join us as we observe a recently discovered active eagle nest and the mudflat area, which is a popular hangout for many birds. Help collect data for the Natural Resource Inventory Database while increasing your own identification skills. This program is for ages 9 and older, and minors must be accompanied by a registered adult. [Pre-registration is required](#). Lake Crabtree County Park is located at 1400 Aviation Parkway, Morrisville.

GBBC Bird Walk along the American Tobacco Trail

Friday, Feb. 15, 8 – 10 a.m.

[American Tobacco Trail](#)

Observe and count the variety of birds that can be found along the trail as we walk to the Beaver Creek Bridge. This is free program for ages 6 and older, but [pre-registration](#) is required. Meet near the restrooms at the New Hill parking area at 1309 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road, Apex.

Wacky Woodpeckers

Monday, Feb. 18, 10:30 a.m. – noon

[Harris Lake County Park](#)

Woodpeckers are some of the most recognizable birds, but how much do you really know about them? Learn some cool facts, hear common woodpecker calls, make a suet log feeder for your family to take home, and go on a short hike to look and listen for them. This program, part of the Great Backyard Bird Count, is free for all ages, but [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the Cypress Shelter. Harris Lake County Park is located at 2112 County Park Drive, New Hill.

To see a list of upcoming programs and events, visit wakegov.com/parks.

Reminder

Our [Park Locator](#) makes it easy to explore all the parks and preserves in Wake County! Filter results by activity or location, and get customized directions.

About Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

[Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space](#) strives to provide outdoor recreation and educational opportunities while promoting environmental and cultural stewardship through a managed system of parks and open spaces. In 2018, more than 385,000 people visited Wake County's 10 parks and nature preserves. 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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