



NEWS RELEASE

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Extra Sun Means Extra Fun at Wake County Parks in May

Spring has sprung, and that means it's time to make the most of Wake County's parks and preserves. With the days getting longer, most parks are now open until 8:30 p.m., giving you plenty of time for an after-work adventure. Be sure to check the closing times in the park you visit.

In addition to the walking, biking and playing options available every day, here's a sampling of special programs and events that take place in May:

Night Hike on the ATT

Friday, May 3, 8 – 9:30 p.m.

[American Tobacco Trail](#)

Spring evenings are a perfect time to enjoy a serenade by frogs and toads and look and listen for nocturnal wildlife. All ages will enjoy a nighttime experience as we walk to the Beaver Creek bridge and back (about 1 mile). Wear comfortable walking shoes, bring a water bottle and dress for the weather. [Pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the New Hill parking area at 1309 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road, Apex.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Wednesday, May 8, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

[Lake Crabtree County Park](#)

Build your own rain barrel! You'll take home a fully functional 55-gallon rain barrel with installation kit. Workshops are limited to eight barrels, so reserve your spot now. This program is for ages 18 and older, and [pre-registration is required](#). The cost is \$45 per barrel (these barrels retail for \$99 and up), and participation is limited to two people per barrel. Lake Crabtree County Park is located at 1400 Aviation Parkway, Morrisville.

Kids Discover Nature: A Tree is Nice

Monday, May 13, 11 a.m. – noon

[Harris Lake County Park](#)

Trees are all around us. Janice May Udry's "A Tree is Nice" is a beautiful story that tells us all the things trees do for us and why we should love and appreciate them. We will read this story on the wagon as we ride to our Longleaf Pine Forest to see and learn about this special tree. Pick out your very own longleaf pine cone to take home. Meet at the Loblolly Shelter. This program is for ages 1 – 6, and [pre-registration is required](#). Harris Lake County Park is located at 2112 County Park Drive, New Hill.

Recreational Adventures: An Orienteering Outing

Friday, May 17, 3-4 p.m.

[Historic Yates Mill County Park](#)

Celebrate World Orienteering Day by heading outdoors for an orienteering adventure. Track your way through the woods with the help of the sun's light and the earth's magnetic field, and learn to use a compass to navigate your way through an obstacle course. Make maps and memories! This program is for ages 8 and older, and [pre-registration is required](#). Historic Yates Mill County Park is located at 4620 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh.

Family Wildlife Series: Family Nature Journaling

Saturday, May 18, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

[Blue Jay Point County Park](#)

Nature journaling is a great way to increase your observational skills and creative ideas while enjoying the natural beauty that surrounds us. Take a hike, and then record your observations, feelings and experiences in a blank journal that we'll provide. Ages 5 and older will be led by guest author, photographer, artist and

educator Wende Essrow. [Pre-registration is required](#). Blue Jay Point County Park is located at 3200 Pleasant Union Church Road, Raleigh.

Barnyard Birthday Bash

Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m. – noon

[Historic Oak View County Park](#)

Celebrate the birthdays of Historic Oak View's goats. You don't have to RSVP for this party, which includes live music by Grandma Paula, children's activities and games, goody bags for the kids, and—of course—birthday cake and ice cream! Historic Oak View County Park is located at 4028 Carya Drive, Raleigh.

Discover the Park: Walk in the Woods

Saturday, May 25, 10 – 11 a.m.

[Crowder District Park](#)

Take a walk in the woods and discover the animals and plants that call our park home. Help collect data for our Natural Resource Inventory Database and other citizen science projects. All experience levels are welcome. Let's learn together! This free program is for ages 14 and older. Registration is not required. Meet at the park office. Crowder District Park is located at 4709 Ten Ten Road, Apex.

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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