



NEWS RELEASE

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For Release: Jan. 30, 2020

Bird Lovers Flock to Wake County Parks in February

Grab your binoculars and keep an eye on the sky because February is taking flight at Wake County parks.

The Great Backyard Bird Count, which happens Feb. 14 – 17, is an annual event that encourages bird watchers of all ages and skill levels to count birds and report their results online to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The data collected gives useful information to scientists, which enables them to better evaluate fluctuations in bird populations.

Wake County parks are offering programs and events to encourage residents to get involved in the GBBC. Whether you're an avid birder or a beginner who wants to learn more, the GBBC is a great opportunity to grow your skills and have fun. Check out the following events, and learn more about the GBBC at gbbc.birdcount.org.

Natural Explorations: Love Birds

Friday, Feb. 14, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

[Historic Yates Mill County Park](#)

Explore how birds begin courtship displays to attract mates and warn off rivals, and what they do to set up house.

Experience the abundance of bird life that is found in the park

by heading outdoors to see who's flapping about. Binoculars may be borrowed. This is a free program, and [pre-registration is required](#). Historic Yates Mill County Park is located at 4620 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh.

Introduction to Bird Watching and the Great Backyard Bird Count

Friday, Feb. 14, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

[Harris Lake County Park](#)

Discover tips and techniques to identify birds as we introduce you to the rewarding hobby of bird watching through fun activities. Learn how to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count, and hike along the shoreline to practice your new skills as we count the birds. This program is free for all ages, but best for those older than 4. [Pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the Longleaf Shelter. Harris Lake County Park is located at 2112 County Park Drive, New Hill.

Great Backyard Bird Count: Early Birders Walk

Monday, Feb. 17, 9 – 10 a.m.

[Crowder District Park](#)

Join us on a winter bird scavenger hunt! Search for common birds and count them along the way. Practice using binoculars and learn how to identify these animals by shape and color. This program is for all ages, and [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the Upper Pavilion. Crowder District Park is located at 4709 Ten Ten Road, Apex.

Here's a sampling of other events taking place at Wake County parks in February:

Art at the Farm Exhibit

Feb. 1 – April 30 during business hours

[Historic Oak View County Park](#)

This special show features paintings created by children ages 6 to 13 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.

Wetlands are Wonderful

Sunday, Feb. 2, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

[American Tobacco Trail](#)

Celebrate World Wetland Day at picturesque Beaver Creek wetland. Through a hands-on activity, you'll learn the importance of wetlands to both people and animals. See some wetland critter mounts up close, and learn how they are adapted to this amazing area. Bring a camera to capture the beautiful scenery, binoculars and a full water bottle—and be sure to dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes. We will walk a total of one mile. This program is for ages 5 and older, and [pre-registration is required](#). Meet at the lower picnic table at the New Hill parking area (1309 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road, Apex).

Nature Nerds

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 9 – 10 a.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 park staff as they "nerd out" over amphibians, birds, insects, spiders and anything else they see or hear along the way. Help collect data for the Natural Resources Inventory Database while increasing your own identification skills. This program is for ages 9 and older, and [pre-registration is required](#). Lake Crabtree County Park is located at 1400 Aviation Parkway, Morrisville.

Family Wildlife Series: Oh Deer!

Saturday, Feb. 22, 2 – 3 p.m.

[Blue Jay Point County Park](#)

Are you seeing more deer in your backyard? North Carolina's skyrocketing deer population is causing area residents to see more of these once elusive animals. Come and learn about deer ecology and their amazing ability to adapt to a changing North Carolina. [Pre-registration is required](#). Blue Jay Point County Park is located at 3200 Pleasant Union Church Road, Raleigh.

To see a full 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 Fiscal Year 2019, nearly 1.3 million 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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