

*“Come experience life on a farm from Wake County’s past ...”*



### PARK HOURS

8:00 A.M. — SUNSET  
SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

### BUILDINGS:

8:30 A.M. - 5 P.M., MON - SAT,  
1 P.M. - 5 P.M., SUNDAY

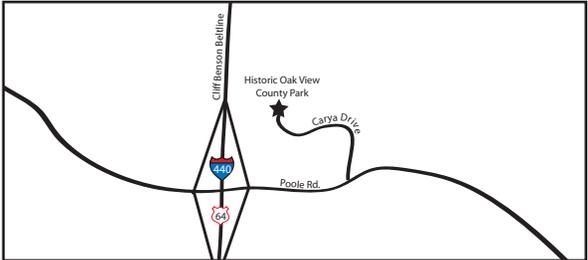


HISTORIC OAK VIEW COUNTY PARK IS CLOSED  
THANKSGIVING DAY  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
CHRISTMAS DAY  
NEW YEAR’S DAY

### PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS

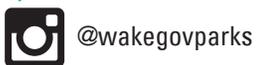
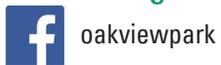
Safety and enjoyment go hand in hand at Historic Oak View County Park. The following rules and regulations have been established to ensure a safe and pleasant visit.

1. SPEED LIMIT IS 20 MPH
2. PETS MUST BE KEPT ON A 6 FOOT LEASH  
(Please clean up after your pet)
3. OPEN FIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED  
(Use park grills only)
4. PARK ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS  
(No parking on roadsides or outside park gates)
5. THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED:
  - a. Alcoholic beverages
  - b. Hunting
  - c. Feeding of wildlife in the park
  - d. Swimming
  - e. Collection or release of any animal, plant, or mineral material
  - f. Amplified music
  - g. Littering
  - h. Fire arms  
This does not prohibit concealed handgun permit holders from legally carrying a concealed handgun in accordance with N.C.G.S. 14-415.11.
  - i. Overnight parking and camping



Historic Oak View County Park  
4028 Carya Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
(919) 250-1013  
oakview@wakegov.com

[wakegov.com/parks/oakview](http://wakegov.com/parks/oakview)



# Historic Oak View County Park



**Parks, Recreation & Open Space**

# Welcome to...

## HISTORIC OAK VIEW

For close to 150 years, Oak View was a busy working farm. Although the farmers, crops, and livestock are now gone, the land and its remaining buildings still tell the farm's story. Oak View has seen many changes between its founding in the 1830s and its restoration in the 1990s. Over the years, its crops, animals, buildings, and farming techniques have been modified and even replaced as nature and technology demanded.

A day at Historic Oak View County Park offers visitors a variety of cultural, educational, agricultural, and recreational activities. This 27-acre site includes a number of historic buildings and the Farm History Center, a museum and visitor's center dedicated to telling the story of North Carolina's agricultural development. Visitors are also welcomed to enjoy the park by strolling through the grounds and gardens, picnicking, or fishing in the pond.



### SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Completed in 1997, the **Farm History Center (1)** is the only modern building on the site. It provides both an overall orientation to Oak View as well as information about North Carolina's agricultural history. It features the Farmer's Corner, an interactive area for kids.

The **Livestock Barn (2)**, built around 1900, was one of several barns at Oak View. They housed the farm's horses and mules, which were used for the farm labor, and chickens, cows, and hogs which provided income and food for the farm families. Today, kids can experience farm chores in the interactive area named "All in a Day's Work."



The **Cotton Gin House (4)**, also built around 1900, enabled Oak View Farm to gin its own cotton. This process cleaned and separated the cotton lint from the seeds. The gin was active day and night, as neighboring farmers also ginned their cotton here. Next to it is the **Cotton Field (3)**. The field is only a fraction of the size it was in 1860, when the farm exceeded 900 acres. Cotton was the primary crop at Oak View Farm for most of its existence.

The **Plank Kitchen (7)** was built around 1825, and is the oldest building on the property. It served as a kitchen from 1855, when the Main Farmhouse was built, until the 1940s, when an interior kitchen was constructed. A detached kitchen was a common practice of the time in the South as it eliminated unwanted heat from the central living space. Next to the Plank Kitchen are small **Gardens (6)** containing seasonal



vegetables and many varieties of culinary and medicinal herbs that would have been commonly used on the farm. Also nearby is the farm's **Water Tower (8)**, which was the main water source for the kitchen, livestock barns, and nearby tenant houses.

The **Carriage House (9)** was built around 1900 and later converted to a garage with two large doors for vehicle storage. Oil from the farm vehicles still stains

the wooden floorboards. Today, this building houses the park's restrooms, as well as a restored wagon.

Benton S. D. Williams built the two-story **Main Farmhouse (10)** around 1855, likely with the help of his sons and neighbors. The house draws on a Greek Revival architectural style typified by the columns and the double-porcho porch. In the 1940s, the Poole Family built a large addition to the east side of the house in the Colonial Revival style. In front of the house stands a cedar **Gazebo (11)**, built around the turn of the Twentieth Century, and called the "sun house" by Oak View residents.

As early as the 1880s, Oak View employed tenants farmers or sharecroppers as farm laborers. The tenants, who were African American and white families and single men, lived near the Main Farmhouse in homes that stretched in a row alongside the Pecan Grove. This **Tenant House (12)** is not original to Oak View, but is remarkably similar to one of the houses that once stood in this location.



Oak View's **Pecan Grove (13)** is the largest in Wake County. The original pecan trees were planted during the 1910s and 1920s to supplement the farm's income. They are an example of crop diversification, which became especially important when the boll weevil infestation forced the farm to cease cotton production in the 1920s and 30s. The **Fruit Orchard (15)** is a demonstration garden intended for education and enjoyment by Oak View's visitors.

In addition to the historic structures and gardens, feel free to explore the walking trails through the woods. The .4 mile Hunnicut Trail has a surface perfect for strollers, or choose the more challenging .7 mile natural surface Jones Creek Trail. Also be sure to visit the scenic farm pond, an ideal spot for fishing.



### PLACES FOR KIDS TO LEARN AND PLAY

The Farmer's Corner, in the Farm History Center, is where children can take a turn at planting and harvesting crops and then cook them up for dinner. There are also children's books on farming and a dress-up area. All In a Day's Work, in the livestock barn, introduces children to farm chores such as milking a cow, gathering eggs, and feeding livestock.



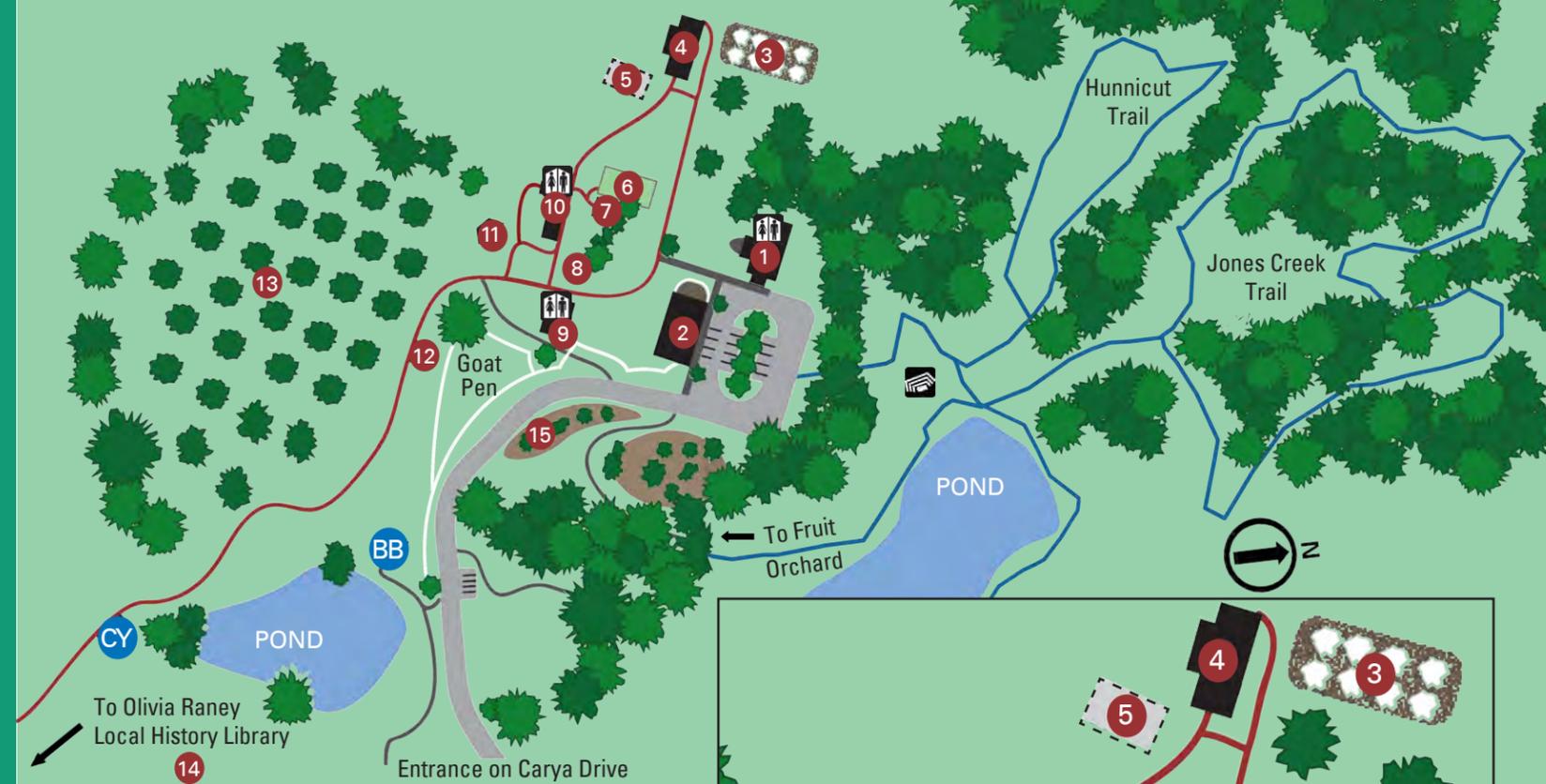
### GOATS

Oak View's Nubian Goats are very friendly. They can be found in one of two outdoor pens or in their stall in the barn. They enjoy treats from visitors, but please check with staff about appropriate foods before feeding them.

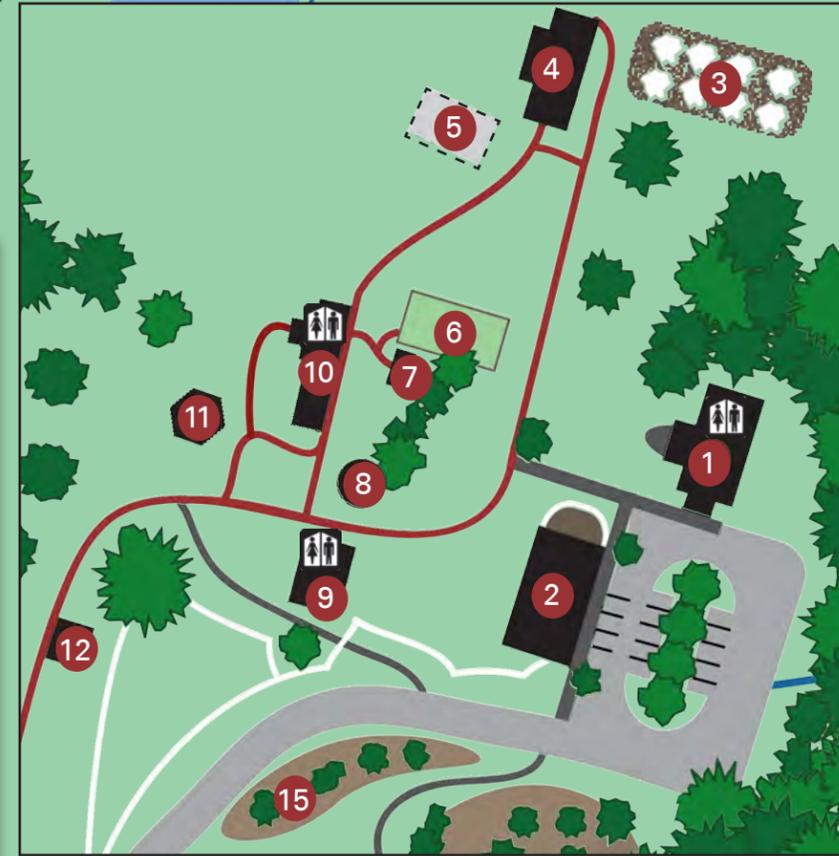


### EXHIBITS

The history of farming in North Carolina generally, and at Oak View specifically, is told through exhibits found in many of the park's buildings. Oak View also hosts a variety of traveling exhibitions, so check our website for current exhibition offerings.



- 1 Farm History Center
- 2 Livestock Barn
- 3 Cotton Field
- 4 Cotton Gin House
- 5 Cemetery
- 6 Kitchen Garden
- 7 Plank Kitchen
- 8 Water Tower
- 9 Carriage House
- 10 Main Farmhouse
- 11 Gazebo
- 12 Tenant House
- 13 Pecan Grove
- 14 Olivia Raney Local History Library
- 15 Fruit Orchard



LEGEND		
Brick Walkway		Amphitheater
Concrete Walkway		Restrooms
Hiking Trail		Blue Bird Shelter
Entrance Drive		Carya Shelter



### TOURS AND PROGRAMS

Oak View accepts reservations for guided tours for history lovers of all ages, as well as curriculum-based cultural education programs for elementary school-aged students. There are also a variety of free self-guided activities available. Ask any staff member or visit our website for more information about Oak View's programmatic offerings and fees.



### SPECIAL EVENTS

Each year, about 10,000 visitors come to Oak View for special events. Highlights include Heritage Day in October and Sleigh Rides and Cider in December. For a calendar of events, please visit our website.



### RECREATION

A day at Oak View offers visitors an opportunity to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of the site. Picnicking, visiting the orchards and gardens, fishing in the farm ponds (NC Freshwater Fishing Regulations apply), hiking the trails, or strolling the grounds are popular activities. Oak View also has two shelters that are available for public rentals.

# HISTORIC OAK VIEW COUNTY PARK