



# April-June 2020 Programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park

Please register for programs at Historic Yates Mill. Call the park office at (919) 856-6675, or go to our website at [www.wakegov.com/parks/yatesmill](http://www.wakegov.com/parks/yatesmill) for registration or for more information on our programs. Register ONLINE for programs: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/wakeparks>

## Public Mill Tours

Funds raised through mill tours go to Yates Mill Associates ([www.yatesmill.org](http://www.yatesmill.org)) to support mill maintenance & operations. Preregistration is encouraged. Tickets available in the Center.

### Saturdays at the Old Mill Tours

Saturdays, April 4, 11 & 25, May 2, 9, 23 & 30, and June 6, 13 & 27; 1–3 p.m.

Want to get inside Historic Yates Mill? Join us for a half-hour tour (starting at 1, 1:30, 2, 2:30 or 3 p.m.) to view the main power drive and milling machinery while exploring the mill's history and aspects of its preservation. For all ages; fee: \$5/Adult, \$4/Senior (ages 60+), \$3/Child (ages 7-16), Children ages 6 and under are free. Preregistration is encouraged. Tickets are available inside the park's visitor center.



### Mill Heritage and Local History Tours

Sundays, April 5, 12 & 26, May 3, 10, 24 & 31, and June 7, 14 & 28; 2–3 p.m.

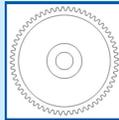
Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day) and Wednesday, June 3; 2–3 p.m.

Discover Historic Yates Mill - a place of business, community, and exciting local history! Watch a brief slideshow, then explore the inner workings of the mill itself and witness the power of water as it turns the milling machinery. Fee: \$5/Adult, \$4/Senior (ages 60+), \$3/Child (ages 7-16), Children ages 6 and under are free. Preregistration is encouraged.

### History Detective Mill Tour

Thursday, May 28; 11 a.m. – Noon

Do you have what it takes to be a History Detective? Come to Yates Mill and find out! Solve puzzles, hunt for clues and investigate the mystery of milling with real historical artifacts inside the only remaining water-powered gristmill in Wake County. For all ages; fee: \$5/Adult, \$4/Senior (ages 60+) and \$3/Child (ages 16 & under). Registration is required. Bundle this tour with the Field School Day program taking place from 10–11 a.m. for the ultimate program experience.



## Corn Milling Demonstrations

Yates Mill's corn grinding operation is demonstrated on the third weekend of each month, March–November, and can be viewed by taking a half-hour tour with a costumed guide.

### Costumed Corn Grinding Tours

Saturdays, April 18, May 16 & June 20; 10 a.m. – noon and 1–4 p.m.

Sundays, April 19, May 17 & June 21; 1–4 p.m.

It's 1863 at Yates Mill, and the yard is alive with activity! Step back in time with our 19<sup>th</sup>-century costumed interpreters and watch the millstones at work grinding corn into meal. Tour fee: \$5/Adult, \$4/Senior (ages 60 & over), \$3/Child (ages 7-16), Children ages 6 & under are free. Preregistration is encouraged. Tours are not available between Noon-1 p.m. and the last tour of the day begins at 3:40 p.m. Tickets are available at the Mill.

Yates Mill merchandise is for sale during corn grinding weekends, while stone-ground cornmeal and postcards are available daily in the park center.

## Volunteer Opportunity

### Volunteer Interest Session

Saturday, June 6; 11 a.m. – Noon

Do you like history, the environment, agriculture, and/or the arts? Consider volunteering at Yates Mill! Join us anytime during the program time to gather information about the exciting ways you can lend a hand. Registration is not required. Call our volunteer coordinator at (919) 856-5378 for details.



## Special Full Mill Tour

### Tip Top to Bottom: A Mill Technology Tour

Saturday, April 4; 10 a.m. – Noon

Opportunities to explore all 4 levels of the mill don't happen often! Learn the history of milling in North Carolina, test your mill trivia, and discover what interesting machinery is preserved throughout the old mill. Be prepared to climb a lot of stairs! For ages 10 and up; fee: \$10/Adult, \$8/Senior (ages 60+) and \$6/Child (ages 10-16). Registration is required – please sign up early as space on this special tour is limited.



[www.facebook.com/yatesmill](http://www.facebook.com/yatesmill)



[/wakegovparks](https://twitter.com/wakegovparks)



[@wakegovparks](https://www.instagram.com/wakegovparks)  
[#YatesMill](https://www.instagram.com/yatesmill)

# Quarter Year Programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park continued



## Special Events

### **The Ross L. Andrews Nature Poetry Contest**

*Entries due March 31*

*Award Ceremony April 24 at the Park*

Ross Andrews was a young environmental educator who found that poetry was the path to express his passion for the beauty, wonder, awe and/or intimacy that one experiences with the natural world. In honor of Ross, the Center for Human-Earth Restoration has chosen to remember him with an annual Nature Poetry contest. The contest will have five categories: Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, and Adult with monetary awards for each category winner.

Details: [www.centerforhuman-earthrestoration.com/poetry-contest.html](http://www.centerforhuman-earthrestoration.com/poetry-contest.html)

### **NC State University's Farm Animal Days**

*Wednesday-Friday, April 22-24; 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.*

Farm Animal Days gives children a chance to see and touch farm animals and learn about agriculture; tractors will also be on display and there will be a Yates Mill park exhibit. The



event is designed for school field trips but families and individuals are welcome to attend. The event takes place at NC State University's Beef Educational Unit at 4505 Mid Pines Rd. (2 miles south of I-40).

For more information, visit  
<https://youthlivestock.ces.ncsu.edu/farm-animal-days/>

## A Side of History

### **Celebrating Arbor Day**

*Monday, April 20, 11 a.m. – Noon*

Discover the history behind this special day; learn about the importance of trees; explore some of the threats that trees are facing from invasive bugs and diseases; and take a short walk to see some notable trees in the park. Then



hear the story of the longleaf pines that that once dominated North Carolina's Coastal Plain and southern Piedmont, and make a tree-related craft to take home! For ages 7 & up; FREE. Registration is required for all family members, and children must have adult accompaniment.

## Park Tales

*For all ages; FREE. Registration is required. Please note: ALL family members (children and adults) must register for this program and children must have adult accompaniment.*

### **Otters Love to Play**

*Friday, April 17; 11 a.m. – Noon*



It is spring and a litter of baby River Otters emerges from a den to play! Follow the otters through the seasons as they chase one another, slide down mud banks, and learn to swim. Join us for "Otters Love to Play" by Jonathan

London, learn some facts about otters, and make a cute otter craft to take home!

### **The Bugliest Bug**

*Wednesday, May 20; 11 a.m. - Noon*

Join a naturalist on World Bee Day for the reading of "The Bugliest Bug," a children's book about the variety of bugs in our world. Then head outdoors to look down on the ground for bugs that dwell in the leaf litter and up in the sky to see who else we might meet. This program will cover safe practices when observing insects and strategies for observation of small things.



### **Mouse and Lion**

*Tuesday, June 16, 11 a.m. - Noon*

Mouse and Lion, Aesop's fabled duo, renew their ancient bond in this warm retelling by Rand Burkert and Ekholm Burkert's illustrations. A lion threatens a mouse that wakes him and the mouse begs forgiveness. The lion agrees and sets the mouse free. Later when the lion is in trouble, the mouse helps it out, remembering the mercy it had received. Join us to listen to this iconic and ancient story, learn the history of Aesop's fables, and take home a neat craft!

## Art in the Park

### **Summer Blooms at Yates Mill Pond**

*Friday-Monday, May 1-5*

*Anytime between 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

Get inspired by the natural beauty of the park and contribute to a community art project celebrating the spring season of flowers. Head to the Finley Center to make a few paper flowers and help to decorate the center with them. For all ages; FREE. Registration is not required. Children must have adult accompaniment.





# April-June 2020 Programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park continued

## Discovery Tables

**FREE! Registration is not required. For all ages!**  
Head to the park center exhibit hall anytime  
between 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Going Green

*Wednesday-Sunday, April 22-26*

Celebrate Earth Day by coming to the park to learn fun facts about our blue planet, tips on how to reduce your ecological footprint, and how you can reduce waste. Take the Earth Day pledge and make a colorful Earth Bracelet to take home. Then go on a self-guided treasure hunt hike around the millpond to search for “gold coins” that contain earth-friendly helpful hints.



### Incredible Insects

*Wednesday-Monday, May 20-25*

The summer heat is back, and so are the insects! Join us in the Finley Center exhibit hall to explore the diverse world of insects and do a fun insect-themed craft. Learn about bees, butterflies, dragonflies, lady beetles, and other insect friends! Learn cool bug facts and go on a self-guided scavenger hunt to observe insects in nature.



### The Longest Summer Day

*Friday-Sunday, June 19-21*

Every year on June 21, we enjoy the most hours of sunlight during the whole year. Discover the science and cultural celebrations behind this special summer day.

Make a pretty suncatcher to hang in your window. For all ages; FREE. Registration is not required. Head to the park center exhibit hall.



## Natural Explorations

**For all ages; FREE. Registration is required for all family members, and children must have adult accompaniment.**

### Interview with a Wildflower

*Wednesday, April 29; 2–3:30 p.m.*

Get ready for May Day by joining a naturalist for a wildflower study in the park. We will bring field guides and discover plants and their relationships through guided observation and discovery. We will observe and record the findings we see in quiet observation of plants in their habitats. This program is great for family groups (young children are welcome, but they will need a guiding parent for our activity), or solo folks alike.



### Nature Journaling

*Monday, May 4; 2–3:30 p.m.*

Notable scientists, naturalists, and philosophers such as Charles Darwin, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, and John Muir kept journals of their observations, poems, and discoveries. Many of their famous literary works and observations were published from their journals. Explore techniques you can use to record your own observations of nature in a journal as we head outdoors to experience learning in a new way.



### Leaf it to the Trees

*Friday, June 5; 2–3:30 p.m.*

Join a park naturalist on World Environment Day for a field study on trees and their identification methods. We will hike in the park and practice following clues that guide us to identification. Together we will discover where trees thrive and also have conversations about habitat, placement, and forest creation.

## Historic Trades

**For all ages; FREE. Registration is not required.**

### The Country Doctor

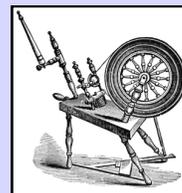
*Saturday, April 18; 1–4 p.m.*

The term “country doctor” may call a horse and buggy to mind. But handling a horse was just one of a rural doctor’s many needed skills. They were called upon to practice dentistry, dispense prescriptions, and deliver babies! Explore the stories of early country doctors and see a variety of fascinating artifacts with our guests from the Country Doctor Museum. Located in Bailey, NC, the museum is dedicated to sharing the history of America’s rural health care.

### Hand Spinners

*Saturday, May 16; 1–4 p.m.*

Explore the traditional craftsmanship of hand spinning and discover how this trade supports the use of unique fibers and the production of beautiful textiles. Delve into some of the raw materials, tools, and creative processes that have been used and see a member of the Twisted Threads Fiber Guild spin yarn on a wheel!



### Dairy Farmers

*Saturday, June 20, 1–4 p.m.*

Dairy farmers work hard to bring fresh and wholesome milk products to market. Have an “udderly” fun time with NC State University’s Dairy Enterprise System, who own the cows that are located near the park off Lake Wheeler Road. Learn about cows, explore different cow breeds, and hear what life is like on a dairy farm today as compared to in the past. Also explore how milk is made into butter, cheese, and other yummy products.

# Quarter Year Programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park continued



## Recreational Adventures

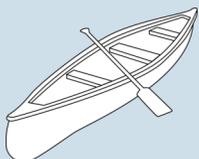
**FREE!** Registration is required for all family members, and children must have adult accompaniment.

### **Paddle the Pond**

Saturdays, April 25, May 23 and June 27  
11 a.m. – Noon

Learn basic canoeing skills and a bit about the history of the millpond, then head out to explore the pond's many features as seen only from the water.

Canoes, paddles, and life jackets are provided, along with launch assistance. This program is dependent on suitable weather conditions. For ages 5 and up (with an accompanying adult). Each canoe can hold 1-4 people (800-pound total weight limit). Registration PER BOAT is required. You do not need to register every person that will be canoeing.

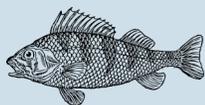


### **National Go Fishing Day**

Thursday, June 18

Session 1: 9–9:45 a.m.; Session 2: 10–10:45 a.m.

Come out to the millpond and fish the old-fashioned way - we'll provide you with a cane pole, tackle, and bait, along with basic instructions and assistance with identifying fish species. You'll need to bring your own luck and patience! For ages 5 & up.



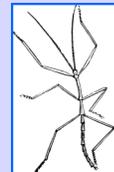
## Field School for Kids

**FREE!** Registration is required. These are drop-off programs for kids ages 7-14, but adults are welcome to stay.

### **Nature's April Fools & Animal Adaptations**

Wednesday, April 1; 10:30 a.m. – Noon

When is a stick not a stick? (When it is a caterpillar that looks like a twig.) Many plants and animals play tricks on each other – they look or act like something other than what they really are. Join this guided hike to see if they can fool you and explore the crazy ways that animals have adapted to their surroundings!



### **Simple Machines and Power Trains**

Thursday, May 28; 10–11 a.m.

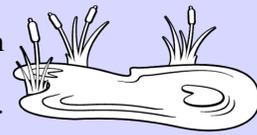
Explore the simple machines that are employed in Yates Mill that help to efficiently get work done, including the wheel and axle, gears, pulleys, screws, inclined planes, wedges, and levers. Explore each type through fun, self-guided stations. Note that a History Detective Mill Tour is offered from 11 a.m. to Noon—we encourage you to sign up for it for the ultimate program experience.



### **Wetlands and Watersheds**

Monday, June 8; 10:30 a.m. – Noon

Everyone lives in a watershed and everything flows downstream. Watersheds are areas that drain to a common waterway such as a stream, lake, or wetland and eventually to the ocean. Explore Yates Mill Pond's watershed and the importance of wetlands to wildlife and humans by taking a short hike and discover how your own actions can affect the health of the environment.



#### DISCOVER NATURE!



Natural Resources Inventory Database

The Wake County Natural Resources Inventory Database is a compilation of wildlife and plant observations recorded at Wake County parks and preserves. Anyone can use it – whether you are a birdwatcher, teacher, student, citizen scientist, or just curious about nature – to:

- ~Explore data and photos;
- ~Print checklists; and
- ~Discover fun facts about species found here.

<http://nridwake.com/nrid/public.php>

## Yates by Night

### **Mysterious Lives of Lightning Bugs**

Friday, June 12; 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Learn about the firefly's life cycle and discover what makes a lightning bug glow, as well as what species are found in the Raleigh area and how to identify them by their flashes. Weather permitting, the program will move outside so that participants will be able to observe fireflies in action and try to communicate with each other using firefly code. For ages 5 & up (adult accompaniment required for all children); FREE. Registration required.

## Volunteer Opportunity

### **Volunteer Garden and Trail Work**

Scheduled as needed; please call the park for details. We could use your help preparing the park's gardens and plant beds for spring growth and assisting with the upkeep and enhancement of our wildflower plots and hiking trails. We hope you will consider volunteering in this way, which helps to beautify the park and educate the public. Our volunteer coordinator can be reached at (919) 856-5378.





# Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

## Public Program Registration Form

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS.**

Park  
Location:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Completely fill out, print & sign this form, then mail or drop off the form & payment at the park where the program(s) takes place.**

Participant(s) First Name  Last Name

Gender  Date of Birth (xx/xx/xxxx)  Parent Name (if participant is under 18)

Names & Birthdates of Participating Family

Residential Address: Street

City  State  Zip Code

Phone (Home)  Phone (Mobile)  Phone (Work)

Email Address  Role in Family

Emergency Contact  Relation  Emerg. Phone No.

I would like to be added to the e-Newsletter for this park—please respond with "YES", "NO" or "I'm already on it".

How did you find out about these programs?

PROGRAM TITLE	DATE	TIME	FEE	PAYMENT <i>(staff use only)</i>		
				Checks should be made out to: "Wake County Parks"		
				Cash \$	_____	
				Check \$	_____	Check # _____ Date _____

**WAIVER:** I, for myself or as a parent or guardian, hereby assume all of the risks and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activities and transportation to and from the activities. I release, absolve and indemnify Wake County, employees of the County, volunteers, contractors and/or sponsors from all risks and hazards associated with the activities and in the event of an injury, do expressly waive all claims against them. I understand that no insurance coverage is provided by Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space. *I further release all copyrights for photos taken during said programs that may or may not have myself or my child(ren) published in future educational or promotional materials. All attempts will be made to contact individuals prior to releasing any names either in print or otherwise.*

**REFUND POLICY:** Class fees are 100% refundable when the class is cancelled by park staff. Anyone wishing to withdraw from a class that has not been cancelled by park staff must request a refund, in writing, at least one week before the scheduled start of the class. Refunds will not be given for withdrawals made less than the one-week period, other than for verified medical/hardship cases.

**I agree to this waiver and refund policy.** \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE DATE

Wake County park programs are provided for people of all abilities. If you need a reasonable modification, please indicate so here: \_\_\_\_\_ Requests are accommodated in compliance with ADA regulations.

Visit [www.wakegov.com/parks](http://www.wakegov.com/parks) to sign up for email updates regarding future programs and events at all of the County Parks!