

Wake County Parks,
Recreation and Open Space
PO Box 550, Suite 1000
Raleigh, NC 27602
(919) 856-6679

American Tobacco Trail County Park
2112 County Park Drive
New Hill, NC 27562
(919) 387-2117

Blue Jay Point County Park
3200 Pleasant Union Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
(919) 870-4330

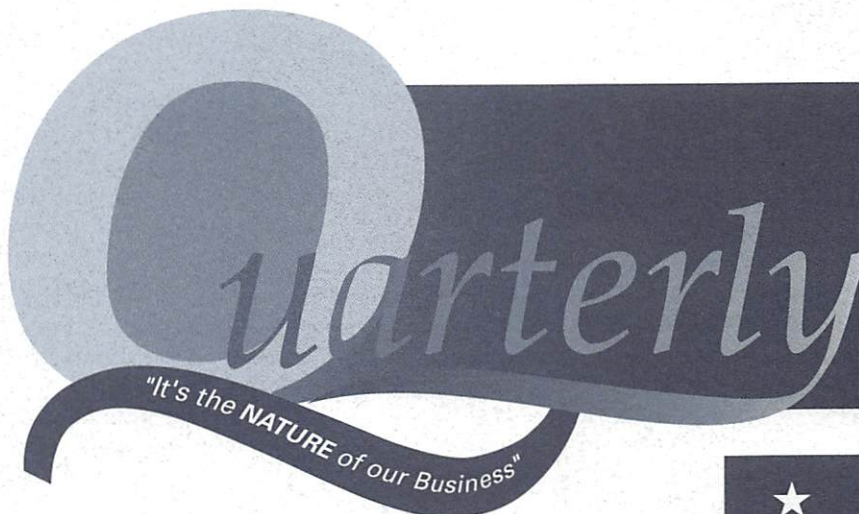
Crowder District Park
4709 Ten-Ten Road
Apex, NC 27539
(919) 662-2850

Harris Lake County Park
2112 County Park Drive
New Hill, NC 27562
(919) 387-4342

Historic Oak View County Park
4028 Carya Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610
(919) 250-1013

Historic Yates Mill County Park
4620 Lake Wheeler Rd
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 856-6675

Lake Crabtree County Park
1400 Aviation Parkway
Morrisville, NC 27560
(919) 460-3390



PLEASE help us update our mailing list.

If you would like to be added to our mail or e-mail list, please see information on page 11-12 in this newsletter to get your name and address back to us as requested. **THANK YOU!**

Mark your Calendars!

Schnoكتوبرfest – October 14

Lake Crabtree County Park, (919) 460-3390

Haunting at Harris – October 21

Harris Lake County Park, (919) 387-4342

Howl-O-Ween – October 28

Crowder District Park, (919) 662-2850

Night Owls and Candle Magic – November 18

Blue Jay Point County Park, (919) 870-4330

History of The ATT – November 25

American Tobacco Trail County Park, (919) 387-2117

Holidays Candlelight Tour – December 9

Historic Oak View County Park, (919) 250-1013

Guided Mill Technology Tours – Weekdays, by appt.

Historic Yates Mill County Park, (919) 856-6675

Please help us!

See page 11-12 to ensure that you continue to receive the most current Quarterly newsletter via e-mail reminders. You will then have the option of downloading the file to your computer, or picking up a copy at your favorite Wake County Park or Wake County Library. This change is necessary to save distribution costs.

Thank you to the many supporters who have already contacted us to update their information. We'll be in touch!

Fall
Equinox
2006

WAKE COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Chill out this fall ...

All park programs and events begin on page 2.

page 2

So much to do and learn right in your backyard (so-to-speak). Wake County Parks are conveniently located throughout the county. www.wakegov.com

BACK PAGE

A note from the director of Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space



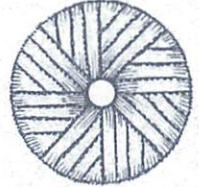
HISTORIC YATES MILL COUNTY PARK

Please pre-register for programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park.
Call the park office at (919) 856-6675, or go to the website at www.wake.gov.com/parks/yatesmill,
for registration or for more information on our programs.

Corn Grinding Tours

Saturday, October 14 and November 18, 2006 10am-4pm
Sunday, October 15 and November 19, 2006 1-4pm

Step back in time at Yates Mill and experience first hand the traditional way that corn was ground into meal, and wheat into flour, using waterpower, simple machines, and large millstones. See the corn milling machinery in operation and listen to costumed interpreters explain how the "gristmill" works. These half-hour tours are first-come first-serve. Reservations may be made in advance and on the day of the tour, if space is still available. There is a maximum of 15 visitors per tour. A registration fee is required (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children age 16 and under, and \$3 for seniors age 60 and over).*



Mill Heritage Tours

WEEKEND TOURS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Saturday, October 7, 21, 28 and November 4 & 11, 2006 starting at 2pm
Sunday, October 8, 22, 29 and November 5 & 12, 2006 starting at 2pm



Spend an hour delving into Historic Yates Mill's business and social history. View a short presentation on the mill's owners and operations in the Finley Center auditorium, then head down to the old mill for a guided tour. Volunteer interpreters will guide visitors through the first floor of the fully restored mill and show how power is transferred from the mill's waterwheel to its grist-milling machinery. These tours are first-come, first-serve. Reservations may be made in advance and on the day of the tour, if space is still available. A registration fee is required (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children age 16 and under, and \$3 for seniors age 60 and over).* There is a maximum of 15 participants per tour.

WEEKDAY TOURS FOR ORGANIZED GROUPS

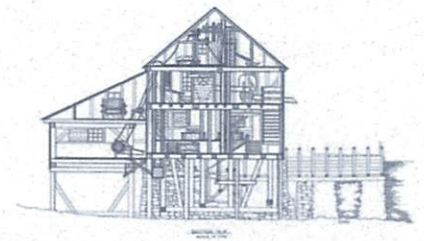
Wednesdays, October through November, 2006 starting at 2pm or 10am

Similar to the tours offered on the weekends, community groups may explore Yates Mill's history and operations by participating in a one to two-hour guided mill tour (tour length depends on the size of the group). After viewing a short presentation on the mill's owners and operations in the Finley Center auditorium, volunteer interpreters will guide visitors through the first floor of the fully restored gristmill and show how power is transferred from the mill's waterwheel to its grist-milling machinery. These tours are first-come, first-serve however reservations are required at least one week in advance. A \$5.00 registration fee per person is required.* A minimum of 10 participants and a \$50.00 deposit are required to reserve a tour time. There is a maximum of up to 30 participants per tour and one tour group per week.

Mill Technology Tours

Weekdays, October through November, 2006 (by appointment)

Explore how power is transferred from the mill's waterwheel to its grist-milling machinery by taking a one to two-hour guided mill tour (tour length depends on the size of the group). Volunteer interpreters will guide visitors through all four floors of the fully restored Yates Mill, demonstrate how power is transferred from the mill's waterwheel to its grist-milling machinery, and explore how Yates Mill's milling processes and other industries changed over time. These tours are first-come, first-serve however reservations are required at least one week in advance. A \$10.00 registration fee per person is required.* A minimum of 10 participants and a \$100.00 deposit are required to reserve a tour time. There is a maximum of up to 20 participants per tour and one tour group per week.



*All funds raised through mill tours are used to support Yates Mill's ongoing maintenance and operations.

HISTORIC YATES MILL PROGRAMS

Please pre-register for programs at Historic Yates Mill County Park.
Call the park office at (919)856-6675 for registration or for more information on our programs.



Seasonal Celebrations

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT HIKE

Saturday, October 28, 2006 8-9pm

The woods around Yates Mill Pond are anything but quiet after dark! Join a park naturalist to explore the many creatures that haunt the night. Participants will learn to fine-tune their senses to identify the Creatures of the Night. Hot cider will be served at the end of the program in the Finley Center Lobby. The program is FREE. There is a limit of 15 participants and pre-registration is required.



WINTER TALES AND STORY-TELLING

Saturday, December 16, 2006 1-4pm

"When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock", come out to Yates Mill Pond to hear mill tales and stories about the surrounding community. Local residents and storytellers will enlighten, entertain, and engage the participating listener. The program will take place in the Finley Center Auditorium and is FREE. There is a limit of 30 participants per hour and pre-registration is required.

Natural Explorations



NATURAL COLORS OF FALL

Saturday, October 7, 2006 9-11am

Ever wonder why Mother Nature puts on such a display of colors in the fall? Come out to the millpond and join the park naturalist as we explore this amazing yearly event. Discover what these colors tell us about the weather, the environment, and the upcoming winter season, among other fascinating natural wonders. The program is FREE. There is a limit of 20 participants and pre-registration is required. Come prepared for winter weather, including proper footwear.

WINTER WILDLIFE

Saturday, November 4, 2006 9-11am

As winter approaches, take out your sweater and wool socks and join park staff for a brisk look at some new arrivals to the pond and surrounding areas. Participants will look for, and learn about, several species of winter wildlife that make Yates Mill Pond their temporary winter home. The program is FREE. There is a limit of 20 participants and pre-registration is required. Come prepared for winter weather, including proper footwear.

107th ANNUAL AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD COUNT

Saturday, December 16, 2006 7am-Noon

Join Naturalist John Connors of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and members of the Wake Audubon Society for the annual winter bird count at Yates Mill Pond. Many reoccurring and some rare winter migrants have been counted. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars and field guides. The program is FREE. Pre-registration is not required but those interested in participating should call the park office to find out where to meet. Come prepared for winter weather, including proper footwear.

Paddle the Pond

WILD FOWL ON THE WATER

Saturday, December 9, 2006 10am-1pm

The best way to observe and study Yates Mill Pond waterfowl is from the water. Join the park naturalist as we paddle and observe Yates Mill Pond's wild waterfowl. This program will require the use of park canoes. Prior canoeing experience is requested but not required. All safety equipment is furnished. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars and field guides. A \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per boat pre-registration fee is required. Please note that this program will be cancelled if the air temperature is less than 50 degrees Fahrenheit.





CROWDER DISTRICT PARK PROGRAMS

**Pre-registration is required for programs at Crowder District Park.
Payment must be received within one week of registration. Call the park office at (919) 662-2850
for registration or for more information on our programs or volunteer opportunities.**

Nature Watchers

Register early for this popular children's nature series. Nature Watcher programs may include stories, hands on nature related activities, crafts or snacks. Parents, please come ready to actively participate with your child. Meet on the upper pavilion deck. Age: 3-5 years.

Fee: \$4/child/program or all 3 programs for \$10.

Nature's Hide and Seek

Tuesday, October 10; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Wednesday October 11; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Nature plays the best hide and seek game of all. Most animals use camouflage for their first line of defense. Learn when and how they hide and see if you can find the animals in our camouflage game.

Talkin' Turkey

Wednesday, November 15; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Thursday, November 15; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Wild Turkeys are smart and beautiful birds. Most people only know their cousin, the domesticated turkey, sitting on their Thanksgiving table. Come learn about the life of the wild turkey and make a turkey track.

Evergreen Trees

Tuesday, December 12; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Wednesday, December 13; 10-11am or 1-2pm

Some trees do not lose their leaves in winter. These trees are important to the wildlife that stay awake through the winter when other animals go to sleep. Meet some of our more familiar evergreens and take an evergreen home to plant in your yard.

Weekend Fun

These active programs are designed for families and individuals to enjoy. Fee: \$5/family or \$3/person, each program lists the minimum age.

Night Exploration

Saturday, November 18, 5:30-7pm, no minimum age

Bring a blanket and a flashlight, and come enjoy an evening of star gazing and night hiking. Create your own star chart and enjoy a hot beverage and snack.

Compass Fun

Saturday, December 16; 1-3pm, minimum age is 6 years old

Learn to get from here to there using only a compass. When you have mastered your compass skills, we'll send you on a treasure hunt to find the key to unlock the Treasure Chest. Great for beginners!

Crowder District Park's Email List

Join the Crowder's Friends email list to receive information on programs and volunteer opportunities happening at Crowder Park. Send your name and email address (phone # is optional) to: crowderdistrictpark@co.wake.nc.us

Get Ready for Howl-o-ween!

Saturday, October 28, 10 am – 3 pm

All ages are welcome – All activities are free

Registration is not required.

Join us for our annual celebration of man's best friend – the dog! We'll have lots of fun with fall themed games and crafts, canine tips from local experts, and a costume contest for kids and pooches!

Donations of dog food and related items will be collected for a local animal shelter.

Food vendors will be on site to satisfy your thirst and hunger.

For more information or to volunteer at this event, please call the Asst. Park Manager at 662-2852.



HARRIS LAKE PROGRAMS

Come visit us and take in a program all on the same day!
Programs offered at Harris Lake require pre-registration at least two days prior to program date.
Please call (919) 387-4342 for registration.



Haunting at Harris: Halloween Town!

Saturday, October 21, 4pm-7pm

Come dressed in your Halloween best and meet at the Longleaf shelter where haunting games (umpkin carving and other creepy activities await you. Expect the unexpected on our haunted hayride through the woods to a place we like to call Halloween Town!
Meet at the Longleaf Shelter. Free Event!



Tuesday Teasers

Family Programs geared toward ages 5+

Get a little taste of nature and learn with your kids about specific nature topics during these monthly Tuesday programs. These programs are designed to be interactive and some may include a short hike. All programs are \$2/person or \$5/family.

Migration and Adaptations

October 3rd, 11am-Noon

Migrate, stay or wait. Learn why and when birds migrate and discover the challenges they face during migration. Meet at the Cypress Shelter.

In Search of the Red Eft

November 7th, 1-2pm

These small secretive amphibians can be found bravely crossing the roads of Harris Lake County Park. Learn about the life of an eft from newt to adulthood. Meet at the Amphitheater.

A Wood Duck's World

December 5th, 2-3pm

What would it be like to be a wood duck at Harris Lake? Learn about wood ducks as we check a few man-made homes. Meet at the Amphitheater.

Wild Wednesdays

Family Programs geared for ages 7+

Get interactive as you explore the "wild" side of the woods during these Wednesday programs. Nature hikes and creative activities will aid your nature discovery while having fun at the same time. All programs are \$2/person or \$5/family.

Web Weaver

October 18th, 2-3pm

These eight-legged creatures are spinning, jumping, and fishing out of control! Learn more about these arachnids, while making a spider to take home. Meet at the Amphitheater.

Cavity Creators

November 15th, 2-3pm

Join in on a hike to discover how some of these wonderful woodpeckers make their home, find food and fend off predators. Make a special treat to take home! Meet at the Loblolly Shelter.

Salamander Search

December 13th, 2-3pm

The search is on for these cold-blooded critters. Discover the habitat they call home as we explore their winter hiding places. Meet at the Cypress Shelter.



HARRIS LAKE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

Programs offered at Harris Lake require pre-registration at least two days prior to program date.
Please call (919) 387-4342 for registration.

Family Programs

Big Sweep

Saturday, October 7th
9am-Noon

Meet at the Peninsula Trail Head for supply distribution. This would be a great scout group service project! Please register to volunteer before Oct. 1st in order for us to have enough supplies available. Snacks will be provided for volunteers! Free!

Evening Exploration

Friday, October 13th, 6:30-7:30pm
\$2/person or \$5/family

Enjoy an evening listening to the sounds of nocturnal nature. Explore the lives of some of our most familiar nighttime critters. A hike will take us into the woods to begin our search of deer grazing and to hear the calls of owls along our way. Meet at the Loblolly Shelter.

Finally Fall

Saturday, November 11th, 2-3pm
\$2/person or \$5/family

Enjoy some pine needle tea as you enjoy a guided hike viewing the colors of Fall. Discover what trees and wildlife do to prepare for the cold winter months ahead. Meet at the Loblolly Shelter.

Orient with Nature

Sunday, November 5th, 2-4pm
\$3/person or \$7/family

Get to know nature as you orienteer your way through sections of Harris Lake County Park. Collect clues and nature facts along the way. Brief lesson on orienteering to help get you started. Collect a prize when you complete your nature quest. Compasses will be provided. Meet at the Longleaf Shelter.

Sunday Fall Family Hayrides

October 29th, 2pm and 3pm
November 12th, 2pm and 3pm
November 19th, 2pm and 3pm

Enjoy a hayride experience to some of the most special places found within this 700 acre Peninsula Park. Learn about the woods, wildlife and more. Meet near the playground parking lot. Fee: \$2/person or \$4/family

Gifts by Nature

Sunday, December 3rd, 2-3:30pm
\$5/person

Get crafty for the holidays as we make wonderful items out of natural materials for decoration and presents for family and friends. Class will focus on wreath making and natural soaps. Meet at the Park Office.

Waterfowl Walk

Sunday, December 10th, 9-10am
\$2/person or \$5/family

Enjoy a cup of hot cocoa as we take a winter stroll to do some waterfowl viewing. Meet at the Peninsula Trail Head.

- Park After Dark -

Join in on any of these activities, while the park stays open a little longer after sunset! Some activities will be staff-led and others will be on your own, but just make sure you check your watch and remember what time the park gates close! Registration is required for the Astronomy and the Owls on the Prowl programs.

•*Astronomy in the Park*• Friday, November 17, 6:30-8:30pm

Guided by experts in observational astronomy, you will be treated to incredible views of our galaxy and beyond. FREE for the whole family! Meet at the overflow parking lot. Program is weather/cloud dependent, so please call 387-4342 after 2pm on day of program for any cancellation information.

•No "white-light" flashlights, but you can bring red-light flashlights. Mosquito repellent is advised. For specific questions concerning the program, please contact the program guide by e-mail at Vega1@VegaDesigns.com

Evening Fishing

Friday, November 17, until 8:30pm

Here's your chance to stay late and catch those fish that are just beginning to bite! Bring your own equipment and bait and try your luck at the fishing pier or pond! Be aware of Park after Dark closing time.

Owls on the Prowl

Friday, November 17, 6:30-7:30pm
\$2/person or \$5/family of 4

Explore the life of an owl as we hike a portion of the peninsula trail to sight or hear a sound of some of the park's most common nocturnal critters. Meet at the Longleaf Shelter.

AMERICAN TOBACCO TRAIL PROGRAMS

Advance registration is required for all programs.
Please call the park office at (919) 387-2117, and we'll get you registered!



ATT Programs

Fall Colors

Saturday, October 28, 10-11am

What better place to bring you and your family to the American Tobacco Trail to experience the changing of the leaves and to learn why this change takes place. Learn the science behind the leaf colors and enjoy making crafts from the different tree species.

Meet at the New Hill-Olive Chapel parking lot.

\$2 / person or \$5 / family, for all ages

History of The American Tobacco Trail

Saturday, November 25, 10-11am

Come and join us as we learn about the historical significance of the American Tobacco Trail and its early beginnings. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to walk 300 yards to see the old railroad corridor. We will meet at the New Hill parking lot.

Bike Trail Ride

Saturday, November 4, 10-11am

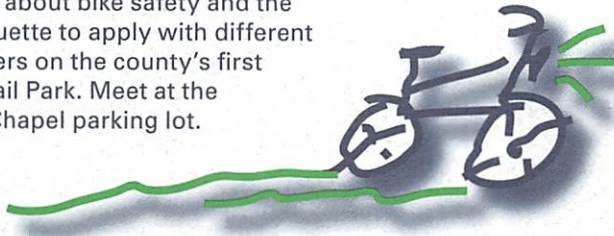
Bring your bike to the ATT for a 2-mile trail ride.

You'll also learn about bike safety and the proper trail etiquette to apply with different types of trail users on the county's first and only Rail Trail Park. Meet at the New Hill-Olive Chapel parking lot.

\$2 / person or

\$5 / family,

for ages 6+



Birds of Prey

Saturday, December 16, 10-11am

Have you ever wondered why birds of prey are such good flyers and hunters? Come learn about birds of prey and their adaptations for survival. You will have the chance to see a Red Tailed Hawk and a few other birds of prey up close and personal. We will meet at the New Hill trailhead parking facility.

Busy Beaver Basics 101

Saturday, December 2, 10-11am

Did you ever wonder what Beavers are good for? Water quality, species diversification, and ecological enhancement, to name a few are benefits of the North American Beaver. Meet at the New Hill parking area to talk about these benefits and to gander at a real Beaver.

The American Tobacco Trail is nearly finished (really)!

We are currently underway with the development of the last mile section of the trail. We are building out the final phase of the trail bringing the total mileage for the Wake County portion of the trail to 6.5 miles up to the Wake and Chatham County border. During this trail construction phase it is imperative to stay off the trail for your own safety.

Chatham County is also in the planning stages of their 4.6-mile section of trail. The big items for Chatham County are two; almost 200-foot long bridges over Northeast and Panther creeks that need to be constructed to make Chatham's 4.6-mile section passable. Durham County is currently in the planning stages to construct a signature pedestrian bridge similar to the one near Meredith College over the beltline. This bridge will be constructed over I40 in Durham near the streets of South point. This bridge is crucial for the completion of the Durham portion of the ATT. After the completion of this bridge, Durham County will lack only about 4 miles or so from completing their 11-mile long portion of the trail. When all of the counties sections are completed, the trail will be a total of 22 miles in length. One will enjoy starting out at the New Hill trail head in rural Wake County, traversing north through beautiful Chatham County and making it just in time to catch a Durham Bulls baseball game at the Durham Bulls athletic park in downtown Durham to finish out the day.



BLUE JAY POINT PROGRAMS

Spaces are limited and classes fill quickly. Please register soon for guaranteed fun. (919) 870-4330

Nature Stories!

Theme-related stories and activities for parent and child aged 3-5 years. Please make other arrangements for siblings! Fee: \$2/child/program.

Nature Colors and Shapes

Wednesday, October 11, 1-2pm *or*
Saturday, October 14, 10-11am

Mother Nature is dressed in an amazing array of colors and shapes. Let's go for a hike and see how many we can find!

Gobble Gobble!

Wednesday, November 8, 1-2pm *or*
Saturday, November 11, 10-11am

Join us as we strut down a woodland trail learning about that fantastic feathered fowl — the turkey!

Nature Neighbors

Wednesday, December 6, 1-2pm *or*
Saturday, December 9, 10-11am

Learn about the activities of our winter animal neighbors and make a special treat to invite them to your yard.

Nature Crafts!

This craft series for 6-8 year olds focuses on seasonal ideas and related crafts. \$7/participant/program.

Howl-o-ween

Saturday, October 21, 1-3pm

Learn all about the reintroduction of Red Wolves into the NC wilds and about the expansion of coyotes into NC territory. Print paw prints on a reusable treat bag to take home.

Getting Treed

Saturday, November 4, 1-3pm

Practice your tree ID on a wander through the fall woods, and then design a "leaf critter" out of pressed leaves to take home.

Winter Wildlife Wreaths

Saturday, December 9, 1-3pm

Learn how to attract winter wildlife to your backyard by providing or improving their habitat. Create a splendid outdoor wreath using a wide variety of foods that are beneficial to wildlife.

Nature Nuts!

Dare to try the new and unexpected! There will always be an environmental education or natural history component in each session of this series of programs for kids ages 9-12, but you'll have to see through the fun to know you are learning! \$5/participant, except for December's special expanded Nature Nuts session.

The Value of Water (is known when the well runs dry)

Saturday, October 21, 9-10:30am

Discover the importance of water to all life. Trace the sources of our drinking water and things that impact its quality. We will then hike to the creek to perform a habitat assessment, chemical tests, and a biotic survey to determine the health of the waterway.

Nature in the Balance

Saturday, November 11, 2-3:30pm

We'll take a look at natural and manmade environmental impacts at Blue Jay Point County Park. Diagnose the health of our forests, prescribe remedies, and then turn a critical eye toward your own habitats and behaviors!

Holiday Habitat Helpers

Saturday, December 16, 9am-Noon

Enjoy this special expanded Nature Nuts session as you learn what you can do to be a good winter "host" for small animals and birds. Decorate a tree for Blue Jay's winter resident birds and take home recipes and supplies to begin your own Winter Bird Tree. Lots of hands-on fun, snack included. Fee for expanded Nature Nuts session is \$10/participant.



Mark your Calendar now for
Blue Jay's Annual Winter Open House
February 3, 2007 2 - 4pm

Healthy Places, Healthy People



Working cooperatively with Wake County's Division of Environmental Health and Safety, Blue Jay's Winter Open House "Healthy Places, Healthy People" is a fun and informative look at what we can do for the environment and how the environment affects us. Learn about topics as diverse as restaurant inspections, indoor air quality, and the connection between frogs and a healthy environment. This is a great FREE winter Saturday outing for families, scout groups, and adults. For more information about Blue Jay's Winter Open House or to volunteer to help with the fun, call 870-4330. Look for updates on activities in the next Quarterly or on the website www.WakeGov.com (follow the links to parks/bluejay)

Eco-Kids A 3-day mini-camp for youngsters ages 4-5 in which they learn about a variety of topics through crafts, hikes, stories, snacks and other activities. Fee: \$25/child.

Amazing Autumn

October 16, 18 & 20, 1-3pm

Learn what trees and critters must do to get ready for winter. Participants will explore the multi-hued forest and fields as they discover what makes a tree change color, where all the birds go, and other autumnal mysteries.

Night Noises

November 13, 15 & 17, 1-3pm

Learn about the haunts and habits of nocturnal animals that are busy at night while you are asleep. Follow up this Eco-Kids by participating in Night Owls and Candle Magic on the evening of November 18th —you can bring the whole family!

Winter Wildlife Profiles

December 11, 13, & 15, 1-3pm

Discover what makes beaver, squirrel, and white-tailed deer so interesting. We will spend a day on each of these common mammals, learning their habitat requirements, their place in the food web, and the way they "make their living".

BLUE JAY POINT PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

Spaces are limited and classes fill quickly. Please register soon for guaranteed fun. (919)870-4330



KCC—Kids Conservation Corps

My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nine Hot Pizzas
Kids Conservation Corps

What?! Come find out what this means as you explore our home beyond the Earth—our Solar System! Examine the historical and current ideas of the make-up of the Solar System, sun, and moon. Learn about the Sun, the Earth, and the Moon, plus the other planets that make up our Solar System. Make crafts and play games to reinforce subject matter. Experiment with gravity, light, and gases as you explore the properties that make Earth different from all the other planets—livable! Take a break from planets to discover comets, asteroids, and stars, and spend an evening gazing at the luminous celestial bodies that surround us. Designed for children who are being home-

schooled, this program series for ages 6-8 will meet from 1-3pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, except for March 27th, which will be from 7-9pm. \$60/participant.

Kids Conservation Corps

Class Dates: January 9 & 23
February 10 & 24
March 13 & 27
April 10 & 24

KCC Grows Up!

Teen Conservation Corps: Naturalist Skills Series

Class Dates: 2nd Thursdays, 1-4pm *see attendance note below

October 12 **Autumn Phenology**

Phenology is the study of the annual cycles of plants and animals and how they respond to seasonal changes in their environment. Check out all the plant and animal changes spurred by shorter days and cooler temperatures as the natural world prepares for winter.

November 9 **Backyard Bird Buffet**

Birds have three main requirements in life—food, water and cover—which should be met through proper management of the backyard habitat. Bird feeders are used most frequently during the winter, when natural foods are in shortest supply. Learn how to create a veritable feast for the birds in your backyard as you mix up batches of bird delicacies. Make-and-take specialized feeders for different kinds of birds. Feeders will be made of recycled materials—a great beginning for an “America Recycles Day Bird Buffet” in your own backyard!

December 14 **Skullduggery**

The term “skullduggery” means “crafty deception or trickery”—well, there’s no deception in this class, but we’ll show you the craft and tricks of keying out mammal skulls through the use of dichotomous keys. Learn about the structure and function of various teeth, and discover how to relate skull and teeth adaptations to the daily lives of mammals.

* Designed for teens who are being homeschooled, this program series for ages 13-15 will meet from 1-4pm each session. Sessions will build on each other, yet can stand alone. Students may enroll in individual sessions at just \$15/session. NOTE: There will be an additional TCC Topics in early 2007. Check out the next Quarterly or look for updates on our website.

Announcing 2006-2007 Scout Saturdays at Blue Jay Point County Park

Blue Jay Point County Park provides an ideal setting for Scout groups to fulfill requirements for environmental and nature-oriented badges. Our trails, open areas, lake front, study pond, garden area and classrooms encourage Scouts to discover the world of nature through observation and investigation while learning the value of preservation and conservation. Blue Jay staff members provide informational sessions and guided hikes for Scout groups, as well as assistance to individuals earning special badges or completing service projects. Monthly themed programs especially for Scout groups are available on selected Saturdays. Some programs are “requirement-oriented” while others are “background-oriented,” enabling scouts to continue work on their own. Programs last 1 hour and cost \$25 for up to 15 Scouts. **Advance registration required**—call 870-4330 for space availability and specific topics covered for your particular Scout group. Additional service projects and learning opportunities under leader guidance are frequently available in conjunction with a specific Scout Saturday program.

October 14Forestry
November 18Wildlife
January 13Geology
February 17Eco-Action
March 17Plants
May 19Water



BLUE JAY POINT PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

Spaces are limited and classes fill quickly. Please register soon for guaranteed fun. (919) 870-4330

Get Ready for Big Sweep!

Saturday, October 7, 9am-noon

Join ranks to help clean up the Falls Lake shoreline around Blue Jay Point. Bring work gloves and a water bottle. Sunscreen, a hat and your favorite brand of insect repellent is recommended. Closed-toe shoes like old sneakers are a must! This is an excellent opportunity for individuals, families and youth groups to provide a great community service.

**Call 870-4330
to register now!**



Make a night of it!

Night Owls and Candle Magic

Saturday, November 18 7-9pm

Bring the "night owls" in your family to enjoy the magic of a stroll along our luminaria-lined trail as you learn about the late fall seasonal activities of our local owls. Enjoy hot cocoa and a lantern-lit craft project before you go home. FREE and for all ages--trail is stroller accessible. No dogs, please. Last "stroll" begins at 8:30 p.m. Perfect for Jr. Naturalist families!



The Sky's the Limit!

**Leonid Meteor Shower viewing opportunity
sponsored by the Raleigh Astronomy Club**

Saturday, November 18th 9pm-midnight

Astronomy viewing opportunity sponsored by the Raleigh Astronomy Club--see deep sky objects and take a look at Saturn during first part of evening--come between 11pm and midnight for the best chance at seeing the Leonid Meteor Shower! Poor viewing conditions will cancel--if in doubt, call the main park line at 870-4330 for a recorded message on the status of the event. No pre-registration is required, and this event is free and for all ages.

BLUE JAY POINT'S Family Wildlife Series—

for truly "wild" families!

For ages 5 and up unless otherwise specified. \$5/family

July

Fall Harvests

Saturday, Oct. 28 2-3:30pm

Join park staff for a forest hike to learn all about fall fruiting plants and trees, and all about who eats them. Finish up by carving a pumpkin to take home!

November

See Night Owls and Candle Magic for November's Family Wildlife Series offering for all ages (this particular program is FREE, and for all ages—great for Jr. Naturalist Challenge families!)

December

Treats for Tweets!

Saturday, December 16 2-3:30pm

Learn to ID a few common winter "feeder birds", and then make some yummy bird treats to take home.

Adult Workshops

Pre-registration is required for all programs.

Wilderness First Aid

Saturday and Sunday, October 28 & 29

A program of the Wilderness Safety Council, this 18-hour class includes classroom study, hands-on practice, and results in a 2-year certification. The cost is \$160. To register for this workshop, or for additional information, visit <http://wfa.net> or phone (703)836-8905.

PLT Workshop

Thursday, November 16 9am-4pm

Project Learning Tree is an award-winning, interdisciplinary environmental education program for educators working with students in Pre-K through grade 8. PLT helps students gain awareness and knowledge of the natural and built environment, their place within it, as well as their responsibility for it. PLT provides ready-made lessons and activities that can be incorporated into busy classrooms, nature centers, museums, and scout troops. The activities require minimal preparation and little, if any, equipment. Participants will meet at the Blue Jay Center for Environmental Education. Please bring a bag lunch and wear field clothing. Adult Workshop. FREE, but pre-registration required.

If you want to hear from us,

We need to hear from you immediately...

- To serve you better, Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space is updating and revamping our contact list of people who have an interest in our programs and initiatives.
- Your name may be on the mailing list for one or more of our parks, and we do not want to lose you.
- **IMPORTANT:** To stay on our mailing list, you **MUST** fill out this form and return it via mail or by fax. (failure to do this may result in your name NOT being on our mailing list).
- By filling out this form and returning it to us, you will be notified of upcoming events, reminded when a new Quarterly becomes available, and/or updated on special projects (indicate preferences on reverse side).
- To save paper and postage, we strongly encourage correspondence via e-mail.
- Please return this form immediately so that we may add you to our mailing list. Thank you.

We need to receive the requested information via mail: WC Parks, PO Box 550, Suite 1000, Raleigh, NC 27602
fax: (919) 856-6681

so this won't be your last Quarterly newsletter!

Return this form to us immediately to receive an e-mail reminder when the next Quarterly is available.

Advance Registration is required for all programs. Fill out the following information and mail form and payment to parks as necessary.

- American Tobacco Trail
- Blue Jay Point County Park
- Crowder District Park
- Harris Lake County Park
- Historic Yates Mill County Park
- Lake Crabtree County Park

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

Wake County Parks

MAIL TO APPROPRIATE PARK:

American Tobacco Trail
2112 County Park Drive
New Hill, NC 27562
Phone: (919) 387-2117

Blue Jay Point County Park
3200 Pleasant Union Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
Phone: (919) 870-4330

Crowder District Park
4709 Ten-Ten Road
Apex, NC 27502
Phone: (919) 662-2850

Harris Lake County Park
2112 County Park Drive
New Hill, NC 27562
Phone: (919) 387-4342

Historic Yates Mill County Park
4620 Lake Wheeler Road
Raleigh, NC 27603
Phone: (919) 856-6675

Lake Crabtree County Park
1400 Aviation Parkway
Morrisville, NC 27560
Phone: (919) 460-3390

(PLEASE PRINT. DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY TO REGISTER AT MORE THAN ONE PARK.)

Name _____ Date _____
LAST FIRST MI

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () () _____ Contact Person _____
HOME WORK or MOBILE

Parent's name (if child is under 18) _____ Child's Birthdate _____

CLASS TITLE DAY/TIME BEGINS/FEE

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

WAIVER: I, for myself or as parent or guardian, hereby assume all 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 injury, do expressly waive all claims against them. I understand that no insurance coverage is provided by Wake County Parks and Recreation. 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.

Signature _____ Date _____
(Sign on reverse side also)

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

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Phone: (919)387-2117

Blue Jay Point County Park
3200 Pleasant Union Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
Phone: (919)870-4330

Crowder District Park
4709 Ten-Ten Road
Apex, NC 27502
Phone: (919)662-2850

Harris Lake County Park
2112 County Park Drive
New Hill, NC 27562
Phone: (919)387-4342

Historic Yates Mill County Park
4620 Lake Wheeler Road
Raleigh, NC 27603
Phone: (919)856-6675

Lake Crabtree County Park
1400 Aviation Parkway
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Signature _____ Date _____
(Sign on reverse side also)

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

LAKE CRABTREE PROGRAMS

Registration is required for all programs. Space is limited, so register today!!
Call (919) 460-2723 or visit website: www.wakegov.com/parks/lakecrabtree/



Weekend Wanders for the Whole Family!

Triangle Off Road Cyclists (TORC) Beginner Rides

Saturday, October 7, 10am

This is the place to introduce you to mountain biking and to the Lake Crabtree trails! These rides are intended for beginners and will be at a comfortable pace for group. Meet at the first gravel parking lot on the right. FREE!

Kayaking on Lake Crabtree

Saturday, October 14, 3-4:30pm

Come out and enjoy a guided paddling tour of Lake Crabtree. Learn basic paddling techniques and discover the wildlife around the lake. Under 18 years of age must be accompanied by adult. Under 16 years of age must be in tandem kayak with adult. \$12 per kayak. There are only a set number of kayaks, so register today! Meet at the Boat Rental Building.

Birding with Vernon

First Saturday of each month, 8:30am

October 7, November 4, December 2

Join our bird enthusiast, Vernon, for an easy walk while looking and listening for our feathered friends. Discover different types of birds and their habitats. Meet at Waterwise Garden in first gravel lot on right. FREE!

Spiders Aren't Scary

Saturday, October 28, 1-2pm

It may almost be Halloween, but learn why there is nothing spooky or creepy about spiders. Discover why these misunderstood arachnids are important to our ecosystem. Take a guided walk to look for some spiders that make their home at Lake Crabtree. \$2 per person/\$5 per family of four. Meet at the White Oak Shelter.

It's Cool To Recycle

Saturday, November 11, 1-2pm

Do you ever ask, I wonder if this can be recycled? Learn what and where to recycle as well as the importance of recycling. We will also discuss ways to have a "greener" holiday season. Free "Born to Recycle" tattoos for all the junior recyclers. \$2 per person/\$5 per family of four. Meet at the White Oak Shelter.

Winter Tree Identification

Saturday, December 2, 1-2pm

Become a tree-expert and impress others by identifying trees without leaves! Learn to look closely at buds, bark and other clues. Ages: 8 to adult. \$2 per person/\$5 per family of four. Meet at Manager's Office - second left in park.

Wonderful Woodpeckers

Saturday, December 9, 1-2pm

By early December many trees have dropped their leaves and the Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers have returned from their summer breeding areas, making it a perfect time to look for Lake Crabtree's seven species of woodpeckers. We will also discuss the life history of these unique birds of the forest. \$2 per person/\$5 per family of four. Meet at the White Oak Shelter.

Calling all Volunteers!

Scouts, groups, and individual volunteers all help make Lake Crabtree County Park a better park. Give back to your local park - here's how...

Triangle Off Road Cyclists (TORC) organizes regular mountain bike trail workdays on the second Saturday of every month.

www.rtpnet.org/ncfats

Interested in doing park maintenance projects?

(919) 460-3399

Interested in a Scout project?

(919) 460-3397

Want to help with wildlife monitoring projects and/or environmental education, check out the programs below or call **(919) 460-2723**.

Watching Wildlife and Water!

Join park staff for these FUN volunteer opportunities!

For other volunteer opportunities (shoreline clean-up by canoe, trail maintenance, wildlife monitoring, etc.) please call 460-2723.

Canoeing for Water Quality

Fridays, 5:30 - 7pm

October 20, November 17, December 8

Get involved in your watershed! Join our water quality-monitoring volunteers and park staff and learn how to test the water in Lake Crabtree. Canoeing experience required. We have a set number of canoes, so register today! Ages 12+ (under 18 must be accompanied by adult). Meet at Boat Rental Building. FREE!

Finding Frogs

Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30pm

October 17, November 14

What frog sounds like *ribbit*? Learn different frog calls and then go for a hike to check monitoring areas in park for treefrogs. Meet at Waterwise Garden in first gravel lot on right. FREE!

Finding Snakes

Thursday, October 26 and Tuesday, November 21

5:30-6:30pm

Discover the snakes that live in this area. Then go for a hike to check monitoring areas in park for snakes. Meet at Waterwise Garden in first gravel lot on right. FREE!

LAKE CRABTREE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

All programs offered at Lake Crabtree County Park require pre-registration at least two days prior to program date.
Please call (919) 460-2723 for registration.

Our Boat Rental Facility is now OPEN on weekends through the end of October!
Enjoy the lake from a canoe, kayak, sailboat or rowboat.
Hours are 11am-6pm (last boat goes out at 5pm).
Call 460-3398 during rental hours for more information.

Storytime for Tots!

Discover nature beginning with a story followed by outdoor, hands-on nature exploration. The program will end with a fun craft to take home! Parents, come prepared to actively participate with your tots! Programs run from 1-2pm and will meet at the White Oak Shelter. \$3 per child per program. Ages 3-5 years.

S-S-S-Snakes

Tuesday, October 17

Snakes are the subject of many tales, legends and stories. After the story, learn more about these fascinating creatures. Enjoy a visit with our park snake, Corny the Corn Snake!

"Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf" by Lois Ehlert

Thursday, November 9

Hear the story of a very special maple tree – from its beginnings as a seed to a grand and glorious adult tree. Make a winter bird treat to hang on a tree in your own yard.

"Possum's Harvest Moon" by Anne Hunter

Wednesday, December 6

Possum throws a party under the moon for all the animals of the forest. Will all his guests arrive? Following the story, learn about North Carolina's only marsupial – the opossum.

For Adults

Winter Tree Identification

Friday, December 1, 9 am -2:30pm

This workshop is for environmental educators and teachers and anyone else interested in learning how to identify trees in the winter. Demystify leaf scars, bud scales and lenticels! Take materials with you to use with your students!

Earn 5 hours towards

Environmental

Education

Certification.

Meet at the

White Oak

Shelter. FREE!



Special Events

Big Sweep – Saturday, October 7, 9am

Give back to the community and your local park! Join citizens across North Carolina for a good fall cleaning of our state! Register ahead to clean up by canoe (one person in boat must be over 18 years old). Meet at the lookout tower next to Boat Rental bathrooms.
Think Globally, Act Locally!

SCHNOCTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 14, 2-5pm

Sponsored by North Carolina Schnauzer Rescue, this event is open to ALL friendly and healthy dogs and their owners. There will be a vet onsite hosting a microchipping clinic, a groomer giving grooming demonstrations, RAFFLE prizes galore to awesome local businesses, and much, much more! For more information, visit website at www.ncschnauzers.org.

KIT (Kids in Training Triathlon)

Sunday, October 22

This adventure race is for kids and includes a canoe, run and mountain bike portion. For more information, visit website at www.kidsintraining.com.



RITNY – Run in the New Year

Saturday, January 6, 2007

Please go to www.runnc.com for more information. The park will be closed to traffic until 1 pm for race.

HISTORIC OAK VIEW NEWS AND PROGRAMS



Heritage Day

Saturday, October 7, 2006, 10am-4pm

Get in the fair spirit at this celebration of Wake County's agricultural and rural history, reminiscent of an ol' time county fair! This annual event features live entertainment, heritage crafts, reenactors, hayrides, historic farm equipment, cane pole fishing, and lots of live animals! Heritage Day is presented in conjunction with the 4-H Youth Fair Day, which features animal judging and awards. As always, this event is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Pecan Pickin' Day

Saturday, November 11, 2006, 10am-noon

Historic Oak View invites you to join Bill Bunn, President of the North Carolina Pecan Growers Association and long-time volunteer at Historic Oak View, to learn about our favorite nut, the pecan! There will be activities for kids, samples, and, of course, the opportunity to pick a free bag of pecans from Oak View's very own pecan grove. (Bags will be provided!) This is a FREE EVENT!!

Coming in 2007:

Let's Play: Pastimes from the Past

February 3 through April 28, 2007

Tuesday - Saturday 10am-4pm,

Sunday 1pm-4pm

This traveling exhibition—on loan to Historic Oak View from the Rogers Historical Museum in Arkansas—looks back at the way Americans enjoyed their leisure time at the turn of the 20th century. There will be a lot of opportunities for children and children-at-heart alike to join in with games and celebrations of Pastimes from the Past!

This exhibition will be open to the public, and FREE OF CHARGE! Any group interested in a guided tour should call (919) 212-7695.

Holidays Around the World

December 5-10, 2006

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 1-4pm

Holidays Around the World, presented in conjunction with Wake County Extension and Community Association, is fun and educational for the whole family! There will be more than 20 decorated trees and displays featuring holiday customs of different countries from all over the world! Come during the week and walk around the property to learn about the celebrations from all corners of the world! Like all other events at Historic Oak View, it is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Candlelight Tour

Saturday, December 9, 2006, 5-7:30pm

Get in the holidays spirit with your family and Historic Oak View at our annual Candlelight Tour! All Holidays Around the World displays and decorations will be on view, and the glow of luminaries will guide your stroll through the park. Ride in a horse-drawn carriage through Oak View's Pecan Grove, listen to Christmas carols in the 1855 farmhouse, drink hot apple cider in the 1825 Plank Kitchen, listen to stories, and, of course, don't forget to visit with Old St. Nick! This event, as always is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



Weekly Guided Tours Coming Soon!

Historic Oak View County Park is proud to announce that we will be offering guided tours of the property every Sunday afternoon in October! Come on out and join a park employee or one of our volunteer docents for a tour of the site! All tours begin at 2pm and are FREE and do not require advance registration for small groups* or individuals. For additional information, please call the park office at (919) 250-1013.

*If you have a large group and would like to schedule a tour, please call (919) 212-7695!

A Message from the Director...

The Wake County Board of Commissioners has received two awards this year that have highlighted our open space conservation efforts.

In March, Wake County was announced as one of six winners of the second annual County Leadership in Conservation Awards, sponsored by The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and National Association of Counties (NACo). Wake County Commissioners' Chair Tony Gurley accepted the award on behalf of the County at the annual NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. The awards recognize leadership, innovation, and excellence in local land conservation and park creation by county leaders across America. The County was honored for its Open Space Program, which, since 2000, has preserved 2,565 acres of open space.

Last month, Commissioner Gurley accepted the Conservation Trust for North Carolina's 2005 Local Government Conservationist of the Year Award. The Triangle Land Conservancy (TLC) nominated Wake County for this award for its "outstanding commitment to land conservation".

While Wake County has been a leader in open space planning, our partnership efforts – with local municipalities, the state, the federal government, and local land trusts have brought the actual land deals to the table. Everybody loves a partner, because partners share in the costs and ultimately the benefits of any endeavor. By sharing in both the costs and benefits of conservation projects, our partnerships enable us to do more together than we could individually.

To date, the County has worked with its partners to conserve more than 2,500 acres, leveraging \$21.6 million from our open space bond funds, and another \$24.7 million from partners for a total of \$46.5 million in conservation funding. To date, Wake County has partnered with seven municipalities – Apex, Cary, Raleigh, Morrisville, Wake Forest, Wendell and Zebulon. In addition, we've partnered with the State of North Carolina to add acreage to Umstead State Park; we've received grants from the State's Clean Water Management Trust Fund, Ecosystem Enhancement Program, the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund and the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, and we are involved in ongoing partnerships with Triangle Land Conservancy and the Trust for Public Land.

Wake County is always on the lookout for a willing partner – to share the benefits made possible by working together.



Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space



Wake County Board of Commissioners

District #1
Joe Bryan

District #2
Phil Jeffreys

District #3
Tony Gurley
(Chair)

District #4
Kenn Gardner

District #5
Harold Webb
(Vice Chair)

District #6
Betty Lou Ward

District #7
Herb Council

County Manager
David Cooke

Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

*Committed
to bringing you
the best services and
resources today
so that our children
and your children
may enjoy
the world
around them
tomorrow.*

Thank you.

The *Quarterly* is written by the staff of
Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space.

Mission Statement

Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space shall acquire and maintain a system of natural areas, open spaces, park facilities and historic sites that promote environmental and cultural stewardship as well as provide educational and leisure opportunities for all county citizens.

Wake County Parks, Recreation and Open Space

Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee

Ms. Jessica Bellas - Vice Chair
Mr. Bill Simmons
Mr. Wilson Laney
Ms. Margaret Newbold
Mr. Sig Hutchinson - Chair
Ms. Sherry Johnson
Mr. John Lane
Ms. Sara Robertson
Mr. Mike Chalk
Mr. Dennis Pitts
Mr. Larry Jones

CS Administrator Frank Cope

Administration
Chris Snow, Director
Kurt W. Smith

Blue Jay Point County Park

(vacant), Park Mgr
D'Nise Hefner
Debra Bradsher
Stephanie C. Avett
Lewis Smith
Ben Wittenberg

Historic Oak View County Park

Emily Catherman, Park Mgr
Sara Drumheller

Crowder District Park

Dick Shannon, Park Mgr
Jackie Trickle
Heather Roloff

Historic Yates Mill County Park

Rebecca Cope, Park Mgr
Mike Smith
Coley Houser

Harris Lake County Park

Tim Lisk, Park Mgr
Christina Sorensen
Amy Burke

Lake Crabtree County Park

Drew Cade, Park Mgr
David Buchanan
Deborah Robertson
Jeff Beale
Alison Meseck

American Tobacco Trail
Tony D'Amico
Ashley Subat