

The Great Outdoors



ENO RIVER STATE PARK, 6101 Cole Mill Rd, Durham, 919-383-1686, ncparks.gov:

- **Kangaroo Hike**—Saturday, April 20, 10:30am. This hike is for parents/guardians with infants and toddlers. Everyone will meet at the Few's Ford Parking Loop; call to register.
- **Sunday Morning Birds**—April 21, 8am. Join a bird-watching hike—don't forget your binoculars. Everyone will meet at the Few's Ford Parking Loop; call to register.
- **Every Day Is Earth Day!**—Sunday, April 21, 11am. Join a hike along the Pump Station Trail and enjoy the spring blooms and basking turtles. Don't forget to take a snack. Everyone will meet at the Pump Station Trailhead; call to register.
- **Tree Tales & Forest Stories**—Monday, April 22, 2pm. Join a hike and learn about the trees and surrounding ecosystem in the Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area. Everyone will meet in the Cole Mill Parking Lot; call to register.

These are *free* events! Call the Eno River Association at 919-620-9099 or click *here* for more info.



FALLS LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA, 13304 Creedmoor Rd, Wake Forest, 919-676-1027, ncparks.gov:

- **BW Wells Heritage Day**—Saturday, April 13, 10am–4pm. Visit the Historic Rock Cliff Farm (1630 Bent Rd, in Wake Forest), which is where ecologist/botanist BW Wells lived after he retired. Learn about 19th-century farming techniques, go on nature hikes, play ecological games, and more. Everyone will meet in the BW Well Recreation Area.
- **#TRASHTAG**—Sunday, April 21, 2pm. Talk about the environment with a park ranger and join in the *#trashtag* social-media craze. Everyone will meet at Rolling View Shelter 14.
- **Beach and Boat Water Safety**—Saturday, April 27, 1pm. Learn about life jackets and how to use them, how to help someone struggling in the water, weather concerns, and how to recognize the sizes of hypothermia. Everyone will meet in the Beaverdam Boat Ramp.

These are *free* events!



JORDAN LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA, 280 State Park Rd, Apex, 919-362-0586, ncparks.gov:

- **Family Fishing Fiesta**—Sunday, April 7, 11am–3pm. Learn some fishing basics, boating and water safety, knot tying, and fishing regulations at this bilingual Spanish/English event. All materials will be supplied, but if you have a fishing rod, feel free to take it. Everyone will meet at the White Oak Recreation Area.
- **Catch a Sure Thing (CAST)**—Sunday, April 14, 9–10:30am. Kids ages 6 to 12 are invited to learn about the various types of fish that can be found in the lake, and how to catch them. All gear will be provided. Everyone will meet at the Park Office; call to register.
- **Year of the Snake**—Sunday, April 14, 3–3:30pm. Learn how to identify different types of snakes, about their life spans, how they survive during the winter, and more. Everyone will meet in the Parkers Creek Day Use Area; call to register.
- **Spring Hike**—Friday, April 19, 2–4pm. Join a hike and learn about the history of the lake; this easy hike will be good for beginners. Everyone will meet in the New Hope Overlook Campground–Trail Entrance; call to register.
- **Catch a Sure Thing (CAST)**—Sunday, April 21, 9–10:30am. Kids ages 6 to 12 are invited to learn about the various types of fish that can be found in the lake, and how to catch them. All gear will be provided. Everyone will meet at the Park Office; call to register.
- **Catch a Sure Thing (CAST)**—Sunday, April 28, 9–10:30am. Kids ages 6 to 12 are invited to learn about the various types of fish that can be found in the lake, and how to catch them. All gear will be provided. Everyone will meet at the Park Office; call to register.
- **Year of the Snake**—Sunday, April 28, 3–3:30pm. Learn how to identify different types of snakes, about their life spans, how they survive during the winter, and more. Everyone will meet in the Seaforth Recreation Area; call to register.
- **Year of the Snake**—Sunday, May 5, 3–3:30pm. Learn how to identify different types of snakes, about their life spans, how they survive during the winter, and more. Everyone will meet in the Ebenezer Church Recreation Area–Beach Area; call to register.

These are *free* events!



WILLIAM B UMSTEAD STATE PARK, 8801 Glenwood Ave, Raleigh, 919-571-4170, ncparks.gov:

- **Company Mill History Hike**—Sunday, April 14, 2pm. Join a 3-mile hike and learn about the history of the old mill and the families that lived near it. Everyone will meet in the

Reedy Creek Parking Lot (off Hwy 40, exit 287/Harrison Ave, in Cary); call to register.

- **Wild Edible Foods Walk**—Friday, April 30, 3pm. Join a 1.5-mile hike in search of wild edible foods. Everyone will meet in the Crabtree Large Parking Lot (just off Hwy 70/Glenwood Ave, in Raleigh); call to register.

These are *free* events!



SKY EXPLORATIONS:

- **Statewide Star Party**— Friday, April 12, 8–10pm in Old North Durham Park (310 W Geer St). Durham Parks and Recreation, in partnership with UNC’s Morehead Planetarium, North Carolina Central University, and the Chapel Hill Astronomical and Observational Society (CHAOS) are hosting this special skywatching event. Explore the night skies through high-powered telescopes. It’s *free!* If it’s cloudy, they’ll try again the following night. [This is an NC Science Festival event.]
- **Skywatching Session**—Friday, May 3, 8:30–10:30pm, in Little River Regional Park (301 Little River Park Way, in Rougemont). Look through one of the telescopes provided by Morehead Planetarium educators. It’s *free*; call 919-962-1236 for directions and day-of if weather conditions cause you to wonder if the session will be cancelled.

These are *free* events!



DURHAM PARKS AND RECREATION OUTDOOR EVENTS:

Click *here* to view Durham Parks and Recreation’s “Play More” catalog of classes, outings, and special events. Call 919-560-4355 for more info. You can register for events by going to *dprplaymore.org* and then clicking on “Register Online.” Don’t forget the activity code.

- **Nature Explorers** (ages 5–8)—Thursday, April 4, 10–11:30am, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5101 N Roxboro Rd). Kids can join a nature hike through the park. There’s a \$3 fee; go to *dprplaymore.org* and click on “Register Online.”
- **Explore Nature**—Thursday, April 4, 1–5pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5101 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the park by checking out a Nature Backpack, asking questions, and going off on your own. It’s *free*; drop in at any time between 1 and 4pm.
- **Crafting at the Creek: The Art of Plant Preservation** (age 18+)—Wednesday, April 10, 6–7:30pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5101 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the art of plant preservation (such as pressing flowers between the pages of a book). There’s an \$8 fee; go to *dprplaymore.org* and click on “Register Online.”

- **Muddy Boots** (ages 1–4 with a parent/guardian)—Tuesday, April 9, 10–11am, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5101 N Roxboro Rd). Read a nature-themed book, followed by a nature walk. There’s a \$1.50 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **Explore Nature**—Tuesday, April 9, 1–5pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the park by checking out a Nature Backpack, asking questions, and going off on your own. It’s *free*; drop in at any time between 1 and 4pm.
- **Crafting at the Creek: The Art of Plant Preservation** (age 18+)—Wednesday, April 10, 6–7:30pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Learn (or relearn) how to press flowers between the pages of a book. There’s an \$8 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **High Ropes Discovery Days** (age 7+)—Saturday, April 13, 11am–12:30pm, 12:30–2pm, and 2–3:30pm, in Bethesda Park (1814 Stage Rd, 919-560-4355). Have you tried DPR’s High Ropes Discovery Course yet? Safely navigate through a course made up of various obstacles—55 feet up! At the end, you can choose to exit via the giant swing or the zipline. There’s an \$8 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **Paddle Trail Guided Paddle** (age 7+)—Sunday, April 14, 10am–noon, at the Lake Michie Boating Area (2303 Bahama Rd, in Bahama). Explore the new paddle trail at Lake Michie in a DPR canoe or kayak. There’s an \$8 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **Nature Explorers** (ages 5–8)—Thursday, April 18, 10–11:30am, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5101 N Roxboro Rd). Kids can join a nature hike through the park. There’s a \$3 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **Explore Nature**—Thursday, April 18, 1–5pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the park by checking out a Nature Backpack, asking questions, and going off on your own. It’s *free*; drop in at any time between 1 and 4pm.
- **West Point Work Day** (age 10+)—Monday, April 22, 3–6pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Help out with a restoration project while learning about the park’s fragile ecosystem.
- **Explore Nature**—Tuesday, April 23, 1–5pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the park by checking out a Nature Backpack, asking questions, and going off on your own. It’s *free*; drop in at any time between 1 and 4pm.

- **Nature Explorers** (ages 5–8)—Thursday, May 2, 10–11:30am, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Kids can join a nature hike through the park. There’s a \$3 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”
- **Explore Nature**—Thursday, May 2, 1–5pm, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Explore the park by checking out a Nature Backpack, asking questions, and going off on your own. It’s *free*; drop in at any time between 1 and 4pm.
- **Sunset Paddle** (age 7+)—Friday, May 3, 9am–noon, at West Point on the Eno Park’s Environmental Education Pavilion (5253 N Roxboro Rd). Enjoy a casual float while paddling a canoe or kayak. There’s an \$8 fee; call 919-560-4405 for more info or go to dprplaymore.org and click on “Register Online.”