

The Great Outdoors



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

- **Explore the Eno**—Wednesday, February 10, 9:30–10:30am. Join a hike along Buckquarter Creek Trail and have a look around. Call to register; everybody will meet at the Park Office.
- **Deer Rush**—Friday, February 12, noon–1pm. Play a game and learn how having too many of one type of animal can be harmful to the environment. Call to register; everybody will meet at the Few's Ford Parking Loop.
- **Salamander Spring**—Monday, February 22, 1–3:30pm. Join a 1.6-mile roundtrip hike and learn about spotted salamanders and other amphibians that live in the area. Call to register; everybody will meet at Cabe Lands Parking Lot, by the Eno Quarry Trail.
- **Anthony Cole Historic House Hike**—Thursday, February 25, 11:30am–12:30pm. Join a hike along the Buckquarter Creek Trail to this historic home. Call to register; everybody will meet at the Park Office.
- **Historic Hike**—Friday, February 26, 2–4pm. Join a hike to a cemetery of enslaved people and learn about the effect slavery had on the Eno River Valley community. Some off-trail walking, as well as one creek crossing, will be encountered. Call to register; everybody will meet at the Few's Ford Picnic Shelter.

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:

There are no *free* events on the docket for February.



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

- All programming and special events have been cancelled, but the following trails are open for walking and exploration: **Children's Nature, Ebenezer Church Old Oak, Ebenezer Church, Jordan Lake Track/Seaforth Pond, New Hope, Poplar Point Campground, Vista Point Blue, and Vista Point Red.** Click [here](#) for a full description of the trails and addresses of the access points.

- New Hope Overlook boat ramp, New Hope Overlook hiking trail and Seaforth boat ramp are open. To ease traffic and parking congestion at New Hope and Seaforth boat ramps, only vehicles hauling boats or jet skis will be permitted to access the boat ramp area. The entrance fee of \$7 per vehicle (\$5 for senior citizens and veterans/military) and \$20 per bus/van will be collected for any vehicle that enters New Hope Overlook and Seaforth on weekends. Gates open at 8am and lock at 8pm.

There are no *free* events on the docket for February.



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

There are no *free* events on the docket for February.



DURHAM PARKS AND RECREATION OUTDOOR EVENTS:

- The city's playgrounds have officially reopened and will be open during normal hours—from dawn to dusk. DPR staff has been cleaning and disinfecting the playground in anticipation of kids returning to play on the swings, slides, etc. Please continue to have your face masks on hand in case you're not the only ones in the immediate area. Click [here](#) for a full list of all 55 DPR playgrounds.
- **Historic Tour of West Point on the Eno Park** (5150 N Roxboro Rd)—Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 2–3pm. See the West Point Mill, McCown-Mangum House, and the Hugh Mangum Museum of Photography and learn about the people who lived, worked, and played in the area. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the group size will be limited and everyone will practice social distancing. *Free* admission; visit the Facebook event page for more info.
- **Historic Tour of Leigh Farm Park** (370 Leigh Farm Rd)—Saturdays, 2–3pm. Visit this middle-class plantation, learn about the families' lives—those of the farm owners and the enslaved people, and see the Leigh Family Cemetery. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the group size will be limited and everyone will practice social distancing. *Free* admission; visit the Facebook event page for more info.



NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES EVENTS:

- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences will host an **All About Bluebirds** ecoEXPLORE citizen science program on Tuesday, February 2, 3–4pm. Students from kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to learn about our local Eastern Bluebirds, how to identify them by sight and sound, and also how to help the bluebirds in your own backyard. Visit the [Facebook event page](#) for more info, and click [here](#) to register and attend this *free* online event.

- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and the Prairie Ridge Ecostation are partnering to introduce young people to the concept of citizen science through **Intro to ecoEXPLORE** on Saturday, February 6, 2–3pm. Students from kindergarten to 8th grade can expand their interest in science and nature by learning how to make observations, sometimes even helping scientists, while also earning points, prizes, and badges. Click [here](#) to sign up and learn more about this *free* program.
- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and the Prairie Ridge Ecostation will cohost a **Video Launch: Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)**, an ecoEXPLORE citizen science program, on Monday, February 8, 2–2:30pm. The GBBC is a worldwide citizen science event that invites anyone to participate in an annual census of the bird population over a 4-day period. Watch the live video launch and find out how to take part in the bird count while learning how to attract them to your yard, identify them, and submit your data. You'll be able to ask questions during the video. Visit the [Facebook event page](#) right before the event to get the link for this *free* online video premiere.
- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences will host an **Intro to Bird ID** ecoEXPLORE citizen science program on Wednesday, February 10, 4–5pm. If you're getting ready to participate in the upcoming Great Backyard Bird Count, you are invited to learn the basics of bird identification and how to make observations. You'll also get some identification resources that can further help you identify local birds. Visit the [Facebook event page](#) for more info, and click [here](#) to register for this *free* online event.
- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences will host a **Clever Corvids** ecoEXPLORE citizen science program on Thursday, February 11, 4:30–5:30pm. Students from kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to learn about members of the Corvid family, including crows, jays, and ravens, and their tool making, memory skills, and even the funerals they put on. Visit the [Facebook event page](#) for more info, and click [here](#) to register and attend this *free* online event.
- The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences will host a **Meet an Ornithologist** ecoEXPLORE citizen science program on Tuesday, February 16, 3–4pm. Students from kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to meet Deja Perkins, an urban ecologist, science communicator, and community engagement specialist. She has studied birds all across the USA and thinks of ways to make cities work for both people and wildlife. Click [here](#) to attend this *free* event on Facebook.
- The NC Office of Environmental Education, the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, the Prairie Ridge Ecostation, and A Time for Science will cohost a webinar, **Analyzing the Effects of Urban Noise and Light Pollution**

on Avian Communities, on Wednesday, February 17, noon–1 pm. Lauren Pharr, a Masters student at NC State University, will describe how expanding cities and human-produced light and noise are having adverse effects on wildlife, especially the various species of local birds. Click [here](#) to watch this video premiere on YouTube.

