

# Wilkerson Nature Preserve

## Winter/Spring 2022



### Preschool Programs

#### **Wildlife in Winter: (Ages 3-6)**

What do wild animals do in winter? Let's pretend to be animals that hibernate, migrate, and stay warm in the cold, winter woods. We'll take a hike, make a craft, and learn about our wild friends. **Cost:** \$3

**Wed Jan 19 1—2:30 p.m.**



#### **Foxes and Coyotes: (Ages 3-6)**

How are foxes and coyotes similar to and different from dogs? We'll hear the stories of these wild creatures and go outside to look for their tracks and dens. Make a fox track and do a craft! **Cost:** \$3

**Wed Feb 16 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**



#### **Fairy Houses: (Ages 3-6)**

Do fairies live at the nature preserve? Come find out! Make a tiny house in the woods for a mouse, bug, toad, woodland fairy, or even a troll. Wear fairy wings and walk the fairy trails! We'll provide stories and natural materials -- all you need is a good imagination. **Cost:** \$2

**Wed Mar 2 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**  
**Sat Mar 5 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**

#### **Welcome, Hummingbirds: (Ages 3-6)**

The hummingbirds are coming back to Raleigh from their winter homes in Mexico and Central America. Learn about hummers and play some hummingbird games. Help us put up the nectar feeders in the park for our hummingbirds.

**Wed Apr 20 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**

Register online at [reclink.raleighnc.gov](https://reclink.raleighnc.gov). PreK Programs are intended for children ages 3-6 who are accompanied by an adult. Please dress for the weather and outdoor fun! Note: Parts of these programs may take place on natural surface trails that are inaccessible to strollers.

PARKS, RECREATION  
AND CULTURAL  
RESOURCES

Annie Louise Wilkerson,  
MD Nature Preserve Park  
5229 Awls Haven Drive  
[raleighnc.gov/parks](https://raleighnc.gov/parks)  
919-996-6764

# Wilkerson Nature Preserve

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### Youth Programs



#### **Mineral Detectives: (Ages 8-13)**

Don't be fooled by fool's gold - learn how geologists test minerals by using properties including hardness, streak, color, luster, and acid reactivity. Take on the challenge of testing and identifying a variety of mineral samples. Take home a mineral for your own collection!

**Cost:** \$4

**Fri Jan 28 3—4:30 p.m.**

#### **Meteorology Masters: (Ages 8-13)**

You could ask a groundhog or join us to learn how scientists really predict the weather by practicing your own observation-based forecast. We will measure the atmosphere using tools including an anemometer, hygrometer, barometer, and sling psychrometer. Make a weather instrument to take home! **Cost:** \$3

**Wed Feb 2 3—4:30 p.m.**

#### **Equinox Astronomy (Ages 8-13)**

Why do we have seasons? Why do we say the spring days are 'getting longer'? How do animals know when to migrate, and flowers know when to grow? In this investigation, we will use simulation construct models to understand how the sources of the seasons is literally 'out of this world.' **Cost:** \$4

**Wed Mar 23 3—4:30 p.m.**

#### **Hopping with Frogs (Ages 5-8)**

Spring brings frogs and toads in our forest ponds! Come hop along to learn about frog calls, search for frogs in the world, and make a tadpole craft that changes into a frog. **Cost:** \$3

**Sat Mar 26 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**



Register online at [reclink.raleighnc.gov](https://reclink.raleighnc.gov). Youth Programs are intended for school-age children with the option for an adult to accompany. Please dress for the weather and outdoor fun! Note: Parts of these programs may take place on natural surface trails that are inaccessible to strollers.

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### Family /All Ages Programs

#### **Wilkerson New Year Hike: (Ages 5 and up)**

Get off on the right step with the new year! We will hike all three Wilkerson Nature Preserve trails to reflect on the year that has passed and face the one ahead. While guided by a naturalist, we will periodically stop to take in some of the Preserve winter wonders. Dress for winter hiking. Meet at the Park Office. **Cost:** free

**Sat Jan 1 2—4 p.m.**

#### **Astronomy Nights: (Ages 5 and up)**

What's up in space this spring? Each astronomy program begins with an indoor presentation and (weather permitting) moves outside after sunset to view the moon, stars, and more with the preserve's telescope. **Cost:** \$2

**Fri Feb 11 5:30—7 p.m.**

**Fri Mar 11 6—7:30 p.m.**



#### **Backyard Bird Counting!: (Ages 5 and up)**

Become a Citizen Scientist and Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count! We will collect data on Wilkerson's many winter birds to help real scientists track migration patterns, and we'll learn how we all can attract more birds to our own backyards and make them better bird habitats. No prior birding experience necessary - binoculars will be provided. **Cost:** free

**Sat Feb 19 10:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**



#### **Twilight Walk: (Ages: 4yrs. and up)**

Many animals are active around sunset or shortly after. Take a moonlit walk with a park naturalist to explore the woods and fields at this special time. Look for deer, coyotes, and owls. The program is designed for families with young children. **Cost:** \$2

**Sat Feb 26 5—6:30 p.m.**

**Sat Mar 19 6:30—8 p.m.**

**Sat Apr 30 7:30—9 p.m.**

Register online at [reclink.raleighnc.gov](https://reclink.raleighnc.gov). Family/All ages Programs are intended for adults and school-age youth with an accompanying adult Please dress for the weather and outdoor fun! Note: Parts of these programs may take place on natural surface trails that are inaccessible to strollers.

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### Family/All Ages Programs

#### **Wildflower Walk: (Age: 5yrs. and up)**

Many wildflowers bloom in spring. Join us for a leisurely hike through our fields and woods as we learn to recognize some blooming beauties and appreciate their stories. **Cost:** \$2

**Sat Apr 2 10:30—11:30 a.m.**



#### **Nature Play Day: (All ages)**

Join us to make time for playing in nature. Children of all ages, as well as the young at heart, are welcome to join us for imaginative play in a natural setting. Dig for gemstones, make a fort out of natural materials, fly a kite, make mud pies, and more. We'll provide the materials and guidance to get you started on a playful adventure, free of charge! You're welcome to drop-in anytime during this activity - registration is not required. *Adults must accompany their children.*

**Cost:** free

**Fri Apr 1 10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**

#### **New Discoveries in NC Invasive Species: (Ages 12 and up)**

A special program for National Invasive Species Awareness Week—Many new invasive species have been discovered in the Triangle area in recent years. Some of these species are new arrivals, while others have apparently lived in Raleigh for many decades without being detected, and have only recently been discovered to be widespread. What impacts can we expect from these new invasives? Learn how to recognize these new species which can't be found in most NC-focused books, but which are likely to remain a part of Raleigh's urban and suburban ecosystems for many years to come. **Cost:** free

**Fri Mar 4 6—7:30 p.m.**

#### **Statewide Star Party: (Ages 5 and up)**

Join members of the Raleigh Astronomy Club and Wilkerson Nature Preserve for a special star gaze held in conjunction with the NC Science Festival. Club members will share their telescopes and knowledge, along with astronomy-related activities available for younger space-fans. *Please park in the Overflow parking lot and follow signs to walk to the field near the Park Office to see the telescopes. You may wish to bring a flashlight (w/ a red light, if possible).* **Cost:** free

**Fri Apr 8 8—10:30 p.m.**

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