

Wake Audubon Young Naturalist Club Trips for 2010

January 16: Day Trip to Lake Mattamuskeet

Tundra swans, bald eagles, and snow geese, oh my! More than 800 species of wildlife and birds can be observed here throughout the year. Leaders: Nathan S and Becky H.

<http://www.mattamuskeet.org/>

February 20: Workday at Anderson Point Park

Wake Audubon has adopted Anderson Point Park, located in East Raleigh. We need to do some work in the prairie part of the park: digging up the trees that have started to grow and pulling out invasive plants. Dirty work for a good cause! Leaders: Erik T and Becky D.

http://www.wakeaudubon.org/anderson_point_park.htm

March 13: Hemlock Bluffs Night Program

Explore this preserve in Cary as the night falls! We may even start out with a pizza dinner.

Leaders: Becky H and TBA. <http://www.hemlockbluffs.org/>

April 11: Tigers and Eagles

We will tour the Carolina Tiger Rescue (formerly Carnivore Preservation Trust) near Bynum, then take a short canoe paddle or hike at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area to spot bald eagles.

Leaders: Sean H and TBD. <http://www.carolinatigerrescue.org/>

April 24: International Migratory Bird Day Festival at Blue Jay Point

YNC members will be in charge of the Wake Audubon booth at this family-oriented festival.

Leaders: Rachel B and Nathan S. <http://www.wakegov.com/parks/bluejay/default.htm>

May 1: Birdathon! Annual Wake Audubon Fundraiser

We get sponsors to pledge for each bird species we see. We do a massive, all-day birding extravaganza to the coast, the swamps, and the piedmont in a quest to see as many birds (and other stuff) as we possibly can. Leaders: Becky D and John G.

June 19: Hike at Howell Woods Environmental Center

Howell Woods in Johnston County is home to a variety of different habitats from bottomland hardwood swamps along the Neuse River to dry pine uplands. We might get to see bird banding in action, as well. Leaders: Erik T, Becky D, maybe Rachel B.

<http://www.johnstoncc.edu/howellwoods/default.aspx>

July 10: Butterfly trip to JC Raulston Arboretum and Prairie Ridge Ecostation

Leaders: Ed C, John G, maybe John C. <http://www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/index.php> and

<http://naturalsciences.org/prairie-ridge-ecostation>

August 1: Aquatics trip to Lake Waccamaw State Park

Lake Waccamaw, located in Columbus County, is NC's third-largest Carolina bay lake. It is also the most diverse ecologically, with several species of fish and mollusks found nowhere else on Earth! We'll use different survey methods to find these interesting animals, as well as others.

Bring your bathing suit! Leaders: Ed C and Becky H.

<http://www.ncparks.gov/Visit/parks/lawa/main.php>

Sept 19: Raptor Trip to Pilot Mountain State Park

(Possible pre-trip bird ID field trip to the museum.) Forsyth County Audubon and park staff will be hosting guided viewings of the annual raptor migration over this mountain near Winston-Salem. Leaders: Sean H and Nathan S. <http://www.ncparks.gov/Visit/parks/pimo/main.php>

Oct 9: Sandhills Herpetology and Ecology

We'll take an all-day trip to the NC Sandhills area for a look at the longleaf pine/sandhills ecosystem and some of the species that depend on it. Early fall is the usually best time to see many Sandhills reptiles, including the southern and eastern hognose snakes, eastern glass lizard, pigmy rattlesnake, and rough green snake, as well as hatchlings of many other species. It's also a great season for arthropods and wildflowers. We'll learn about an ongoing radiotelemetry study with some uncommon Sandhills reptiles, and we'll find as many reptiles, amphibians, and other species as we can. Leaders: Jeff B and Ed C.

November 6: Waterfowl trip to Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Trust

This aviary outside of Scotland Neck, NC, is home to some of the rarest ducks and geese in the world. Winter is the best time to go to see them in glorious breeding plumage! Leaders Becky D and Rachel B. <http://www.shwpark.com/>

December: Annual Christmas Bird Count