



# LAKE CRABTREE COUNTY PARK EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



1400 Aviation Parkway  
Morrisville, NC 27560





# ABOUT US



As the first established Wake County park, Lake Crabtree County Park offers visitors a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation. Located on a 215-acre site adjacent to a 520-acre flood control lake, the park hosts more than 16 miles of trails and a variety of habitats.

## LOCATION FEATURES

- Gardens
- Open Play Field
- Picnic Shelters
- Restrooms
- Interpretive Exhibits/Trails
- Hiking/Walking Trails
- Playgrounds
- Environmental Education
- Lake Access
- Picnic Areas
- Boating
- Fishing Pier

## PROGRAMS



Lake Crabtree County Park has several environmental education programs that can benefit classroom teachers, scout leaders, and other educators searching for onsite or outreach programming.

[This document](#) lists our available programs. It includes a brief program description and recommended grade levels. Any of our programs or program topics may be tailored to suit your group's needs. If you have questions about a program topic that is not listed, please ask our staff and we will do our best to accommodate your group.

The list of programs with NC DPI Essential Standards that are met by the program can be found [here](#). These are suggested correlations. Any of our programs can be altered to meet the needs of your group.

To schedule a program, or for more information, contact the Assistant Park Manager, Colleen Bockhahn at 919-460-2723 or [colleen.bockhahn@wakegov.com](mailto:colleen.bockhahn@wakegov.com) or Park Technician, Charlie McClay at 919-460-3355 or [charles.mcclay@wakegov.com](mailto:charles.mcclay@wakegov.com). For full details regarding our onsite and outreach policies, please consult our Field Trip Protocols below.

## FIELD TRIP PROTOCOLS



1. Please plan to arrive at the park at least 15 minutes before your scheduled field trip time in order to:

- Check-in
- Coordinate with park program staff
- Organize students into designated groups as needed

2. Please inform us of any students with special needs when you make your reservation, so that we may plan accordingly to ensure that every student has a great experience at the park.

3. Make sure students are prepared for the field trip by:

- Wearing nametags with large letters (first name only)
- Wearing weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes
- Wearing insect repellent (if needed) and sunblock
- Bringing hats and rain gear

4. If your group is eating lunch at the park, please keep all food and coolers in vehicles until you are ready to eat. You may use the shelter reserved for the field trip or picnic tables around the park.

## 5. Weather & Cancellation Policy

Because Lake Crabtree does not have any indoor spaces, all programs are outdoors, either in the field or under a picnic shelter. Park staff don't mind leading most activities in the rain, but if the forecast calls for storms or other severe weather, the field trip will be cancelled. If you need to cancel your field trip for other reasons, please do so as soon as possible. At least 24 hours prior to the scheduled event please!

## 6. Adventure Backpacks and Self-Guided Experiences

Lake Crabtree also offers Adventure Backpacks, self-guided hikes, and other experiences that any chaperone can lead. Ask your program coordinator for details before the date of your field trip if you are interested in using these resources.

## BUSES – LOADING AND UNLOADING

Due to the small size of some of the parking lots at Lake Crabtree, buses are only permitted in certain parking areas. Park staff will coordinate with you at the time of the booking to determine where buses can unload, and if they will need to park in a lot away from the meeting location for the field trip. Please inform bus drivers to be on the lookout for park staff, who will give them further instructions upon arrival.

## LATE ARRIVAL POLICY

Groups arriving more than 15 minutes late will have reduced program time.

## CHAPERONE REQUIREMENTS

Chaperone requirements exist to maintain a safe environment and ensure a quality experience for your students and others in the park as well as to protect our natural resources. Chaperones will be responsible for any behavioral or disciplinary issues that occur during the field trip. Chaperones may include teachers, school staff, or adult family members accompanying the students on their visit. Chaperones should be prepared to actively participate and assist park staff as needed.

A minimum of 1 adult per 10 students is required. Chaperones must be at least 18 years old. Failure to provide adequate adult supervision may mean your group will not be allowed to register for a field trip.

Park staff reserve the right to discontinue a program and/or remove individuals from the program if the safety of others or park wildlife is in question, or if behavioral issues are negatively impacting the rest of the group.