

# DECEMBER PROGRAMS

Historic Yates Mill County Park



## HISTORY HIKE

*Sunday, Dec. 7, 2-2:45 p.m.*

Join park staff for a hike to the gristmill and to the site of the miller's residence (which is no longer standing) to learn about the history of some of the people who have lived, worked and visited on the land that is now a park. This program will be completely outdoors, so please dress for the weather. For all ages (best suited for ages 7 and up). Registration is required. FREE.

## EXPLORATION STATION: WINTER WATERFOWL

*Dec. 8-31, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.*

Winter is duck season! This time of year, we have more ducks on our pond than any other time of year. Come check out our educational display and pick up a brochure all about our local winter waterfowl. This self-guided table will be inside the A.E. Finley Center. FREE.

## YATES MILL PONDERINGS: STATE BIRDS

*Saturday, Dec. 13, 1-2 p.m.*

Choosing a state symbol is a chance to say something special about your state. State symbols can represent the state's culture, conservation efforts, or interesting stories! When it comes to state birds, seven different states (including North Carolina) have selected the Northern Cardinal. In fact, only 18 states have a unique state bird! Join us to discover some of the cool stories behind different state birds and to discuss a more unique option to represent North Carolina! Best for ages 8 & up. Join our 45-minute presentation and feel free to stay afterwards for a Q&A with our presenter. Pre-registration is encouraged. FREE.

## MEET SANTA AT THE MILL

*Saturday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m.*

Meet Santa inside the historic gristmill! Volunteers will be available to take photos with your cameras or phones. While at the park, you can also make holiday crafts, play historic games, buy gifts from Yates Mill Associates' craft sale, and more. Due to limited space, entry into the mill will be staggered to allow each family a private moment with Santa. Available on a first-come, first-served basis; simply come to the park's visitor center to sign up for an available space. YMA welcomes donations at this event, to help with its work preserving the mill. FREE.



## HIKE WITH A NATURALIST

*Sunday, Dec. 14, 9:30-11 a.m.*

Join one of our naturalist staff members on a guided hike around the park to discover the plants and animals that live here! Come prepared to hike at least a mile on natural surfaces by wearing closed-toe shoes and bringing a full water bottle. Suggested for ages 8 and up. Registration is required for all family members, and children must have adult accompaniment. Please arrive at the park office five minutes early for program check-in. FREE.

## PARK TALES: TIME TO SLEEP

*Friday, Dec. 19, 10-10:45 a.m.*

Enjoy this warm-hearted story about animals of the forest settling down for their winter nap. But, like children who must go to bed for the night, they each find a way to put it off just a little bit longer. Learn about animals in winter, make a fun craft, and go on a short hike. For all ages (best for ages 6 and under); adult accompaniment is required for all children. Registration is required. FREE.

## HANDS-ON HISTORY: ORNAMENTS

*Monday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.*

How did people live while Yates Mill was operating as a business from the mid-1700s to the mid-1900s? Join us for a drop-in, hands-on activity to make an ornament to experience life from long ago. This program will meet inside the park's visitor center. For all ages; registration is not required as this is a drop-in program. FREE.

## ECOEXPLORE (VIRTUAL): MAMMOLOGY SEASON WRAP-UP

*Monday, Dec. 29, 3:30-4:30 p.m.*

Show off your favorite mammal observations and we will see how ecoEXPLORE is doing at finding all of North Carolina's furry friends! This virtual program is geared toward children in grades K-8 and their families, but all are welcome! Registration is handled through the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. FREE.

To register for programs, scan the QR code or visit [www.wake.gov/parks/yatesmill](http://www.wake.gov/parks/yatesmill).

