

WALNUT CREEK WETLAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



March/April 2020 Newsletter

Important Updates

- The last WCWCP meeting was held virtually on April 20th. If you missed it, a recording (English and Spanish) is available on www.raleighparkswithpurpose.com. In response to COVID-19, things are always changing— stay posted on updates through email and social media.



[@bailey.dr_purpose](https://www.instagram.com/bailey.dr_purpose)



[@walnutcreekwetlandcommunitypartnership](https://www.facebook.com/walnutcreekwetlandcommunitypartnership)

Social Distancing and the Outdoors - Parks support good mental and physical health!

As of the printing of this newsletter, City of Raleigh park open space and greenways remain open, but this is subject to change. For up to date info please visit: <https://raleighnc.gov/SupportPages/parks-covid-19-information> . When outside please remember to follow social distancing guidelines and remain more than 6 feet from others. “ For more info visit: Raleigh COVID-19 help page: <https://raleighnc.gov/news/covid-19-information> or the CDC COVID-19 page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

COVID-19: SOCIAL DISTANCING IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TRAILS

- Do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.
- Share the trail and warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass.
- Be prepared for limited access to public restrooms or water fountains.
- Observe CDC's minimum recommended social distancing of 6' from other persons at all times.
- Follow CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to visiting parks or trails.

INRPA National Recreation and Park Association
Because everyone deserves a great park

Friends of Walnut Creek Wetlands

The Parks with Purpose Task Force is considering developing into the “Friends of the Walnut Creek Wetlands”. This group would include resident park users, community leaders, business partners, and other stakeholders interested in supporting welcoming community spaces and experiences around Walnut Creek Wetland Park. If you’re interested in being part of the group or have ideas, please contact us for more information and to share your ideas! Contact Grace Fullmer at gfullme@ncsu.edu or Christy Perrin at Christy_perrin@ncsu.edu

HAPPENING AROUND THE WETLANDS



Bailey Drive Gateway at Walnut Creek Wetland Park site.

Bailey Drive Gateway Planning

Following much community engagement, the Parks with Purpose Task Force has worked with Design Workshop to develop two concept plans for the Bailey Drive Gateway site. Community feedback is currently being gathered through an on-line survey. Learn more about the plans on page four of the newsletter and vote for what you'd like to see by visiting -

www.raleighparkswithpurpose.com

Invasive Species Removal

An American Conservation Experience crew has worked at the Bailey Gateway site for the past five weeks, clearing the property of several woody invasive species. This work has been completed with support from the Duke Energy Foundation.

QUIZ! Do you recognize the invasive plants being removed?



Callery Pear



Paper Mulberry



Chinese Privet



Potential site location at Biltmore Hills Park.

Rochester Heights Creek

To help reduce the amount of stormwater runoff that enters Rochester Heights Creek, the planning team is investigating sites to install green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) in Biltmore Hills Park. These features will help absorb rainfall and reduce, store and clean rainfall that runs off. A focus area plan is currently being drafted and will be available to the public soon. We welcome all feedback. For questions or comments please contact Grace Fullmer gfullme@ncsu.edu or Christy Perrin at chrity_perrin@ncsu.edu

Share Your Story

An important goal for Bailey Drive Gateway project is to give historic Rochester Heights and Biltmore Hills neighborhoods a place to tell their story. You are invited to share your own neighborhood stories, big and small—from your neighbor's roles in the civil rights movement, to your memories of family gardens and neighborhood BBQ's. Every story is significant! Initially stories will be shared on social media, and later will be incorporated into temporary public installation on the site. To share your story visit www.raleighparkswithpurpose.com; email raleighparkswithpurpose@gmail.com or contact Jackie Turner at (919) 307-5942 or Liani Yirka (919) 632-6354 para compartir en español.

www.raleighparkswithpurpose.com



PEJ Nature Playscape

Partners for Environmental Justice and the Natural Learning Initiative (NLI), NCSU College of Design, are designing a nature playscape at the Walnut Creek Wetland Park, based on a community survey and all-age workshop results. Led by NLI's Robin Moore, the design will move towards implementation (after onsite construction debris removal), using repurposed invasive branches and felled dead trees for playscape construction. For project information contact: Kristy Moyer at kristi.moyer@raleighnc.gov. Find PEJ on social media [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

City Nature Challenge 2020

April 24-27: Help us document plants and animals in the Triangle! Download the iNaturalist app (free for iPhone and Android). Snap photos of plants, animals, or fungi. Submit them to iNaturalist. It's fun, simple, and you can go outside to do it!

If you are not already, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for partnership updates, events and ideas for what to do during quarantine. We hope you are staying healthy, thank you for your continued support!

It's your space – we want to hear from you! To vote on your favorite concepts shown below and to learn more about the Bailey Drive Gateway project, visit raleighparkswithpurpose.com

CONCEPT #1 - A WALK IN THE WETLAND

This concept's focus is inward, pulling neighbors and visitors into the wetland and investing in a series of trail and boardwalk loops that offer an immersive natural experience.



CONCEPT #2 - A WALK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

This concept's focus is outward, celebrating the neighborhood and investing in a sidewalk and a series of art, garden, and gathering areas along Bailey Drive, with more limited wetland trails.

