

HIKE AND TOUR INFORMATION

BW Wells History Tour – Every hour on the hour

Length: about ½ mile on easy terrain

Time: about 45 minutes

This short history walk leads you around all the main features of the Rock Cliff Farm home stead. You will hear about the history of B.W. Wells and the farm itself.

Geology Tour – 10, 11, 12, and 2

Length: about 1 mile loop on hiking trail with some steep sections

Time: about 45 minutes

This tour leads you down to the lake shore to discuss the unique geology that caused the shape of Rock Cliff Farm. You will visit a rock outcrop along the lake shore and then return uphill along the same trail. You can opt to continue along the trail adding another ¾ of a mile.

Wildflower Tour – 9, 11, 1 and 3

Length: about 1 mile loop on hiking trail with some steep sections

Time: about 45 minutes

This tour leads you along a series of north facing slopes where spring wildflower can be spotted. Plant ecology and history will be discussed as you meander along the trail. The trail returns uphill back to the farm, you can opt to continue along the loop trails in either direction adding another ¾ of a mile.

Hog Farming Tour – 2:00 p.m.

Length: about ½ mile of easy terrain

Time: about 45 minutes

This tour takes you back to 1950, when hog farming was the livelihood of area residents. We will explore the old time techniques of hog farming by visiting a pen and smokehouse.

Family Ecology Hike – 11 and 3

Length: about 1 mile loop on hiking trail with some steep sections

Time: about 45 minutes

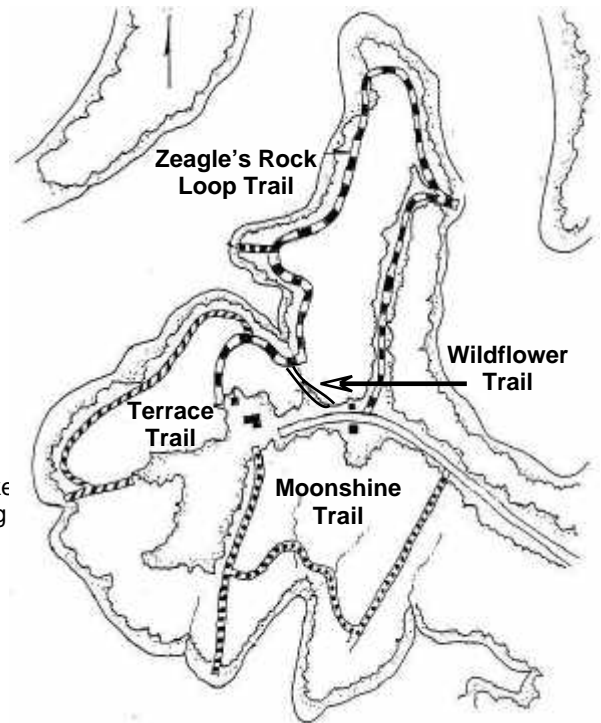
Join a naturalist for an exploration of the different plant communities at Rock Cliff Farm. Just like B.W. Wells did throughout North Carolina, you will look at these different communities with an ecologist's eye. The hike will end along the lake-shore, with a return uphill or option to continue the loop trail in either direction.

Canoe tour – 9 and 1 (SIGN UP REQUIRED)

Length: about three miles of leisurely paddling

Time: 2 ½ hours

After a brief orientation to paddling, participants will walk about 1/3 of a mile down the moonshine trail to the lake shore to board the canoes. From there it is a leisurely paddle along the narrow lake making a few interpretive stops of the Rock Cliff Farm shore line. After a unique photo opportunity and view of Zeagle's Rock, you will turn back and return to the launch site. There will be a 1/3 of a mile return hike up the trail with some steep sections. Participants must be at least 12 years old and know how to swim. Sign up is required. Canoes, life jackets and paddles provided courtesy of Paddle Creek.



Trails Index

Zeagle's Rock Loop Trail - 1 ¼ mile - strenuous
This self guided loop starts behind the studio and follows the shore line around to Zeagle's Rock ending near the parking area. 14 stops highlight numerous features along the trail.

Moonshine Trail - ¾ mile - moderate
This loop starts behind the Smokehouse winding through hardwood slopes and ends near the parking area.

Wildflower Trail - ¼ mile - moderate
This short connector trail starts near the tour area and follows a north facing slope to the Zeagle's Rock loop trail.

Terrace Trail - ¾ mile - moderate
This loop starts below the studio off the Zeagle's Rock loop and follows and crosses several Mangum Terraces and ends at the square well.

Rock Cliff Farm self-guided tour - ½ mile - easy
Use the brochure to guide you around grounds of Rock Cliff Farm. Tour starts at the exhibit area and ends back at the main house.