



Widewater State Park | 101 Widewater State Park Rd. | Stafford, VA 22554 | (540)288-1400

Week 1 : June 1st-3rd
Earth

Week 2 : June 15th-17th
Water

Week 3 : June 29th-July 1st
Fire

Week 4 : July 13th-15th
Air

Week 5 : July 27th-29th
Park Pros

Week 6 : August 10th-12th
Spirit of Adventure

Come learn about plants, animals, and explore the great outdoors !

 Ages 6-10

 10:00AM - 1:00PM

 \$20/child per week

*Pre-registration & pre-payment required!
Call the Visitor Center at (540)-288-1400
with any questions and to register.*



*Scan the QR code to
learn more!*





WIDEWATER STATE PARK




SUMMER 2026

JUNIOR RANGERS AGENDA

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Week 1 : June 1st-3rd

Earth

-  **Day 1-** Geology of Virginia, fossil finds, and John Smith's search for gold
-  **Day 2-** Terrestrial ecosystems, soil surveys, and native plant seed pods
-  **Day 3-** Ecosystem engineers: earthworms, soil-layers pudding cups, and nature journaling




Week 2 : June 15th-17th

Water

-  **Day 1-** Watershed and wetland formation, water cycle, and water quality testing
-  **Day 2-** Riverine ecosystems, fishing 101, and dip netting
-  **Day 3-** Harlem Renaissance artist Palmer Hayden, watercolor painting,




Week 3 : June 29th-July 1st

Fire

-  **Day 1-** The Sun and our solar system, photosynthesis, and solar-powered animals
-  **Day 2-** Fire ecology, pine-cone comparison, and turmeric sun prints
-  **Day 3-** The fires of war: railroads and revolution at Widewater, fire-starting, and campfire kits




Week 4 : July 13th-15th

Air

-  **Day 1-** The atmosphere and weather systems, pollution solutions, and
-  **Day 2-** The science of flight, bird vs insect wings, and seed transportation
-  **Day 3-** Samuel Langely's aerodrome, paper airplane creations, and mammals in the sky




Week 5 : July 27th-29th

Park Pros

-  **Day 1- Maintenance:** later means litter, playground safety, and tools of the trade
-  **Day 2- Law Enforcement:** conservation and you, fire safety, and the laws of the land
-  **Day 3- Natural resources:** wildland firefighting, invasive species, and animal patrol

Week 6 : August 10th-12th

Spirit of Adventure

-  **Day 1-** Camping 101: campsite setup, how to build a campfire, and campfire cooking
-  **Day 2-** Orienteering, habitat hunts, and animal olympics
-  **Day 3- Evening program:** Black light night hike and Perseid meteor shower viewing

All the topics listed will be covered, plus many more! Weather can cause topics and activities to be moved within the same week. Hikes and outdoor activities will be held every day. Further details will be sent upon registration.

Contact Chief Ranger Hillborn with any questions at (540)288-1400 or ellen.hillborn@dcr.virginia.gov.