

# 2025 PARK RANGER INSTITUTE AGENDA

## Session I

### **Sunday January 12**

1pm – 6pm: **REGISTRATION** Administration Building

6pm – 7pm: Supper

7pm – 7:15pm: Welcome/Opening Remarks, John Byrd - Executive Director  
Admin. Building

7:15pm – Guest Speaker: Charles Jackson, Community Recreation Services  
Division Manager, Greensboro Parks & Recreation Dept., NC

### **Monday January 13**

8am – 9am: Breakfast

9am - 11:30am "Round Table Discussion of Current Issues" Jonathan  
Furman, Supervisor Pittsburgh Park Rangers, Pittsburgh, PA, Classroom #1  
Admin. Building

9am – 11:30am: "Wildlife First Response" Ranger Jill Lee, MNCPPC, MD,  
Classroom # 2 Admin. Building

9am – 11:30am "Networking/Team Building" Clint Richardson (Retired)  
Greensboro parks & Recreation, Greensboro, NC & Sgt. Laura MacLeod, St  
Louis Park Rangers, MO, Gym

12pm – 1pm: Lunch

1pm -5:30pm: "Snakes, How Too's & How Not Too's" Michael Romano, Lakes  
Supervisor/Environmental Educator, Greensboro Upper-level round building

1pm – 5:30pm "Introduction to Full Range Leadership" Major Steve Savidge,  
Delaware Natural Resources Police #1 Admin. Building

1pm – 5:30pm "Cedar Rock Historic Park Tour" Dusty Cantley, Alamance  
County Parks, NC meet in front of Admin. Building (*Park also has a  
championship Disc Golf Course*)

6pm – 7pm: Supper

7pm – 9pm: "Building & Maintaining a Disc Golf Course" Steve Shaw, Elon Pks. & Rec. Dept., NC & Dusty Cantley, Alamance Co. Parks, NC #1 Admin. Building

7pm – 9pm: "Learn the Night Sky", Ranger Jill Lee, MNCPPC, MD #2 Admin. Building

7pm - 9pm: "Things That Go Bump in The Night", Michael Romano. Lakes Supervisor/Environmental Education Specialist, Greensboro, Upper-Level Round Building

## **Tuesday January 14**

8am – 9am: Breakfast

9am – 12pm: "Tiger Rescue Facility" (Fee Required) Michael Romano, meet in front of Admin. Building

9am-12pm: "Chainsaw Operation & Safety", Jamie Pettinato - Regional Stihl Representative, #1 Admin.

9am – 5:30pm: "Introduction to Tactical Medicine" Lt. Kurt Blattner & Cpl. John Lister, Delaware Natural Resources Police, DE, #2 Admin

12pm – 1pm: Lunch

1:pm – 5:30pm: "Tactical Medicine" Continued, #2 Admin.

1pm – 5:30pm: "Geocaching" Sgt. Laura MacLeod, St. Louis County Park Rangers, MO #1 Admin.

1pm – 5:30pm: Disc Golf Course Service Project at Haw River State Park, Steve Shaw, Dusty Cantley & Ranger Lindsey Purvis meet in front of Admin. Building

6pm – 7pm: Supper

7pm – 9pm: "Developing & Implementing Eagle Scout Projects", Ranger Ben Sweet, MNCPPC, #1 Admin

7pm – 9pm: “Customer Service” Jeffrey Street, Park Manager, Person  
County Parks & Rec. Dept. #2 Admin.

7pm – 9pm: “Campfire Programs” Ranger Lindsey Purvis, Haw River State  
Park, Fire pit between the gym & the maintenance building.

## **Wednesday January 15**

8am – 9am: Breakfast

9am - 9pm: All firearms competitions will be held this time frame only. (Top  
Gun & Combat Course) Sgt. Robert Young, Elon University Campus Police  
Meet in front of Admin. Building

9am – 12pm: “Bird Walk” Ranger Jill Lee, MNCPPC #2 Admin.

9am- 12pm: “Lake Management” John Byrd, Clint Richardson, & Michael  
Romano, meet in #1 Admin.

12pm – 1pm: Lunch

1pm – 5:30pm “Defensive Tactics for Non-Sworn Personnel” Ranger George  
Harley, MNCPPC, MD, gym

1:30pm – 5:30pm: “Starting an Archery Program in Your Park & Day  
Archery” Clint Richardson #1 Admin.

1:30pm -5:30pm; “Innovative Programming” Michael Romano, Greensboro,  
NC #2 Admin.

6pm – 7pm – Supper

7pm. - Until: “Old Towne Ghost Tour – Greensboro” Michael Romano (Fee  
required) meets in front of Admin. Building

7pm – 9pm: “Night Archery” Clint Richardson, location same as day archery.

7pm – 9pm: “Building a Constituency for Your Parks” John R. Byrd Sr. #1  
Admin.

## **Thursday January 16**

8am – 9am: Breakfast

9am-12pm: "Bigfoot & Other Cryptids – A walk into the Unknown" Michael Romano, Lakes Supervisor/Environmental Education Specialist, Greensboro, Upper-Level Round Building

9am – 12pm: "Outdoor Safety – Plants and Animals to be Aware of for Staying Safe in the Outdoors" Dick Thomas, High Point Pks. & Rec. Dept., NC, #1 Admin.

9am – 12:pm: "Crisis and Deaths in the Parks" Chief John Smiddy, Lorain County Metro Park Rangers, OH #2 Admin.

12pm-1pm: Lunch

1:30 – 5:30 pm: "SKYWILD & Greensboro Science Center" (High Ropes Course/Zip Line & Greensboro Science Center – (Fee Required) Michael Romano, meet in front of Admin. Building.

1pm-5:30pm: "Benefits of a K-9 Unit in Your Parks" Cpl. Trevor Ditmore, Delaware Natural Resources Police #1 Admin.

1pm – 5:30pm "Rapid Deployment Training" Sgt. Robert Young, Elon University Police, Gym\*

6pm-7pm-Supper

7pm – Until: **AWARDS CEREMONY** – Administration Building

Speaker: Chief Wayne Kline, Delaware Natural Resources Police

Presentation of Awards: John R. Byrd Sr. – MC

Door Prizes & Group Photo

## **Friday January 17**

8am – 9am: Breakfast

Check out of rooms by 10am

2025 Session I Adjourned

*\*\*\*\*These classes are for sworn personnel only\*\*\*\**

- All trips and several of the classes will have signup sheets at registration. Some trips require carpooling; please bring an agency van if possible.
- Tiger Rescue Facility is \$10 a person for a minimum of 10 people
- Old Town Ghost Tour is \$15 a person for a minimum of 10
- Greensboro Science Center is \$46 total for Science Center & High Ropes Course (or \$20 just for the Science Center). If we have 16 that want to go to both, the cost will be \$35.
- All firearms participants should bring at least 150 to 200 rounds of ammunition.
- All shooters shoot at the discretion of the Range Master only.