

LOCAL AREA PADDLES – DETAILS AND DIRECTIONS

PADDLES WITH RENTALS:

NOTE: Call before you go if you plan to rent. Rentals may not be available during pandemic

Lake Wheeler Park: 6404 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC 27603. Phone: 919-662-5704. You can rent (sit-on) kayaks for \$5 an hour. Rentals include life jacket and paddle. No need to reserve, just show up. If you bring your own boat, there is a launch fee - City Residents: \$4/day; Non Residents: \$6/day; Senior (age 62) and/or veteran: \$2/day.

Lake Johnson Park: 4601 Advent Ferry Road, Raleigh, NC 27606. Phone: 919-662-5704. You can rent (sit-on) kayaks for \$5 an hour, both single and double. Rentals include life jacket and paddle. No need to reserve, just show up. If you bring your own boat, there is a launch fee - City Residents: \$4/day; Non Residents: \$6/day; Senior (age 62) and/or veteran: \$2/day.

Saxapahaw Lake: Paddle on the Haw River above the dam where it is called Saxapahaw Lake in the town of Saxapahaw. Google Saxapahaw General Store for clear directions – and a great place for lunch.

Directions to the boat put-in location and for those with your own canoes and kayaks: Drive past the General Store, bear right (don't go over the bridge), pass the large brick building, pass the guard rail and immediately turn left onto the gravel road to the public access. There is no clear sign except a "no parking" sign put out by the folks who live on each side. Drive down that gravel road, and very quickly you will be entering the official public launch area. Drive on down to the water, unload, and then you will find parking down near the launch site.

You can rent sit-in kayaks from the Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company 336-260-6465 - go onto the website <http://hawrivercanoe.com/> to reserve and pay on line. Then on the rental day, check in at the office at 6079 Swepsonville-Saxapahaw Road. Then your rental kayak will be transported to the launch site. Parking at the put-in site is limited, so you can park and carpool together to the site just a half block down the road. You can rent double (sit-inside) kayaks or canoes for \$40; single (sit-inside) kayaks for \$30 for 3 hours. Rentals include life jacket and paddle. Directions: office is past the General Store; bear right (don't go over the bridge); right away turn left down to parking lot and to the office in the lower level of a brick building.

Crosswinds Boating Center, Jordan Lake: 565 Farrington Road, Apex, NC 27523-8063 – phone: 919-387-7011. You can rent a 10 foot single kayak for \$10 an hour (\$30 for 4 hours) or 12 foot tandem (double) kayak for \$15 an hour (\$45 for 4 hours). Rentals include life jacket and paddle. Their kayaks are the sit-on type, but don't have very good back support, so bring back support if wish like one of those "stadium seats" with the back.

Rolling View Marina, Falls Lake: 3940 Falls Lake Road, Durham, NC 27703 – phone: 919-596-2194 <http://www.rollingviewmarina.com/> There is a charge of \$3 for put-in with your own kayak. They rent both sit-on and sit-in) kayaks for \$25 for 2 hours and \$35 for 2-4 hours with life jacket and paddle included. To get to Rolling View Marina, drive down Baptist Road. Turn right onto Falls Lake Road just before the entrance to the State Park. Drive down that road to the very end where you will find the Marina. DO NOT turn right where it says boat launch.

PADDLES WITHOUT RENTALS

Vista Point, Jordan Lake: (Closed during phase 2) - 3199 N Pea Ridge Road, Pittsboro, NC. If you put this address in your GPS it will take you right to the entrance to the park and just drive straight ahead to the park gate. It will cost \$6 for entry (June, July, and August) but only \$4 for most of us seniors. Then drive to the end of the road to the gravel put-in area.

Eno River Boat Ramp - Put in "Eno River boat ramp" in google maps and it gets you right there. From Crabtree Mall (just off I-440) on Glenwood, Rt 70, it is 25 miles to the Eno River Boat Ramp..
Directions: take Glenwood/US 70 West to I-85 East (16.8 miles). Take I-85 East to Red Mill Rd (Exit 182). At bottom of exit ramp turn left on Red Mill Rd. and go about 4 miles to dead end at Teknika Pkwy (there will be no street sign, but there will be a state boat ramp sign indicating a right turn). Take the right and go about 3/10 of a mile to the next stop sign. There will be another state boat ramp sign indicating another right turn. Take that right. A few 100 yards in, the road will turn into a gravel road. Continue on it until you reach the parking lot on the left next to the river.

Farrington Point - 605 Farrington Boat Ramp, Chapel Hill, NC 27517. Directions: Coming west on 64, turn right at gas station in Wilsonville onto Farrington Point Rd - one traffic light further than 751 (Sign for town of Wilsonville). Once you see Martha's Chapel Rd. on your right (and the lake), start looking to your left for Farrington Point entrance which comes up very quickly on the left immediately after the lake. (If you get to Lystra Rd, you've gone too far). As you drive down the entrance road, bear left to get to the kayak launch vs. the motor boat launch.

Robeson Creek Canoe Access Ramp - The Roberson Creek canoe launch is just below the last rapids on the Haw River as it flows into Jordan Lake. To get there, drive west across the lake (toward Pittsboro) on Hwy. 64. Six miles west of Wilsonville (64 and 1008 stoplight) you'll cross the Haw River. At 0.9 mile after the Haw, turn left on SR 1944 (Dee Farrell Road). It will shortly dead-end into SR 1943; turn left on SR 1943. After 1.0 mile of traveling southeast on SR 1943, look for a gravel road on your left with a sign directing you to the Roberson Creek canoe launch site - not to be confused with the Roberson Creek boat ramps farther on down SR 1943. Drive Route 64 west toward Pittsboro; cross over Jordan Lake; cross over the Haw River (about 3 miles past Jordan Lake). Go 0.9 miles and take first left after the Haw River onto Foxfire Trace. Go 0.5 miles and turn left onto Dee Farrell Rd. Go 0.7 mi and turn left onto Hanks Chapel Rd. Go 1 mile and turn left onto Robeson Creek Canoe Access. Go 0.8 mi and the parking lot is at the end. GPS shows the destination as Canoe Access Rd, Pittsboro NC. There is a nice floating kayak/canoe launch platform that makes it easy to get your boat in and out. We can paddle as far as we want down river, or, if anyone is feeling adventurous, you could go a short distance upriver and tackle the rapids.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Robeson+Creek+Canoe+Launch/@35.7123957,-79.1097712,14z/data=!4m2!1m6!3m5!1s0x0:0x6a4b94748685aae7!2sRobeson+Creek+Canoe+Launch!8m2!3d35.7164392!4d-79.0964127!3m4!1s0x0:0x6a4b94748685aae7!8m2!3d35.7164392!4d-79.0964127>

Robeson Creek BOAT Ramp. Accessed from US-64 across Jordan Lake (midway between Pittsboro and Apex). Watch for the sign at the entrance road. To get there, drive west across the lake (toward Pittsboro) on Hwy. 64. Six miles west of Wilsonville (64 and 1008 stoplight) you'll cross the Haw River. At 0.9 mile after the Haw, turn left on SR 1944 (Dee Farrell Road). It will shortly dead-end into SR 1943; turn left on SR 1943. After 1.0 mile of traveling southeast on SR 1943, look for a gravel road on your left for the Roberson Creek canoe launch site. Don't turn there but continue on and TURN LEFT at sign for Robeson Boat Access.

Swepsonville River Park - Swepsonville River Park is the “lower access” where the Haw River and Alamance Creek meet, and is located at 2698 Boywood Road, Swepsonville. We put in here and paddle up the Great Alamance Creek and back down.

Shearon Harris Boat Launch on Harris Lake. Bartley Holleman Rd, New Hill, NC 27562. Directions: Take US Highway 1 South from Raleigh to exit 89 and then turn left onto New Hill Holleman Rd, in about 3 miles you will come to the entrance to “Harris Lake County Park” where we put in once before, but **do not** go into the park, rather, continue on New Hill Holleman Rd for a little more than a mile to a stop sign. Turn right onto Bartley Holleman Rd. and continue for about 1.8 miles until you see the NC Wildlife sign on your right, take that right turn to the lake side. This is a very new, very large facility with launching from one of four boat ramps. The shore line is protected with rip-rap, so the boat ramps are the only reasonable place to launch, although we found a nice spot on the other side of the parking lot where we could easily launch one kayak at a time.

Old Pea Ridge Road - Jordan Lake: From Rt 64 where you see the sign for Wilsonville, turn left onto Beaver Dam Road and go 1.2 miles south (beyond) of the turn into Ebenezer Church Recreational area ramp, and just past Pea Ridge Road, there is a right turn marked only by a simple green sign “Public Fishing Wildlife Area”. Very simple access for non-motorized boats only, and plenty of parking. That part of the lake is isolated and very quiet. No facilities at all.

Ledge Rock Boat Ramp - just beyond Beaver Dam on Falls Lake in New Light, NC. North on Creedmoor Road, Rt 50. Left on Old Weaver Trail. (watch for sign on right to Lyon strawberry farm). Left on Boyce (not the right turn to Creedmoor Pottery). Left at the “T” on Olive Grove Church Rd. Put in at Ledge Rock Wildlife Area. Paddle left to second cove and to old very long beaver dam. Here is a link to Google map for Rock Ledge Boat Ramp:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=rock+ledge+boat+ramp&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8>

Beaver Dam Primitive Access to Falls Lake - 1752 Old Weaver Trail, Wake Forest, NC 27587
<https://goo.gl/maps/hvKVfLpu7V42> At this address, there is a dirt road down to the water for a good launch. Also a good launch if you drive up the road across the bridge, park on the left alongside the road (plenty of good parking off the road) and carry kayaks a 25 yds down to the water. Then go left under the bridge to the beaver dam and bird nesting area.

Bayleaf Church Road - Falls Lake - Take Six Forks Rd north until it turns left at the Marathon station. Do not turn Left! Continue straight onto Possum Track Rd. In about 100 yards (at the Y) continue straight on to Bayleaf Church Rd. Follow Bayleaf Church Road until it dead ends at Falls Lake. Bayleaf Church Road is a ghost road meaning it is a road that is now under the water due to the construction of the lake. You will see the parks administration building on your left. You can drive to the lake, past the limited access sign, to unload your kayak. Then park up the hill, also on the left, past the former gate. We have been given permission to use this launch site by the people at the administration building. We do not have an address for the site but if you put Bayleaf Church road in your GPS and then follow Bayleaf Church Road until it dead ends you can't miss it.

Upper Barton's Creek Boat Ramp – Falls Lake - 12900 Six Forks Rd. Directions: Take Six-Forks toward Falls Lake, when Six-Forks turns left take it - there will be a Marathon Station on your right and a sign for Blue Jay Point at the turn. Go approximately 2 miles and after you go over the 2nd bridge the turn for the boat ramp will be on your right. You will be able to see the ramp from the bridge.

Lake Crabtree in Lake Crabtree County Park - 1400 Aviation Pkwy, Morrisville, NC 27560. There are no power boats allowed on this lake. The rooftop boat launch site is at the very end of the paved road that runs straight thru the park. This is a popular place for trail biking and there is a large amount of parking available. I think the "honor system launch fee" is \$2 put into a slot near the launch.

Falls Lake Beaver Dam Park - Drive out of Raleigh going North on Rt 50/Creedmoor Road. After you cross the lake, go another 1-2 miles and look for the State Park sign with right turn into Falls Lake Beaver Dam Park (directly across Rt 50 is the Sandling Beach Recreational Area which is a good landmark). Drive about a mile into the park. Go past the parking lot with a building, and turn right into the next parking lot where the boat launch area is located.

Purnell Road – Falls Lake – Take Six Forks Road and follow it when it turns into New Light Road. Then turn Right onto Purnell Road and put in at the Bridge.

Ebenezer Church Recreation area on Jordan Lake (Closed during Phase 2) Directions: When heading out toward Jordan Lake on Route 64, turn left at the stoplight with the sign "Wilsonville." There's a general store on the corner. Go south on Beaver Creek Road for 2.2 miles, then right onto Ebenezer Road and go all the way to the end to the Ebenezer Church Recreation area. Go past the picnic area and public swimming beach, and the launch area is off to the right at a small beach. Just pull over to the side of the road to unload and then you can park in the lot right beside this spot. GPS address shows 2582 Beaver Creek Road, Apex, NC, which brings you to the intersection where you turn right onto Ebenezer Road and go to the end to reach the recreation area. Here are coordinates:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Ebenezer+Church+Recreation+Area/@35.7077392,-79.0218897,890m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0x43293802a69e2f8d!6m1!1e1>

Robertson Millpond Preserve, 6333 Robertson Pond, Wendell, NC 27591 – Is a Wake County park open 8:00 AM to sunset during peak season, and on Saturday and Sunday off-peak season. A lovely millpond with Bald Cypress trees. Paddle Creek is renting kayaks on Saturdays for \$25 an hour.

WEEKEND ONLY PADDLES

Lake Raleigh - NCSU Campus – From the State Farmers Market, turn right onto Centennial Parkway, then left onto Achievement Drive, then right onto Main Campus Drive, then left into the Lake Raleigh Park. A nice small lake available to the public with free parking on weekends only.