

Rocky Creek Trail opens Thursday

By Bruce Henderson

Posted: Wednesday, Jun. 24, 2009

The publicly accessible, three-mile Rocky Creek Trail along the Catawba River south of Charlotte will open Thursday.

Paid for by an S.C. state grant, the trail is a first step toward the Carolina Thread Trail, which will eventually link 15 counties in the Charlotte region. The National Audubon Society has designated the trail and the surrounding land on both sides of the river an Important Bird Area, marking its significance as wildlife habitat.

The Great Falls Hometown Association, Katawba Valley Land Trust, the town of Great Falls, S.C., parks and natural resources departments and Audubon South Carolina partnered to develop the trail.

The opening celebration will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Rocky Creek Trail parking lot, on U.S. 21/ S.C. 200 1.2 miles south of Great Falls, just north of the Rocky Creek bridge. -- *Bruce Henderson*

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