



SPENCER MOUNTAIN RIVER ACCESS FACT SHEET

GUIDELINES FOR ENJOYMENT

The access is open every day, dawn to dark.

Vehicles left after dark will be locked in the lot overnight.

River access is for canoe and kayak launch at the designated launch area.

Take trash and recyclables home.

Overnight camping is prohibited.

Respect private property; do not trespass on posted private property.

Do not remove or disturb plant and animal life.

Secure all valuables; Catawba Lands Conservancy is not responsible for loss or theft of personal items.

Keep pets on a leash; clean up waste.

Federal, state and local boating & fishing regulations apply.

PARTNERS

Catawba Lands Conservancy

Community Foundation of Gaston County

Clean Water Management Trust Fund

WHAT IS THE SPENCER MOUNTAIN RIVER ACCESS?

Situated along the South Fork River, the 52-acre Spencer Mountain River Access hosts Catawba Lands Conservancy's first canoe/kayak launch on the South Fork Catawba River. This project initiates a plan of connecting, by river, conserved lands that will provide scenic views along the river for the enjoyment of all.

HOW LONG AND DIFFICULT IS THE TRIP?

The trip down to the R.Y. McAden River Access take out point is approximately 2 hours, 5.5 miles. River stream features vary from slow moving water with intermittent rapids where rock ledges have been carved from the river bottom to concentrated rapids at approximate mile 3.5. At times scouting may be needed to determine the best route. There is a dam approximately 5.5 miles down the river - users must exit the river on the right (river right) before the dam.

WHERE DO I TAKE OUT MY CANOE / KAYAK?

Pharr Yarns has graciously provided for a river take-out and parking for your shuttle vehicle at the R.Y. McAden River Access on Willow Drive, off Dickson Road - approximate physical address is 149 Willow Dr, Gastonia, NC 28056.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS?

Recreational river activities have inherent risks. Visitors and users knowingly assume all risks, both known and unknown. Persons using this access and engaging in activities on the South Fork Catawba River should have adequate skill, knowledge, experience and judgment to safely enjoy these pursuits.

WHAT WILL I SEE ON MY TRIP?

The South Fork Catawba River is home to a variety of wildlife, including great blue herons, osprey, beaver, and deer. Users who access the river from the Spencer Mountain River Access will paddle through some of the most ecologically diverse lands in our region, many of which are permanently protected by the Conservancy.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

Catawba Lands Conservancy is the non-profit local land trust serving Gaston and the surrounding counties. When you make a donation, we use your gift along with others from private and public sources to protect our region's special, natural places.

DIRECTIONS TO SPENCER MOUNTAIN RIVER ACCESS

Approximate physical address— 282 Stanley Spencer Mountain Road, Spencer Mountain, NC 28056

FROM CHARLOTTE:

Take I-85 South to exit 23 – Lowell/ McAdenville/ Hwy 7. Turn **RIGHT** at the stoplight onto Hwy 7 – towards Lowell and proceed .6 miles. Turn **RIGHT** at the next stoplight onto Main St. (Citgo gas station on corner). Proceed 3.2 miles, at the T-intersection turn **RIGHT** onto Stanley-Spencer Mountain Rd. Travel .1 mile, you will cross a bridge, just as the bridge ends, the entrance to Spencer Mtn. River Access will be on your **RIGHT**.

FROM GASTONIA:

Head north on NC-279/S New Hope Rd. Turn **RIGHT** on NC-7/E Ozark Ave and travel 0.8 mile. Turn **LEFT** on Spencer Mountain Rd and travel 1.7 miles. Continue on Ranlo Spencer Mtn Rd for 0.8 mile. Turn **RIGHT** on Dallas Spencer Mtn Rd/Main St/NC-2003 for 0.3 mile. Continue on Stanley-Spencer Mtn Rd for 0.2 mile. Travel .1 miles, you will cross a bridge, just as the bridge ends, the entrance to Spencer Mtn. River Access will be on your **RIGHT**.

DIRECTIONS TO TAKE-OUT AT R.Y. McADEN RIVER ACCESS FROM SPENCER

MOUNTAIN RIVER ACCESS Approximate physical address— 149 Willow Dr, Gastonia, NC 28056

Turn **LEFT** on Stanley-Spencer Mtn Rd - 0.2 mile. Turn **LEFT** on Lowell Spencer Mtn Rd/NC-2201, proceed 3.3 miles. Turn **LEFT** at traffic signal (Citgo gas station on corner) on McAdenville Rd/NC-7, proceed 1 mile. Turn **LEFT** at Dickson Rd - you will see a sign that reads "Proceed slowly, automatic gate ahead." Continue straight. Less than one tenth of mile further, Dickson Rd. turns left; do not turn. Proceed through a right-hand curve onto Willow Dr. The entrance to the R.Y. MacAden River Access is just beyond the green wooden building. Signs will direct you to the river access point.

