



Lake James State Park

P.O. Box 340, 6883 NC Hwy 126
Nebo, NC 28761

828-584-7728

lake.james@ncparks.gov

GPS: 35.728710, -81.901123

Activities

Education and Events: Lake James State Park's rangers are skilled environmental educators who will guide you on exciting explorations where you'll uncover fascinating details about the park's history and wide variety of animals and plants. Join a regularly scheduled nature program or contact the park office to arrange a program for your group or class.



Camping: The crisp, clear evenings are perfect for a long night's sleep. Camping is available at the Catawba River Area of Lake James State Park. All of the camping is primitive in nature and campers must walk to the sites. Reservations are strongly recommended for camping.



Picnicking: You bring the food and we'll supply the atmosphere. There are picnic areas available on a first-come, first-served basis at both the Catawba River and Paddy's Creek areas of Lake James State Park. Picnic sites include tables, outdoor grills and trash and recycling receptacles. Drinking water and restrooms are located within a short walk of all picnic sites. Three large picnic shelters with 12 tables each are available for groups. The shelters are reservable.



Hiking and Biking: Taking a hike or a bike ride on the extensive trail system at Lake James State Park is a great way to enjoy the outdoors at your own pace. A walk in the spring when the air is scented with sweet wild azalea and rhododendron blossoms or a stroll in the fall when the leaves are ablaze in colors is tonic for the soul. There are hiking trails at both Catawba River and Paddy's Creek.



Fishing: The cool mountain waters of the Linville and Catawba rivers flow into the depths of Lake James, creating a perfect environment for the many gamefish that swim here. Largemouth bass, walleye, white bass, crappie, bluegill, redbreast sunfish, muskellunge, carp, perch and catfish are all found in the lake. A fishing license is required and all anglers must adhere to the regulations of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

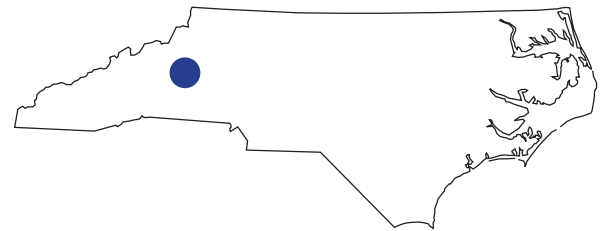


Boating: Canoes and kayaks may be rented for a modest fee from the concession stand in the Paddy's Creek Area, which is open seasonally. Two boat ramps are located within two miles west of the Paddy's Creek Area entrance along NC 126. The Hidden Cove boat ramp is operated according to park hours. The boat ramp at Canal Bridge is open 24 hours a day.



Swimming is permitted in the Paddy's Creek Area only within the designated swimming area. The swimming area is open in the spring and summer. A fee of \$5 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3-12 is in effect when lifeguards are on duty. Swimming is free of charge when there are no lifeguards on duty.

Location



Lake James State Park is located in Burke and McDowell counties, five miles northeast of Marion on N.C. 126. From I-40, take the Dysartsville/Lake James exit (exit 94) and head north for 0.5 mile to a stop sign. Turn left onto US 70 and follow it for 1.5 miles. Turn right onto Bridgewater Road and travel 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Benfield's Landing Road, and follow it for 2 miles to a stop sign. Turn left onto N.C. 126, and follow signs to the Catawba River Area 1.5 miles on the right, or turn right onto N.C. 126, and follow signs to the Paddy's Creek Area 0.7 miles on the right.

Park Hours

North Carolina State Parks are open every day, with the exception of Christmas Day. Park hours vary with the seasons.

Please visit the North Carolina State Park website or contact the park office for the most current information about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs rules and weather.

www.ncparks.gov

Make a reservation online at ncparks.gov
or call 1-877-722-6762.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS
Naturally Wonderful