



Guides & Maps for South Carolina Rivers & Waterways

This is a listing of information sources with internet links provided by
S.C. Department of Natural Resources - Scenic Rivers Program
P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202 803-734-9096
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Guides and Maps

Paddle SC – A statewide coalition is working to improve public access to blueways / paddle trails; and their website presents information and maps as a guide to paddling rivers and waterways of South Carolina.

Paddling South Carolina - A Guide to Palmetto State River Trails – The revised 2001 book by Gene Able and Jack Horan, published by Sandlapper Publishing, Inc. is a comprehensive guide to paddling most of the state's rivers. It's available at many bookstores and libraries.

Canoe Kayak South Carolina - A Guide to Paddling the Palmetto State – The 2014 book by Paul Ferguson, published by Pocosin Press is another comprehensive guide to rivers of South Carolina. The website includes online map features (Google Earth Placemarks)

South Carolina Atlas and Gazetteer (by DeLorme) – This handy atlas has shaded relief maps for the whole state, with roads, lakes, waterways, many boat ramps, and more. A large-format (11x17), 60+-page atlas; features 48 quad maps in grid system covering entire state. Available at bookstores, newsstands, and the Internet.

Topographic Maps by the US Geological Survey – For detailed maps of rivers, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic (topo) maps are a good choice. The 7.5 Minute (1:24,000-scale) map series offers the most detail, and to capture larger areas, a 1:100,000-scale topo is a good choice. Check out the USGS Store and see [map products](#) for purchase or downloads. Call USGS to order maps at 1-888-275-8747.

Nautical Charts by NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Nautical Charts are useful for navigating rivers at the coast or traveling the Intracoastal Waterway. For chart sources, viewing, or downloads check the [NOAA online sources](#).

SCTrails.net - Water Trails – This website provides maps and descriptions for 50+ water trails in South Carolina. The website is provided by the SC Trails Program of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism (SCPRT).

South Carolina Scenic Rivers – Ten State Scenic Rivers are described at SCDNR's website. *Water Trail Guides* are available for two Scenic Rivers, the **Lynches** and **Little Pee Dee** (of Dillon). View or download guides from the [Publications](#) webpage. Hardcopies for Lynches are available upon request. Call (803) 734-9096.

Edisto River Basin Boating Guide – Hardcopies of this guide are available for purchase from SCDNR and it may be viewed or downloaded from the webpage.

Berkeley County Blueways – Santee River, Wadboo Creek, Wambaw Creek, Lake Moultrie, Goose Creek Reservoir and other water trails are described in the online guide to paddling Berkeley County waterways.

US Forest Service – River Access and Trails - Chattooga, Broad, Tyger, Enoree, Turkey, Wambaw, and other rivers flow through National Forests of South Carolina. Francis Marion & Sumter National Forest websites have [recreation water activities](#) to include boating maps and related info. Telephone: (803) 561-4000.

American Rivers Blue Trails – AR and local partners develop maps, guides, and plans under their [Blue Trails Program](#). South Carolina Blue Trails include four rivers: **Ashley**, **Congaree**, **Waccamaw**, and **Wateree**. Contact the SC American Rivers office at (803) 771-7114.

Other Rivers

- **ACE Basin - Ashepoo, Combahee, and Edisto** rivers. See [Paddling the ACE Basin](#) at acebasin.net.
- **Catawba River** - Duke Energy provides a [Catawba River Canoe Trail Map](#) and online guide.
- **Congaree River** - [Congaree National Park](#) provides [trip ideas](#) for paddling the river within the park.
- **Lynches and Great Pee Dee** – [SC Revolutionary Rivers Water Trail](#).

Santee-Cooper Lakes and boat passage – Columbia to Charleston - Passage through **Lake Marion** and **Lake Moultrie** and the locks at Pinopolis Dam is described at the Santee Cooper website under the heading of Lakes, Maps & Navigation, and Pinopolis Lock.

Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail – This is a website describing an 800-mile coastal water trail connecting South Carolina with Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. An interactive map presents alternative routes and mileage. SCDNR provides a related website featuring route maps and places of interest along the [South Carolina section of the Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail](#).

Boat Ramps - SCDNR website – The SCDNR website presents public lands and access areas statewide. Boat Ramps are listed at the website by water body or county. Note, the listing does not include all public boat ramps.

Fishing and Places to Fish in South Carolina

SCDNR websites for Fishing – Where to fish? Several lists describe places where the public can find access to waterways for fishing

- [Lakes and waterways](#)
- [Bank and Pier fishing sites](#)
- [Coastal fishing](#)
- [Trout fishing](#)

Outfitters, Guides, Canoe/Kayak Equipment

South Carolina Paddlesports Industry Association

Members of this organization include outfitters, retailers, clubs and non-profits involved in paddlesports business and recreation; and most members provide equipment, instruction, and/or guided tours. Other outfitters, some not affiliated with this association, may also be available in your area.