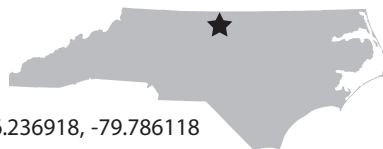


Haw River State Park IRON ORE BELT ACCESS



GPS: 36.236918, -79.786118

PARK INFORMATION

Access Address:

6068 N. Church St. Greensboro, NC 27455

Park Hours:

November – February: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 March – May, September – October: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 June – August: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 Closed Christmas Day

Contact Information:

339 Conference Center Drive, Browns Summit, NC 27214
 haw.river@ncparks.gov ■ www.ncparks.gov

Welcome

Located in the northern Piedmont Triad region, picturesque terrain makes Haw River State Park the perfect place to connect with nature. The Great Blue Heron Loop trail provides access to views of wetlands rich in flora and fauna while meandering through piedmont oak-hickory forests. The Iron Ore Pit Trail takes hikers past surface-level iron ore deposits and the remnants of a historical iron ore mining pit within the park. Hikers will also cross over old farm roads and through early successional fields.

Trails

Great Blue Heron Loop Trail: The 3.2-mile loop trail is accessed from the connector trail off of the main parking lot. The trail winds through mixed hardwood forests, along wetlands and old farm fields. The connector trail adds 0.7 miles.

Iron Ore Pit Trail: This 0.35-mile trail section is accessed along the Great Blue Heron Loop trail. The section passes by iron ore rock outcroppings and reminders of the park's land use history, including an iron excavation pit which may date as far back as the Revolutionary War. When hiked from the parking lot as a loop using the Great Blue Heron Loop and connector trail, the total distance comes to 1.66 miles.

Cultural History

The Iron Ore Belt Access holds evidence of a long history of human interaction with the land; from prehistoric occupations, to Revolutionary War activity, and, most recently, agriculture.

This area of the park is in a geological feature called the Iron Ore Belt of North Carolina. Five miles north of the park are the remnants of the Troublesome Creek Ironworks, originally established in 1770 as the Speedwell Furnace, in what is now southern Rockingham County. By the time of the American Revolution (1775-1783), the furnace was in disrepair, but the property went on to house furnaces for smelting iron, gristmills, sawmills and blacksmith shops until after World War II. Several deep pits within the park suggest that this area was mined for iron ore for the original Ironworks.

New Parks for a New Century

In 2002, as part of the New Parks for a New Century Initiative of N.C. State Parks, the upper Haw River area was identified as an area of interest. On May 21, 2003, based on the identification that "the Haw River in Guilford and Rockingham counties supports a large collection of wetlands, high quality upland forests, and rare plant and animal resources of statewide significance" the General Assembly of North Carolina ratified an act to authorize the addition of Haw River State Park. The first parcel to be purchased was the Summit Environmental Education Center.

In 2007, citizens of Guilford and Rockingham counties learned of a proposed golf course community to be located off N. Church Street along the Haw River. To get the state to step in and protect this beautiful property, a group of volunteers quickly came together and formed the Friends of Haw River State Park. Their hard work paid off and in 2008 the property that is now the Iron Ore Belt Access was purchased.

In the Future

As new parks are established, the Division Parks and Recreation creates a master plan for each one that outlines a vision for the future of the park, encompassing all aspects of operations, including structures, trails, day use and overnight facilities.

Haw River State Park is a unique part of the state parks system in that there are two quite different operations: the Summit Environmental Education and Conference Center and the more traditional Iron Ore Belt Access. On this side of the park, plans are being developed for additional trails, picnic areas and other day use amenities.

Rules and Regulations

Make your visit a safe and rewarding experience. See the division's website or visit the park office for a full listing of rules and regulations at www.ncparks.gov

- The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited except in designated areas.
- The removal of any plant, animal, rock or artifact is prohibited.
- Pets must be on an attended leash no longer than 6 feet. Pets are not allowed in buildings or the swimming area.
- All state parks are wildlife preserves. Hunting and trapping are not permitted.
- Please throw trash in proper receptacles. State law requires aluminum cans and plastic bottles to be placed in recycling containers.
- Firearms and other weapons are prohibited however those with a proper permit may possess a concealed handgun in permitted areas and under the requirements of North Carolina G.S. 14-415.11. All firearms and weapons are prohibited in visitor centers and park offices.



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



N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation
 Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources
 1615 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699











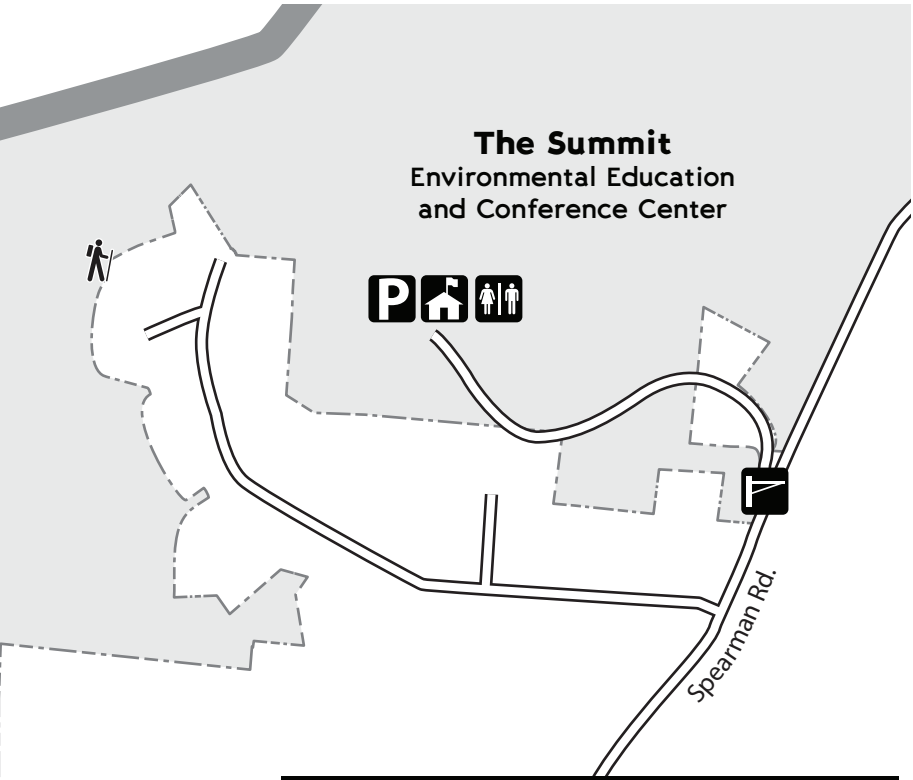
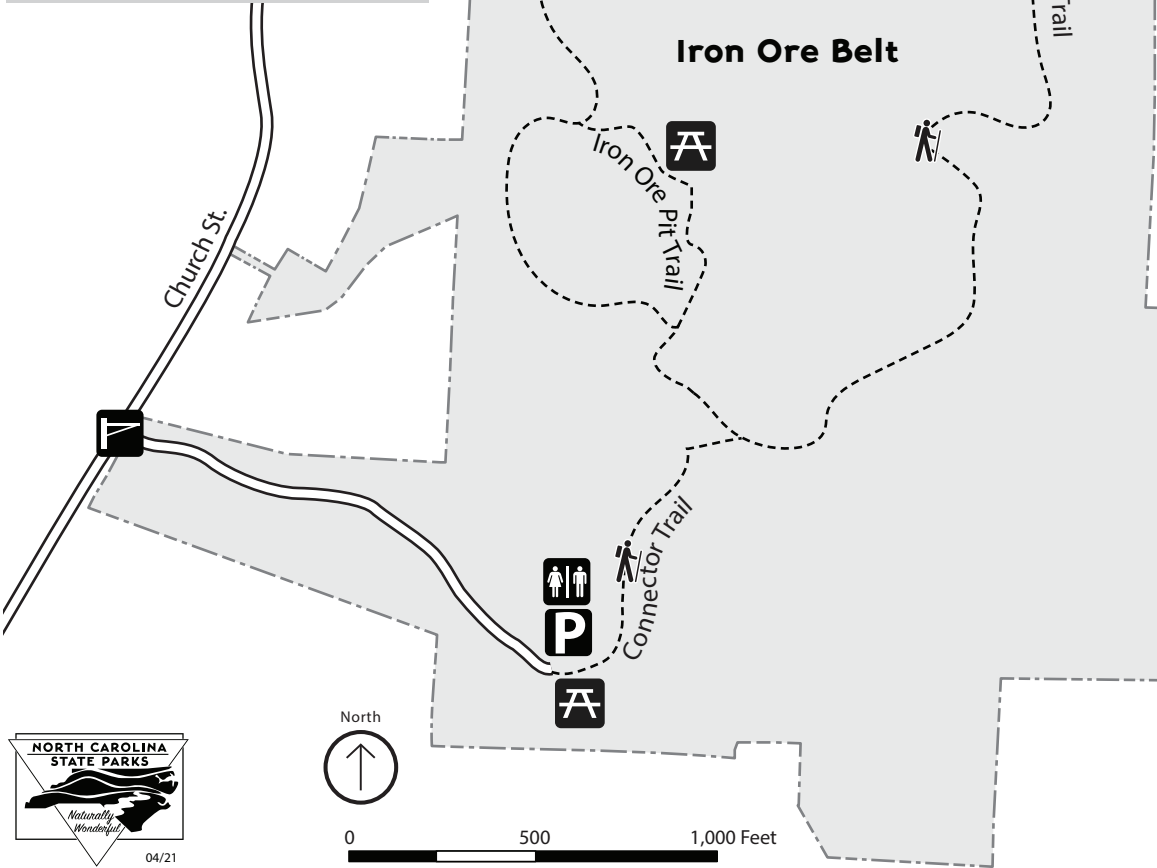
When you have finished with this publication, help save our earth by sharing it with a friend, returning it to the park or recycling it.

Haw River State Park

IRON ORE BELT ACCESS

Legend

-  Hiking Trails - - - - -
-  Parking
-  Park Boundary
-  Park Gate
-  Park Office/Main Lodge
-  Picnic Area
-  Restrooms
-  Roads



Trails

Great Blue Heron Loop Trail	3.2 miles	moderate	orange	■
Connector Trail	0.35 mile	easy	white	●
Iron Ore Pit Trail	0.35 mile	easy	blue	●

