

PALMETTO-PEARTREE PRESERVE PADDLE TRAIL



Distance Between Pullouts

(west-east in miles)

- Hidden Lake-Boardwalk: 1.25
- Boardwalk-Navy Tower Rd: .5
- Navy Tower-Pledger Harbor: 3.5
- Pledger Harbor-Ft. Landing: 8
- Interior Route to Hidden Lake: .85

Paddling to Hidden Lake

There are 2 ways to access Hidden Lake:

1. If weather and time permit, launch at either the boat ramp or canoe pier and follow the Albemarle Sound west to Hidden Lake.
2. In the event of rough weather on the Sound, follow the Interior Route to Hidden Lake via the canal.

For more information on Hidden Lake please see reverse.

Keep safe when paddling. Be prepared and always use a personal floatation device.

Palmetto-Peartree Preserve Paddle Trail

The Palmetto-Peartree Preserve is bordered by the Albemarle Sound to the north and the Little Alligator Creek to the south. With over 14 miles of shoreline the preserve provides an excellent location to spend a day on the water. Enjoy paddling the scenic coastline, watching ospreys fish overhead, and exploring Hidden Lake.

Hidden Lake

Hidden Lake is certainly one of the highlights along the Palmetto-Peartree Preserve Paddle Trail. This roughly 10 acre blackwater lake is accessible from the Albemarle Sound down a quarter mile entrance channel. A sign at the beginning of the channel will let you know you have arrived, but keep your eyes open because “Hidden” Lake is certainly a fitting name. As you paddle past cypress trees and Spanish moss you’ll quickly get a sense of what an enchanted, serene location this is. On the eastern edge of the lake you’ll find our camping platform, an ideal location to bird watch by day and stargaze by night.

Camping Reservations

Overnight campers must hold a reservation and valid permit to use the platform. Reservations may be made with the Roanoke River Partners online at www.roanokeriverpartners.org or by phone at (252) 792-3790. Day users are welcome to use the platform for picnicking and birdwatching, provided that no permit is posted at the canoe dock, indicating the platform has been reserved. Day users must vacate the platform by 3pm.

Platform Rules

In order to keep Hidden Lake pristine, please follow all rules posted on the platform. No open fires are permitted on the platform; camp stoves are required for cooking. In addition, portable toilets with disposable bags are required. Users may bring their own or borrow one located on the platform.

Funding

Funding for the platform was provided by the Anheuser-Busch Foundation and the NC Adopt-A-Trail program.

About the Palmetto-Peartree Preserve

The 10,000 acre Palmetto-Peartree Preserve is a project of The Conservation Fund. The Fund forges partnerships to conserve America’s land and water resources in a manner that balances environmental and economic goals. The preserve was established in 1999 with funding from the NC Dept. of Transportation to serve as a mitigation bank for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. In addition, the preserve provides outdoor recreation, environmental education, and economic development opportunities for local residents and visitors.

Contact Us

For more information or to make a donation please visit www.palmettopeartree.org or contact us at:

The Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 271
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 967-2223 x7

Palmetto-Peartree Preserve
Project Office
212 Main St.
Columbia, NC 27925