

EDENTON & CHOWAN COUNTY, NC

Close to Nature

birding
paddling
camping
biking
boating
fishing
hiking
wildlife



EDENTON
&
CHOWAN
COUNTY

EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA
WWW.VISITEDENTON.COM

Welcome to the *Inner Banks* of Chowan County and our Neighbors

>Welcome to Chowan County's Inner Banks, where nature and beauty flourish in perfect rhythm.

The Albemarle Sound is a Coastal inlet of Northeastern North Carolina and is the largest freshwater sound in North America. The brackish water of this estuary sparkles with a bit of salt water which is drawn in from the sea, but more prominently with fresh water from connecting rivers. The sound can become slightly more saline in dry summers as salt water from the coast creeps inland. Because of the brackish water, fresh and salt water species of fish and blue crabs are found together in the sound.

The two main rivers feeding into the Albemarle Sound are the Chowan and the Roanoke. The Sound's waters are clear but tea-colored, from tannic acid created by decomposing vegetation along the banks. This decomposing matter is converted into important nutrients.

Also close to shore, wave action sometimes produces a foam layer on the water's surface This is a natural by-product of wind and weather.

Experience the beauty and adventure first hand.



*Enjoy
the views!*



Edenton waterfront

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It's easy to combine love of nature and history when you visit Chowan County. With its rural, relatively flat topography, the county has many routes 'off the beaten path' for walking, biking and paddling, past historic structures and through farm land, rivers and creeks.

Catherine and Warwick Creeks



A NC Birding Trail

Miles	5
Skill level	Beginner/intermediate
Difficulty	Moderate, due to length and open water at mouth of creek
Time required	3–5 Hours
Camping	5 platforms on Holladay’s Island
Access	SR 1232 Bridge

Dillard Creek

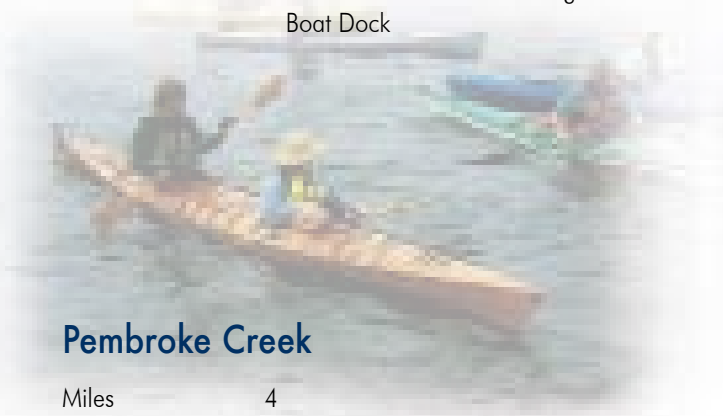
Miles	4
Skill level	Beginner
Difficulty	Easy
Time required	2–3 hours
Camping	None
Accesses	1 SR 1226 Bridge 2 Arrowhead Beach Safe Refuge Boat Dock



Pembroke Creek

Miles	4
Skill level	Beginner/intermediate
Difficulty	Easy/moderate
Time required	3–4 hours
Camping	5 platforms adjacent on John’s Island
Accesses	1 SR 1208 Bridge 2 SR 1200 Bridge 3 Bayside Marina & Grill 4 Edenton Waterfront Park

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DLE TRAILS

Queen Anne Creek

Miles	4
Skill level	Beginner
Difficulty	Easy
Time required	2–3 hours
Camping	None
Accesses	1 Edenton Waterfront Park 2 Queen Anne Park 3 NC 32 Bridge 4 Cotton Mill Boardwalk



Rocky Hock Creek/Bennett's Millpond



A NC Birding Trail

Miles	Rocky Hock: 4 Bennett's: 3
Skill level	Beginner
Difficulty	Easy
Time required	Rocky Hock: 3 hours Bennett's: half/whole day
Picnic area:	Yes
Camping:	Yes, primitive
Accesses	1 Chowan County's Bennett's Millpond 2 SR 1207 Bridge

Trestle House Inn/Cape Colony

Miles	4
Skill level	Intermediate
Difficulty	Moderate
Time Required	2–4 hours
Camping	None
Accesses	1 Cape Colony neighborhood (end of Blackbeard's Road) 2 Queen Anne Park 3 SR 1120 Culvert

CAMPING

Nature camping at its best—

Chowan County offers two of the best natural areas in the region for primitive adventure camping, accessible only by boat.

Ten raised 16' x 24' platforms are large enough to accommodate six to eight campers and their tents and gear. Each campsite has a step-down platform to unload your boat, canoe or kayak, a cook station for a grill or stove, hangers for tarps and lanterns, and incredible views. Each platform comes with a self-contained port-a-jon.

Platform rentals

Fees per platform—

1 camper	\$20 per night
2+ campers	\$10 each per night
Special group and multiple night rates available.	
Check in	3 PM
Check out	noon

Information and reservations—

Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department
PO Box 1030, 824 North Oakum Street
Edenton, NC 27932

252.482.8595 or 252.221.4901

www.pathsofchowan.org

www.roanokeriverpartners.org



G P LATFORMS

Holladay's Island

These platforms are located in the middle of the Chowan River on the northwest boundary of Chowan County. First observed by non-native visitors in 1586 during an expedition led by the first governor of Sir Walter Raleigh's Colony of Roanoke, the island was later acquired by Thomas Holladay in 1730. Virtually unchanged for over 400 years, the island is the newest addition to the Albemarle Regional Canoe/Kayak Paddling Trail and home to five camping platforms for wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts.



John's Island

The second group of camping platforms are convenient to downtown Historic Edenton. Not an actual island, John's Island is the protective elbow of swamp and hardwoods which keeps prevailing winds and currents from harshly attacking Edenton's beautiful waterfront. The five platforms are strategically located on the northern side of the "island" along Pembroke Creek. Each of four launch points provide a short ten-minute paddle to the platforms.



BOAT & SLIP RENTALS

Small Boat Rentals

Canoes per hour or all day

One-person kayaks per hour or all day

Two-person kayaks per hour or all day

Pedal boats ½ hour and up

Inquire about overnight availability of kayaks and canoes.

Rentals include paddles & PFDs.

See Dockmaster at Colonial Waterfront Park in downtown Edenton for rental fees, forms and availability. 252.482.2832

Edenton Harbor Slip Rentals

Boat slips complimentary 2-night stay;
\$1 per foot per day subsequently

Restrooms with showers

30 and 50 amp power

Sewage pump-out



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Most of the county's historic attractions are within an easy walk of downtown Edenton. Start at Colonial Waterfront Park on beautiful Edenton Bay where you'll find canoe and kayak rentals, a convenient floating dock, a protective harbor, playground, picnic tables and restrooms. While you're in Edenton, you'll want to see the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse, a National Historic Landmark acknowledged to be the finest Georgian courthouse in the South. Other historic sites, such as the Cupola House, Barker House, Hayes Plantation and Cotton Mill Village, are close by.

BIKING & WALKING

Biking

Chowan County's Edenton Tea Party bike route (D7) is listed in the state system at www.ncdot.org.

A list of other suggested bike routes for five, ten, fifteen, twenty-five miles and up is available from the following sites:

- Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council. 252.482.7437 ext 4
- Chowan County TDA 252.482.3400
800.775.0111
- Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department 252.482.8595

Walking

Edenton was designated as a Fit Community in 2007 by the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund. Our 'Walkable Communities Guide' suggests routes for leisure walking throughout the Town and County. The Guide is available in brochure holders at the following locations in Edenton:

- Intersection of Broad and Water Streets
- Intersection of Broad and Church Streets
- Intersection of Dickinson Street and Queen Anne Drive
- Intersection of Robin Lane and Kimberly Drive
- Track at John A. Holmes High School

...and in Chowan County at:

- Track at Northern Community Center
- Cape Colony
- Riverton

In addition, both guided and self-guided walking tours are available at the Historic Edenton Visitor Center at 108 North Broad Street in Edenton (252.482.2637).



BIRI

Chowan County has three Birding Trails on the recently developed North Carolina Birding Trail Coastal Plain Trail Guide, available at: www.ncbirdingtrail.org/TrailGuide/GuideTri-County.pdf

Bennett's Millpond

Contact and location

Edenton—Chowan Parks and Recreation Department.
Rocky Hock Road, west of NC 32 and north of Edenton.
252.482.8595

www.ncsu.edu/paddletrails

Species of interest

Anhinga, blue heron, hooded merganser, hooded warbler, prothonotary warbler, summer tanager, wading birds

Coordinates

N 36°08'20", W 76°39'55"
DeLorme/NC Gazetteer page 25

Access and parking

Open daily during daylight hours. Parking, boardwalks and trails at launch area. Gravel access road with concrete boat launch and dock near dam—use caution. Primitive on-site camping available.



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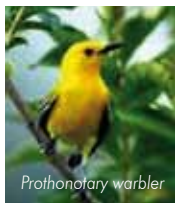
Great blue heron



PADDLING TRAILS

Catherine and Warwick Creeks Paddle Trail

Contact and location



Species of interest

Coordinates

Access and parking

Edenton-Chowan
Parks and
Recreation
Department.

Put-in at
Cannon's Ferry Road (SR 1232)
Bridge, north of Edenton.
252.482.8595

www.ncsu.edu/paddletrails

Blue heron, great crested fly-catcher,
prothonotary warbler, raptors,
Swainson's warbler, wading birds
N 36°17'50", W 76°39'24"
DeLorme/NC Gazetteer page 25
Parking for a few vehicles at launch
area. Paddlers are encouraged to
leave vehicles at NC Wildlife
Resources ramp on Chowan River
for take-out. Holladay's Island in the
middle of the river offers additional
paddling and camping opportunities.



Edenton National Fish Hatchery

Contact and location

US Fish and Wildlife Service
1102 West Queen Street
(US 17 Business)
Edenton, NC 27932.
252.482.4118

www.fws.gov/edenton

Species of interest

Coordinates

Access and parking

Bald eagle, prothonotary warbler,
shorebirds, wading birds, wintering
waterfowl

N 36°03'25", W 76°38'13"
DeLorme/NC Gazetteer page 47
Open year-round 7 AM–3 PM;
parking available on site.

COMMON

Mammals

Muskrat Large aquatic rodent with brown or black fur and a long slim tail, which it uses for propulsion. Feeds on aquatic vegetation, mussels, frogs, and crayfish, and are most active at dusk or dawn. Incredible swimmers that can stay underwater for up to fifteen minutes.



Muskrat

Nutria Large semi-aquatic rodent native to South America. Typically weighs 10–12 pounds and

is strictly vegetarian, consuming 25 percent of its weight daily grazing on wetland plants.



Nutria



River otter

River otter

Playful and a top-notch swimmer. Carnivorous; utilizes its

excellent diving skills to prey on fish as well as crustaceans, reptiles, birds and amphibians. Lives in dens borrowed from muskrats or beavers. Can live about 15 years in the wild.

Reptiles



Northern water snake

Cottonmouth Only venomous water snake in North America. Can grow as large as 71 inches long. Can be aggressive and will vibrate its tail and open its mouth widely when threatened.

Northern water snake Will often bask on tree limbs and logs along the water's edge. Coloration and markings are variable and often confused with the poisonous cottonmouth.



N WILDLIFE



Yellow bellied slider turtle



Bald cypress & Spanish moss

Yellow bellied slider turtle

Very common; fond of basking on logs. Can grow up to 12 inches in length.

Plants

Bald cypress Deciduous tree often elegantly draped with Spanish moss. Cypress base is very wide, which helps root system support itself in wet soil. "Knees" are part of root system and assist in anchoring the tree.

Duckweed Floating plant; one of the smallest flowering plants in the world. Has small oval-shaped body, and underwater root-like structure which tangles and forms mats.

Spanish moss Composed of thin scaly stems; wraps around its host tree, gathering moisture from pockets on tree's surface and from the air. Has no roots and is very hardy, able to withstand severe droughts.

Water lily Has long, stout leaves and flower stalks with roots embedded in the muddy bottom of the water.

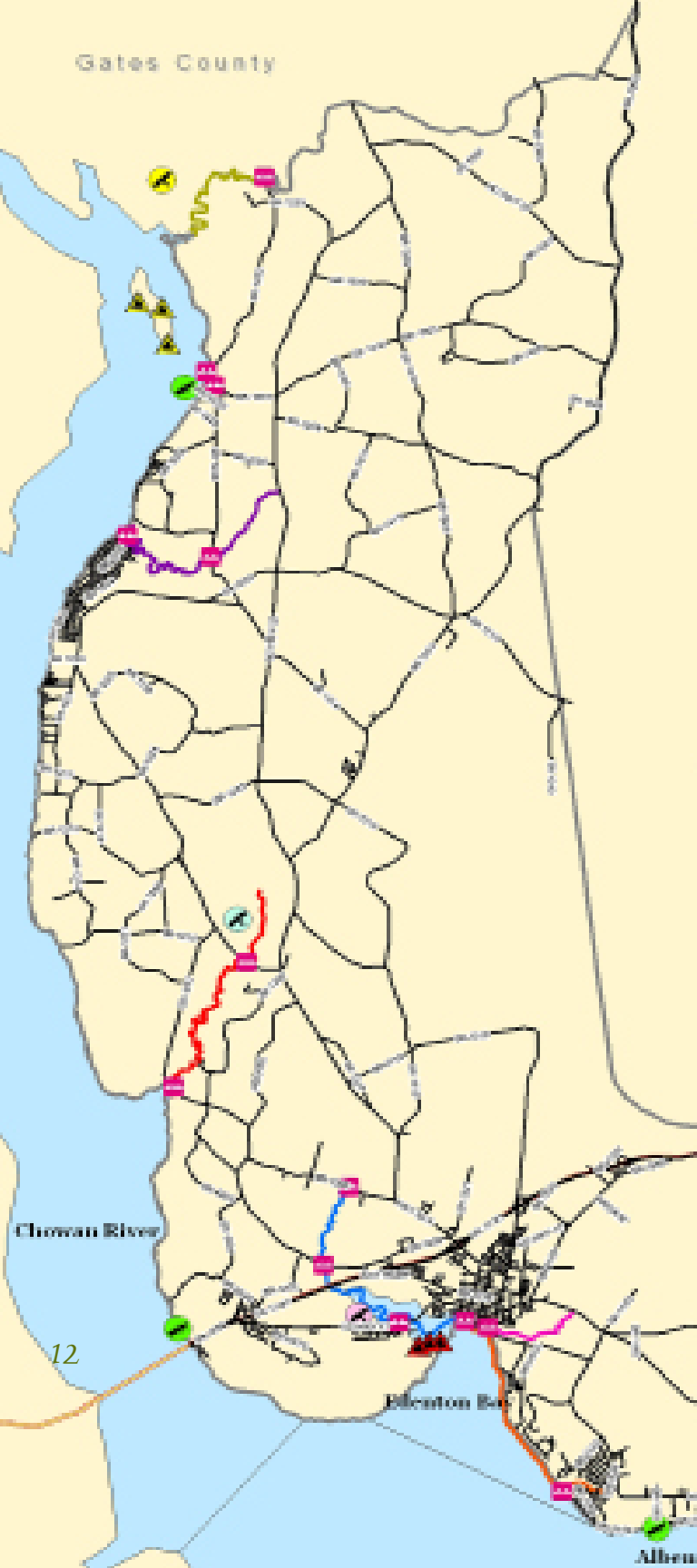


Water lily



Duckweed

Gates County



Chowan River

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Edenton

Albemarle

Chowan County Nature Sites

M A P

Legend

-  Catherine-Warwick Creek
-  Dillard Creek
-  Rocky Hook Creek-Bennet's Millpond
-  Pembroke Creek
-  Queen Anne Creek
-  Trestle House-Cape Colony Trail
-  Canoe-Kayak Access
-  Catherine-Warwick Creek NC Birding Trail
-  Bennett's Millpond NC Birding Trail
-  Edenton Fish Hatchery NC Birding Trail
-  Holladay's Island Camping Platforms
-  John's Island Camping Platforms
-  Public Boat Ramps



Facilities

Facilities	fishing	board-walk	nature trail	canoe/kayak launch	boat launch	picnic tables	restroom or port-a-jon
Colonial Waterfront Park	•	•		•		•	•
Queen Anne Park	•			•		•	•
Pembroke Creek Park	•	•		•	•		
Hollowell Park at Filbert's Creek	•					•	
Cotton Mill Public Access	•	•					
Brownrigg-Dillard's Millpond	•			•		•	
J. Robert Hendrix Park at Cannons Ferry	•	•		•		•	•
Bennet's Millpond	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Cape Colony Neighborhood Access	•	•		•		•	
Edenhouse Wildlife Boating Access (Coming Soon)	•			•	•	•	•



For More Information...

Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council

730 North Granville Street, Suite B
Edenton, NC 27932
252.482.7437 ext. 4

Chowan County Tourism Development Authority

116 East King Street
PO Box 245
Edenton, NC 27932
800.775.0111, 252.482.3400

Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department

824 North Oakum Street
PO Box 1030
Edenton NC 27932
252.482.8595

Links to additional information—

www.albemarlercd.org
www.chowancounty-nc.gov
www.ncbirdingtrails.org
www.ncpaddletrails.com
www.pathsofchowan.org
www.townofedenton.com
www.visitedenton.com
www.visitnc.com

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through the North Carolina Department of Environment
and Natural Resources.*

Edenton
NORTH CAROLINA 