

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Traffic Engineering and Safety Systems Branch**

**Division of Highways
STANDARD PRACTICE
for
Water Access Recreation Signs**

It is the standard practice of NCDOT to install and maintain appropriate signs on the highway right-of-way identifying qualifying publicly owned Water Access Recreation sites available to the general public. Also, Cities and/or Counties will be allowed to install and maintain signs within their jurisdiction. Sites may include Boat Tours, Canoeing, Diving (Scuba), Fishing, Fishing Piers, Hand Boat Launching, Kayaking, Marine Recreation Areas, Motor Boating, Ramp Launching, River Access Areas, Row Boating, Sail Boating, Skiing (Water), Surfing, Swimming, Wading, and Wind Surfing.

Water Access Recreation signs shall be designed, located, and erected according to the standards of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, the North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD, and the North Carolina Roadway Standard Drawings.

CRITERIA

- All Water Access Recreation signs are to be in compliance with Section 2H.04 of the MUTCD for Recreation and Cultural Interest signing and shall have a white message and border on a brown background with retro-reflective sheeting.
- Water Access Recreation signs are to be installed from nearest US, NC or SR route to the water recreation site and/or facility not to exceed five (5) miles.
- Signing will not be permitted on full control access facilities. However, signing may be allowed from the interchange ramp terminus.
- Appropriate educational plaques, directional arrows, and directional guide signs may be used when signing to water access recreational sites and/or facilities. Any additional word messages will require approval by NCDOT and be restricted to a 24''x 12'' panel. See attached typical designs.
- All costs associated with the manufacturing, erecting, and maintenance of approved water access recreation signage will be the responsibility of NCDOT or the City/County requesting the signs.

- All requests are to be forwarded to the appropriate Division Engineer for review. The Division Engineer or his designated representative will have the final authority to determine the actual number and location of the signs.
- NCDOT will reserve the right to remove or relocate any of the signs where the requirements for the signs are no longer met or where the location is interfering with the placement of any standard regulatory, warning or guide sign.