



2026

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Twelve Mile
Creek Trail**
South Carolina



Twelve Mile Creek Trail

South Carolina

The Twelve Mile Creek Trail, which runs northeast from Walnut Creek Park over the South Carolina/North Carolina state line to



The Twelve Mile Creek Trail, which runs northeast from Walnut Creek Park over the South Carolina/North Carolina state line to Waxhaw, is part of the Carolina Thread Trail—a growing trail network of more than 200 miles across North and South Carolina. Surrounded by trees and following its namesake creek, this trail offers a wooded paradise for anyone who loves the outdoors. Various surface types provide a vast array of activities for any nature-loving adventure seeker.

Currently, there are two trail segments separated by a short gap in the route in Waxhaw, NC. The southwest section is about 4.5 miles and the northeast section is 1.6 miles.

Starting from Walnut Creek Park at its southern-most

end, the trail meanders along the Twelve Mile Creek and through the neighborhood of Walnut Creek. The trail entrance is located at the northwest corner of the park and continues along the southeast bank of the creek.

Walnut Creek Park (10521 Walnut Creek Pkwy, Lancaster) has baseball fields, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, playgrounds soccer fields and plenty of parking. There is a large, covered picnic shelter and a park office building with restrooms and concessions. The Twelve Mile Creek Trail will eventually provide the scenic backdrop for a new residential and commercial development. The Walnut Creek subdivision is a planned development district consisting of over 900 acres which has been approved for 2,000 homes, 10 acres of future retail and commercial development and a 61-acre county park.

For about 3.7 miles, the route has a natural surface with sections of boardwalk in the wetter areas and a few bridges. The trail crosses over the water via the Carrington Drive Bridge and continues on the northwest bank of the creek. About a half mile after the bridge but before the next one, a spur trail splits off the main route and heads north through the woods for about 0.4 miles. Known as the Walnut Creek Blue Trail, this short path has a natural surface and ends at 79205 Ridgehaven Rd, Lancaster across from Carrington Park.

At the state line, the route reaches the Cross-State Suspension Bridge, a 170-foot pedestrian bridge that spans the creek. After crossing the bridge into North Carolina, the trail is also known as the Twelve Mile Creek Greenway and briefly continues as a natural surface trail until it crosses the road at 1523 Millbridge Pkwy. Signage at this waypoint refers to the trail as the Carolina Thread Trail, because it is included that trail network. There is also a pet waste bag station here.

On the east side of Millbridge Pkwy, the trail continues with a wide, paved surface that makes for a smooth ride. Winding



Twelve Mile Creek Trail

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States: South Carolina

Counties: Lancaster

Length: 6miles

Trail end points: 10521 Walnut Creek Pkwy (Lancaster) to 7923 Prescott Glen Pkwy (Waxhaw)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Boardwalk, Concrete, Crushed Stone, Dirt, Gravel

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Mountain Biking, Inline Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible

Parking & Trail Access

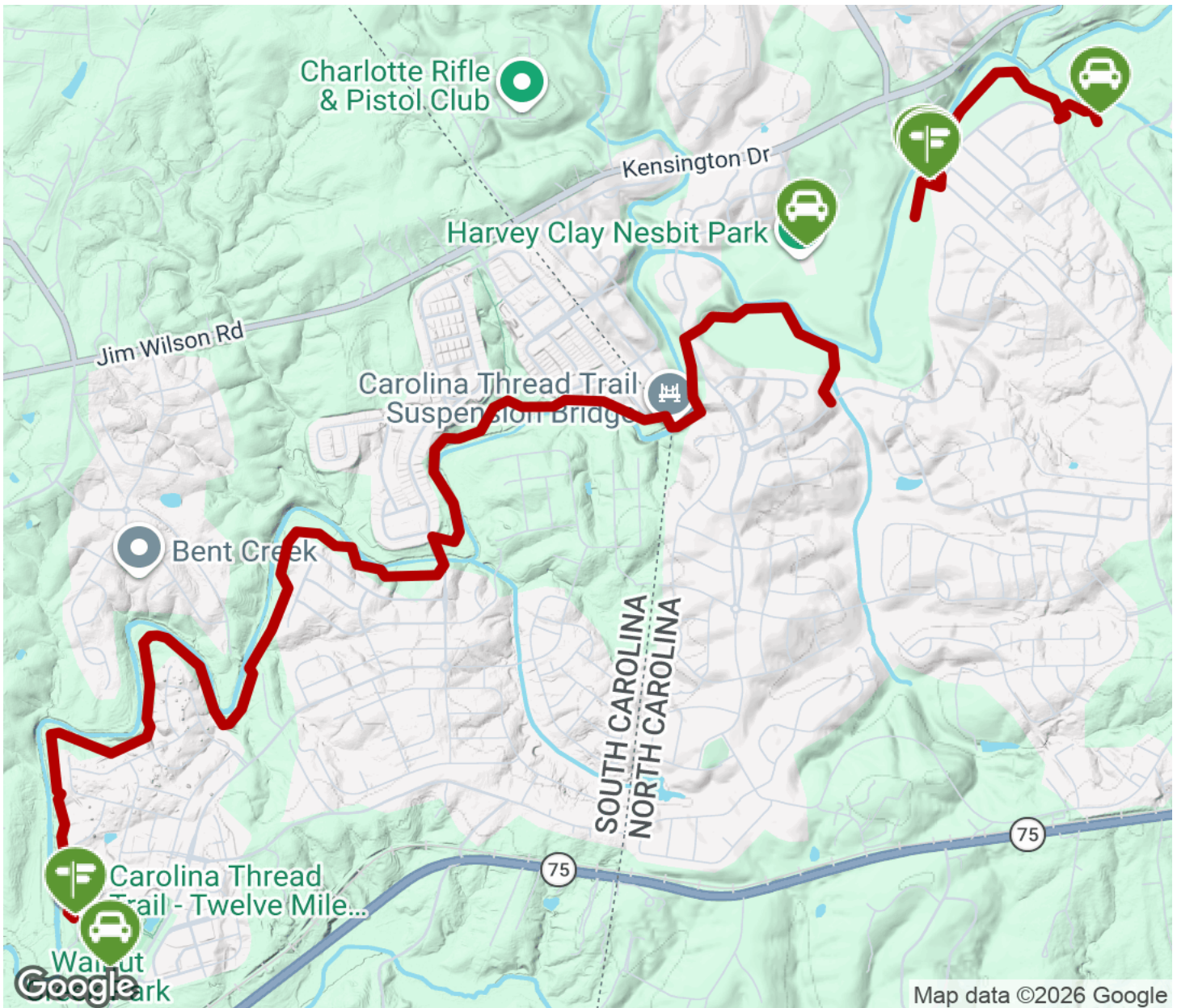
Parking is available at a number of locations along the trail. View the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions. Parking locations include Walnut Creek Park (10521 Walnut Creek Parkway, Lancaster), H.C. Nesbit Park (1304 H C Nesbit Park Rd, Waxhaw), and Town Creek Park (4240 Waxhaw-Marvin Rd, Waxhaw).

Access is available at multiple points along the trail, including Carrington Drive and Millbridge Parkway for people on foot or bike.



Twelve Mile Creek Trail

South Carolina



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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