

## Brookshire Park

**Location:** 250 Brookshire Rd, Boone, NC 28607 (GPS 36.222894, -81.642251)

### **Species of Interest**

Great Blue Heron	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Green Heron	Tree Swallow
Wood Duck	Marsh Wren
Osprey	Eastern Bluebird
Red-tailed Hawk	Wood Thrush
Sora	Yellow Warbler
Black-billed Cuckoo	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Eastern Screech Owl	American Redstart
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Common Yellowthroat
Belted Kingfisher	Hooded Warbler
Hairy Woodpecker	Yellow-breasted Chat
Northern Flicker	Scarlet Tanager
Pileated Woodpecker	Field Sparrow
Willow Flycatcher	Savannah Sparrow
Alder Flycatcher	Lincoln's Sparrow
Acadian Flycatcher	Swamp Sparrow
Eastern Kingbird	Baltimore Oriole
Yellow-throated Vireo	Orchard Oriole
Barn Swallow	

**eBird Bar Chart:** <https://ebird.org/barchart?r=L3000059&yr=all&m=>

### **Habitats**

river floodplain, wetland, pond, wooded stream, grassland, deciduous forest

### **Access and Parking**

**Parking:** ample parking in several locations, paved or gravel

**Drinking water:** available at restrooms

**Restrooms:** open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., closed in winter

**Accessibility:** accessible parking at the restrooms; main trail is accessible and is paved and flat; accessible viewpoint with benches at far parking area

### **Site Description**

**Property ownership:** Watauga County

**Trails:** main one-mile trail along the river and one-mile ridge trail through the woods off the far end of the main trail; start of main trail connects to the Boone Greenway via an underpass crossing US 421

**Trail surface and elevation gain:** main trail is flat and paved; ridge trail is gravel and has elevation gain of 200 feet

**Likely spots for species of interest:** Along the river in the taller trees, you can find breeding Orioles, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, and Yellow-throated Vireo. The woods on the ridge trail have breeding Wood Thrush, Scarlet Tanager, Hooded Warbler, Indigo Bunting, and often attract migrating flocks. Winter sparrows may be found in the weeds and bushes between the trail and the playing fields. Waterfowl, shorebirds, and waders can occur in four small ponds/sloughs located in the park floodplain and also in the fields across the river after heavy rains. Benches at the far parking area provide a view of the ponds/sloughs and floodplain.

### **Special Considerations**

**Hunting:** not allowed

**Need for boots/waterproof footwear:** may be muddy or wet during wet weather, requiring boots at those times

**Typical level of use:** the paved trail sees moderate use late mornings, afternoons and weekends, especially in good weather and when games are being played on the soccer fields; popular with runners, walkers and dog walkers, and there is some cycling

**Directions:** From downtown Boone, go east on King Street (US 421 South), for approximately 2 miles. Turn left on Brookshire Rd. just before the gas station on the right and the traffic light. The park will be on your right. Park in the main parking lot by the restrooms or continue to additional parking areas by the soccer fields or at the far end by the practice field. (GPS 36.222894, -81.642251)