

FORT MILL STAKE - YOUTH FLOAT TRIP/PARTY

WHO: Young Women, Young Men and Leaders
WHEN: **Saturday, AUGUST 17TH - 10:30 am**
Meet at the Fort Mill Dam at 10:30am
WHERE: **START** Float Party: Catawba River Access – Fort Mill Dam
END Float Party: Catawba River Access – Riverwalk

What to bring:

- **Floatie** - Something fun to float on such as tubes, pool lounge, raft, kayak, canoe. It's a party so make it fun!
- **Life Jacket** - SAFETY FIRST! (Inexpensive ones available at Walmart.)
- **Modest swimsuit** with cover up top (tank top, t-shirt, or sun shirt) and cover up bottom (swim shorts).
- **Something to Drink and Eat** (Water/Gatorade and Sandwich/Fruit/Snacks).
- **Something to carry your stuff in/on** (optional).
- **Sunscreen** (apply before arriving). During event, you will want a cover-up and hat. There isn't anywhere to hide from the sun while floating, so bring what you need to protect yourself. Be Smart. 😊
- **Activity Permission Slip** (Wards to collect these forms from all participants and have ready the day of the trip to give to stake leaders).

The stake will have a few canoes with water bottles to share with everyone and bins to carry the snacks you bring for sharing.

Arrival/Departure Details:

- **Drop-off** - We are asking each Ward/Branch to drop off their youth and leaders at the **"Catawba River Access - Fort Mill Dam"** (map it on your smartphone). Parking is very tight so please do not plan on parking your vehicles at this location, other than to temporarily drop off your youth. We will assemble near the boat ramp for prayer, instructions, and the kick-off. **Be there at 10:30.**
- **Pick-up** - We are asking the Wards to coordinate pick up for their youth and leaders. We will float the Catawba River from the Dam to **"Catawba River Access - Riverwalk" (Next to Pump House Restaurant, use map on phone to find)**. This area also has very limited parking, so be patient and flexible.
- **Trip time (duration)** – Float time largely depends on water flow. Typical trips this summer have lasted several hours. We will have cell phones where your youth can call when we are close to Riverwalk to confirm pickup location and time.



Modesty & Fun:

- We want to stand out as a happy, super fun, and modest group! Please remember to help the friends you invite to understand what we consider modest. This will be a great missionary opportunity, so please invite friends and make sure your ward leaders know who they are, so all are safe and accounted for.

Thank you: We are excited to see you August 17th! Thank you for saving the date!

Ideas: Float suggestions. Bring something to pump up your float with, or bring it already inflated! We won't have time or a place to pump up 200 floats right before we leave. Wards, please discuss this and make sure you are helping your youth come prepared. If you don't have enough life jackets, remember they can easily be purchased by each youth for less than \$4.50 at Walmart. The cheap orange life jackets work great and are beautiful!

Adult Leaders: Come prepared to make the float trip fun! This is a great way for you and your youth to interact with the rest of the Stake in a very fun and casual setting! Make the most of it and be super social. Laugh a lot, smile more, and come have fun with your youth!

Safety: The Catawba River is as safe a river to float as exists in the area, but please make sure you are smart and not doing things that would intentionally or accidentally jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.

Equipment Suggestions:



One-person River Run float \$9.99 at Academy Sports. 2-person floats and floating coolers also available. Orange life jackets \$4.50 Walmart.

Make it Fun: Group up and make it a fun time for ALL! Floating the river in a cluster is way more enjoyable than floating by yourself!

