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**Celebrate with Friends, Family and Nature  
on the Carolina Thread Trail in Catawba County**

**“Marking The Thread” Community Celebrations  
Sunday, September 25, 2011  
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

On Sunday, September 25, 2011, four Carolina Thread Trail communities in Catawba County will host “Marking The Thread” celebrations as local leaders officially unveil the newly-marked trails. Attendees will experience the new trails and greenways that will ultimately weave throughout 15 counties and connect more than 2 million people.

The Thread offers a growing network of trails and conservation corridors for walking, biking, commuting, fishing, paddling and simply enjoying. Counties and towns design and own the trails that enrich communities in the areas of health and wellness, economic development, land preservation and community collaboration.

Of the 15 counties in The Thread region, eleven have fully-adopted master plans, three are in the active planning stages and one is engaged in the community outreach phase. To date, counties with adopted plans have identified 1,200 miles of planned trails and more than 80 miles of trails are now open for public enjoyment.

**Mark Your Calendar and Join the Celebration**

Throughout Catawba County, communities will celebrate with activities ranging from dedication ceremonies to guided walks. We hope to see you at one (or more!) of the following events:

- 1:30 P.M. The City of Hickory will dedicate a 1.2-mile segment of its greenway system at Jaycee Park/Hickory City Park, located at 1515 12<sup>th</sup> St. Dr. N.W. The Chairperson of the City’s Parks & Recreation Commission will be the lead speaker.
- 2:30 P.M. The City of Conover will dedicate a .7-mile segment of its Gateway Trail which is located parallel to 1<sup>st</sup> St. W and is just south of the I-40 interchange for the K-Mart store. Local officials will be present for the ceremony.

- 3:30 P.M. The City of Newton will dedicate a .75-mile segment of its Heritage Trail Greenway, located on the south side of Radio Station Road. Local officials will be present for the ceremony.
- 4:00 P.M. Catawba County will dedicate a 1-mile segment at Murrays Mill, located at 1489 Murrays Mill Road. The ceremony will be held in conjunction with the Harvest Folk Festival and will include presentations by the Chair of the County Commission and dedication of the trail segment to David Lee Stewart. Mr. Stewart was instrumental in the trail around the Murrays Mill pond, making the trail on his land available for cross country high school teams and community usage to promote wellness. After the dedication, a guided walk will be conducted with cake and drinks available.

**About The Carolina Thread Trail**

*The Carolina Thread Trail (The Thread) is a 15-county, two state initiative designed to inspire and facilitate the creation of a regional network of trails, blueways, and conservation corridors that is growing together to link more than 2.3 million citizens. With technical resources and catalytic funding from The Thread, local communities plan and implement their portions of this green interstate system. Catawba Lands Conservancy is the lead agency for the Thread, working in partnership with Foundation for the Carolinas, Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina and many other local partners.*