

2026
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY



FLOATING CLASSROOM SPONSORSHIP

INSPIRING THE RIVERKEEPERS OF TOMORROW

If young people are never given experiences that connect them to the world around them, how will they learn to care for the natural resources we all depend on to survive?

Cue the Catawba Riverkeeper Floating Classroom. A 40 ft. commercial vessel equipped with microscopes, binoculars, wildlife guides, PFDs, and environmental educators dedicated to providing engaging, science-filled learning experiences, this experiential learning opportunity has caught the attention of educators throughout the region.

Touted for its unique, memorable, and accessible 2-hour programs, the Catawba Riverkeeper Floating Classroom offers a variety of curriculum options that are aligned with North Carolina K-12 state standards. Educators can choose from water quality and wildlife ecology programming, all of which provide students with real-world applications for their learning and the unforgettable experience of cruising across the largest reservoir in North Carolina.

However, operating a vessel of this size is not a cheap or simple task. Boat upkeep, fuel, learning materials, program development, and staff time require funding. We need YOUR support to strengthen this program and provide free or reduced cost trips to inspire students of all backgrounds to become the riverkeepers of tomorrow.





CATAWBA
RIVERKEEPER®

2026

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE FLOATING CLASSROOM PROGRAM

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Dissolved Oxygen:

Pour collected water sample into test tubes; add tablets; compare to color chart to determine level of dissolved oxygen in lake



Microorganisms and Phytoplankton:

Use scientific water sampling devices, pipettes, and microscope slides; students take turns looking through microscopes to identify microorganisms



Food Webs:

Group activity examining food webs of Lake Norman; students use binoculars and wildlife guides to look for and identify wildlife from the boat



Lake Norman & Catawba River History:

Explore the history of the Catawba-Wataeree River Basin, once considered the "hardest working river in America" due to the many dams built for hydroelectric power



2026 FLOATING CLASSROOM SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY



CATAWBA
RIVERKEEPER®

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

	Presenting Sponsor \$50,000	Watershed Steward \$25,000	River Guardian \$10,000	Headwaters Advocate \$5,000
Availability	1 Available	3 Available	7 Available	Unlimited
Exclusive "Presented By" recognition	X	--	--	--
Featured social media/partnership storytelling	X (Solo Feature)	X	--	--
Recognition on Floating Classroom boat flag	X (Premier Placement)	X (Large Placement)	--	--
Logo on thank you packet for teachers and take home for students	X	X	X	--
Logo placement on Catawba Riverkeeper Floating Classroom webpage	X (Premier Placement)	X (Large Placement)	X (Medium Placement)	X (Small Placement)

***Sponsor 1 class on the Floating Classroom for \$800!**

YOUR FLOATING CLASSROOM SPONSORSHIP DIRECTLY SUPPORTS:

- Free and reduced price tours for qualifying groups as funding is available
- Vessel fuel and general upkeep
- Learning materials and equipment
- Continued curriculum development for broader programming options



FLOATING CLASSROOM SPONSORSHIP PACKET

THANK YOU!

The Floating Classroom program would not be possible without an extraordinary network of volunteers, boat captains, interns, and supporters who help us inspire the riverkeepers and river stewards of tomorrow. Thank you for considering becoming a Floating Classroom Sponsor. With your support, you help:

- Provide science learning opportunities that adhere to NC State Standards
- Introduce students to the importance of protecting local water resources
- Expand environmental awareness across the region
- Keep the Catawba-Wateree Basin safe and accessible for everyone

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A FLOATING CLASSROOM SPONSOR, CONTACT DR. MO DRINKARD, CATAWBA RIVERKEEPER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.



PHONE

704-679-9494 ext. 101



EMAIL

dr.mo@catawbariverkeeper.org



WEBSITE

[www.catawbariverkeeper.org/
floating-classroom](http://www.catawbariverkeeper.org/floating-classroom)



ADDRESS

117 Center Street,
Cramerton, NC 28032

ABOUT US

Catawba Riverkeeper is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, protecting, and restoring the waters of the Catawba-Wateree River Basin for all through the avenues of education, advocacy, and engagement. Our organization is powered by our more than 8,000 members, volunteers, and sponsors across the 26 counties where the Catawba flows in North and South Carolina. The Catawba-Wateree River provides drinking water, electricity, recreation opportunities, and so much more to over 4 million people across the Carolinas.

We hope you'll join us in working to ensure that this vital river can sustain clean and plentiful water for generations to come.

PRESERVING, PROTECTING, & RESTORING THROUGH



EDUCATION



ADVOCACY



ENGAGEMENT