

The Range will be closed the following dates:

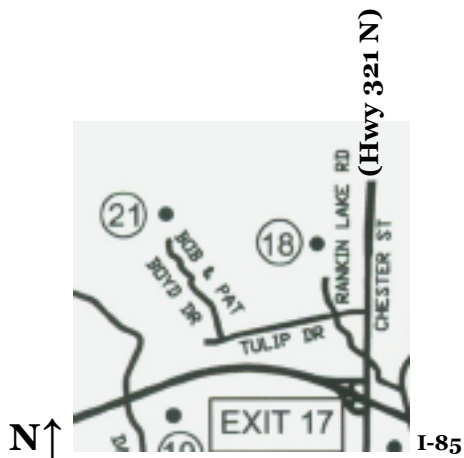
January 1st— New Year's Day
November 25th — Thanksgiving Day
December 24th—25th — Christmas

The Range will also be closed for these
2024 Registered Skeet Shoots:

Bulldog Open
Gaston Young Guns Jr. Open
Firecracker Open
Dove Hunters Open
Bob & Pat Boyd Memorial

For more information,
please call (704)866-6065,
during regular hours of operation.

For information regarding rental of the
facility, please call (704)869-1984.
Rentals are available on weekdays only.



Gastonia (map inset)
I-85, Exit 17, #21 is Skeet & Trap Range



Skeet, Trap, What's the Difference?

With Skeet, the targets always cross in front of the shooter and follow the same path, one high from the left and one low from the right. The field has two separate target throwing houses: one high, with the target being ejected at about thirteen feet above the ground, and the other at three feet above the ground from the low house. There is no variation in the target path. The shooting field has eight positions (or stations) arranged in a semi-circle. Up to five shooters may participate in a "round," with each shooter taking their turn at station one and then all of the squad proceeding together to each of the other firing points. A full round of skeet includes 25 targets, allowing for one shot at each target. While formal competition is based on shotgun gauge, various bores are used in skeet. Shot sizes are typically limited to #8 or #9.

In Trap, there is one target-throwing machine located at the middle front of the range and the targets fly away from the shooters. The machine oscillates, which may result in targets being ejected at a 45-degree angle left or right of the target house, or anywhere in between. Shooters man five field stations over a straight line behind the machine. Each member of the five-person "squad" takes a turn with each sequential shot, one shooter followed by another shooter sequentially across the field. After five cycles (each shooter having shot 5 times), each shooter rotates to the next station, and the process begins over again. The targets are typically 30-40 yards downrange when hit. Most often, 12-gauge shotguns are used with shells of 7.5 or 8 shot.



Parks and Recreation

Skeet & Trap Range

1620 Tulip Drive
Gastonia, NC 28052
(704)866-6065



Home of the Bulldogs



The **Gastonia Skeet and Trap Range** is located on the Rankin Lake Park property at the end of a gravel road, named after Bob and Pat Boyd, who operated the facility for many years. It is accessed from Tulip Drive.

Harrelson Yancey, Mayor from 1951-1955, started the first range on the eastern hill of Rankin Lake Park. Later the range was moved to the west side of Rankin Lake, on the opposite side of the lake from the park. For a number of years the range was operated by the Gastonia Police Department. Several years ago, the Parks and Recreation Department took over the operation.

The facility has three range units: one skeet, one trap, and one combination range.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From I-85 North or I-85 South, Exit 17 & turn left onto Hwy. 321N (Chester St.); proceed approximately .3 mi. to intersection of Tulip Drive (stoplight); turn left and continue .7 miles; turn right onto Bob & Pat Boyd Drive; range is at the end of this gravel drive.

PHONE

(704)866-6065 — Office
(704)869-1018 — Rentals

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday	10 AM—4 PM
Tuesday	10 AM—4 PM
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	Noon—8 PM*
Friday	Noon—5 PM
Saturday	10 AM—6 PM
Sunday	1 PM—5 PM

* Gaston Young Guns utilize the skeet fields on Thursday evenings from 4:00 – 8:00 pm. Range will close at 5:00 PM when Young Guns are not practicing.

Rentals available on weekdays only.

We reserve the right to cease operations due to inclement weather.

FEES

One Round (25 Targets):
\$5.00-City of Gastonia resident;
65&Older; 15&Under; and Veterans

\$6.00-non-City of Gastonia resident

Shooters must supply their own gun and ammunition. A limited variety of shells are available for purchase.

RULES AND POLICIES

1. All shooters must report to the range office and sign in prior to taking the field.
2. To receive the discounted inside City of Gastonia resident rate identification must be shown. (driver's license, utility bill, etc.)
3. **All guns and ammo must be checked by the Range Attendant before a shooter enters the field.**
4. Only *target loads*, sizes Steel 7 and Lead 7.5, 8, 8.5 & 9, with no more than 3 drams of powder are permitted.
5. No shotgun with a barrel length less than 26" is permitted.
6. No round will begin later than thirty (30) minutes before published closing time.
7. Proper eye and ear protection must be worn while on the field.
8. Shooters fifteen (15) and under must be accompanied by an adult twenty-one (21) or over to take the field.
9. The action of the gun is to remain open while at the facility except when it is your turn to shoot.
10. No parking along fences or beside fields.
11. No profanity.
12. No alcoholic beverages allowed on City property.
13. No smoking inside office/clubhouse.
14. All pets must be kept on a leash. No pets allowed in the clubhouse.



FIELD SAFETY RULES

Safe operation of this shooting range requires strict adherence to the following rules:

1. All persons taking the field **MUST** wear proper eye and ear protection.
2. Shooters fifteen (15) or younger must be accompanied on the field by an adult twenty-one (21) or older at all times.
3. The action of the gun is to remain open while at the facility except when it is your turn to shoot.
4. Your gun **MUST NOT** be loaded until you are in the shooting position.
5. Your gun **MUST** be pointed down range while loading.
6. Load no more than two (2) shells at skeet stations 1 through 7 or trap doubles. Load no more than one (1) shell at skeet station 8 or trap singles.
7. In case of gun or ammunition malfunction, the gun **MUST** be pointed down range until cleared.
8. **NO** empty hulls are to be picked up during skeet or trap round.
9. **Only designated staff are permitted to enter skeet and trap houses.**
10. No alcoholic beverages allowed on City property.