

Water trail from Point State Park to Ohio gets national designation

By KATHERINE SCHAEFFER, [TribLIVE](#)

June 4, 2015 MONACA, PA — A paddling trail that follows parts of the Ohio River and other area waterways was named Thursday as a national recreation trail by the Department of the Interior and National Park Service. The Ohio River Water Trail, which runs for 69 miles through Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, was among 10 trails approved for the honor in advance of National Trails Day, which is Saturday.

The trail will receive a certificate of designation, a letter of congratulations from Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and a set of trail markers.

National recreation trails receive permission to use a special logo and a link on the National Recreation Trails Program's website, said Helen Scully, program specialist with the parks service's National Trails System.

The Ohio River Trail Council, a nonprofit responsible for stewardship of the trail, sought the designation.

To apply, trails must already exist, have permission from abutting landowners and meet local safety standards, Scully said.

The program, started in 1968, has granted 1,285 trails the title, she said.

The Ohio River Water Trail for kayaks and other watercraft extends from Downtown's Point State Park to northeast Ohio, and includes 46 miles of the Ohio River, three miles of the Beaver River, four of Raccoon Creek and 16 of Little Beaver Creek.

The Ohio River Trail Council is in the early stages of planning an Ohio River Greenway Trail project, which will develop a path along the river.

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