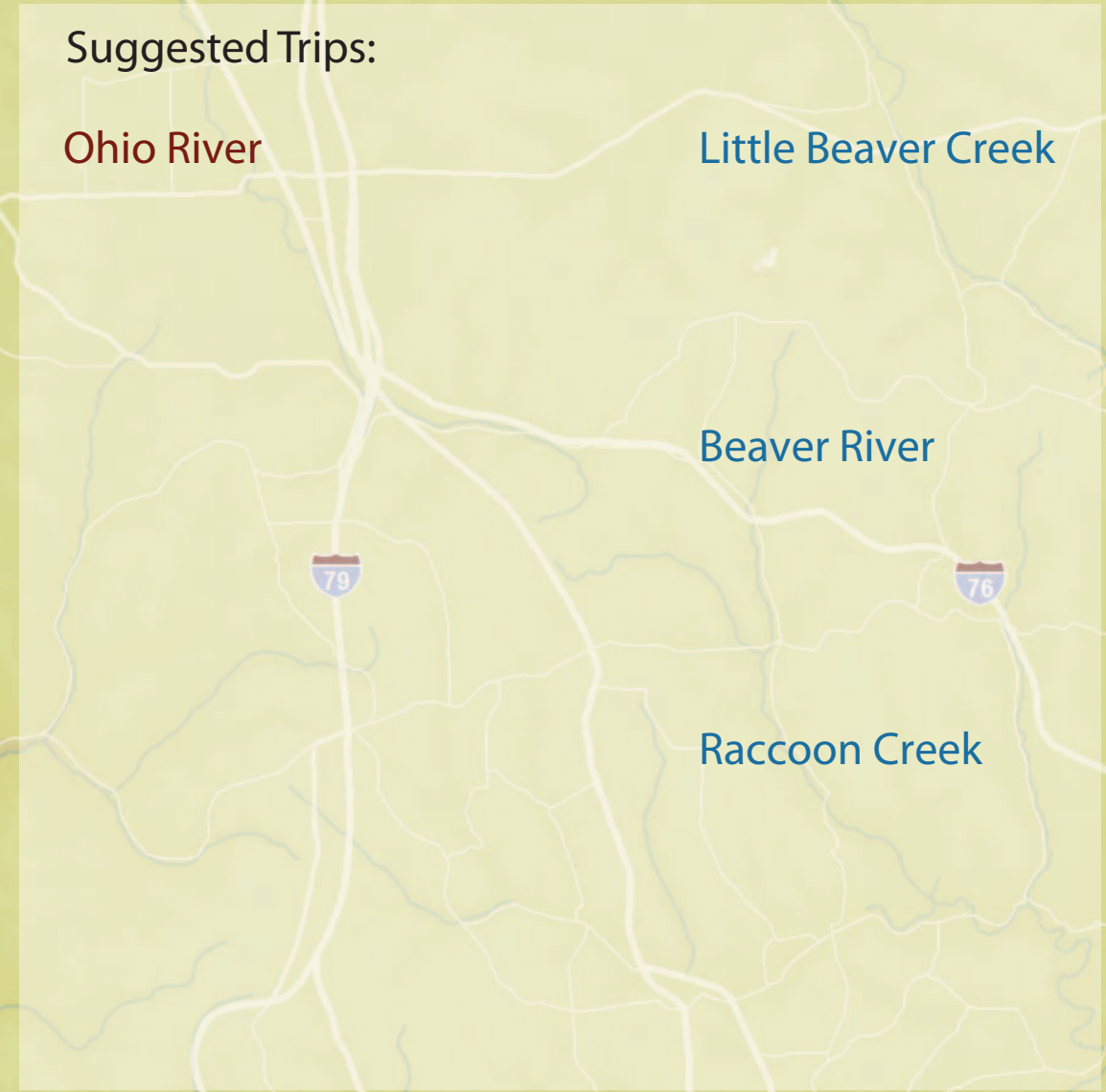


Ohio River Water Trail

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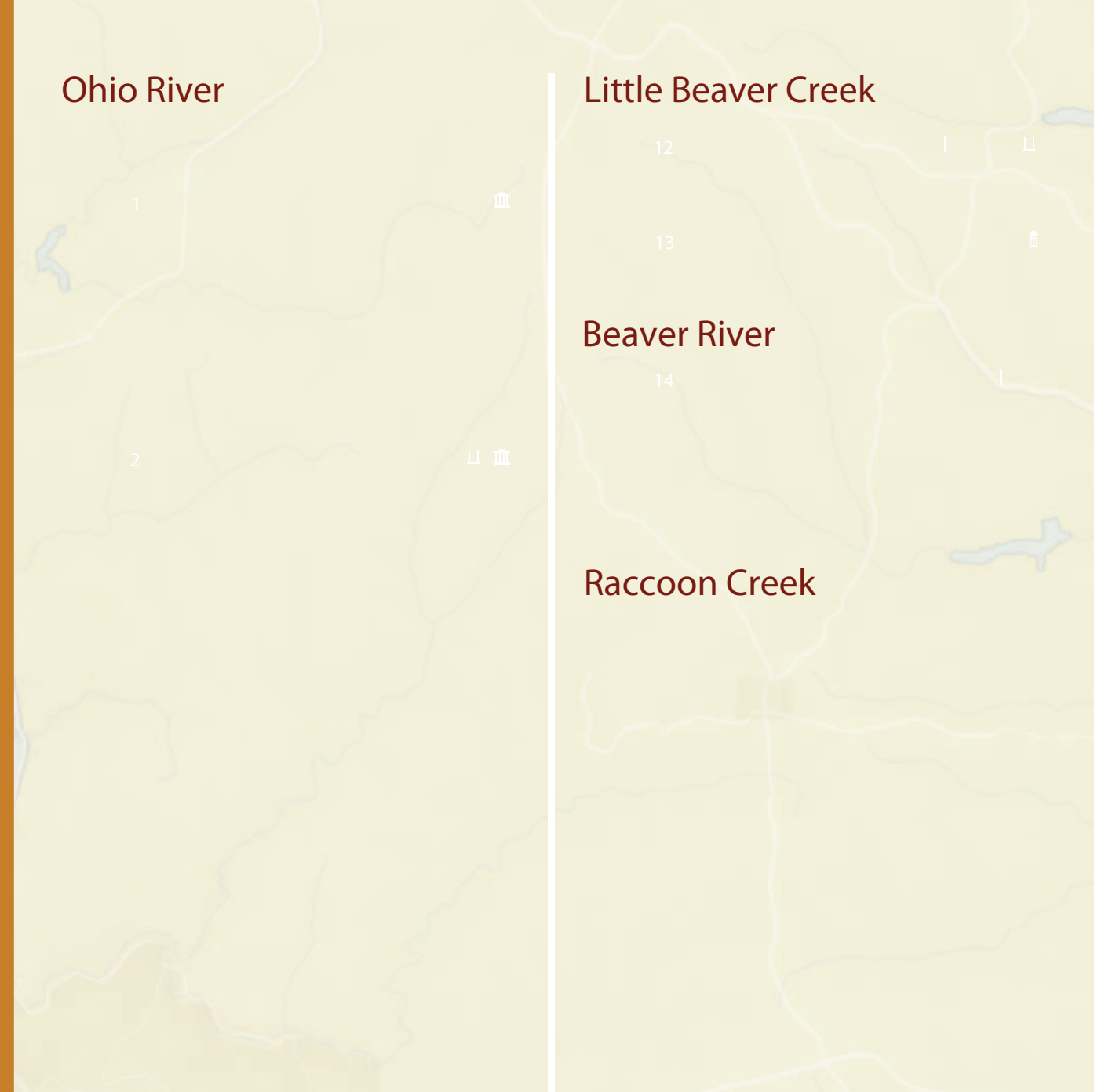


Map & Guide



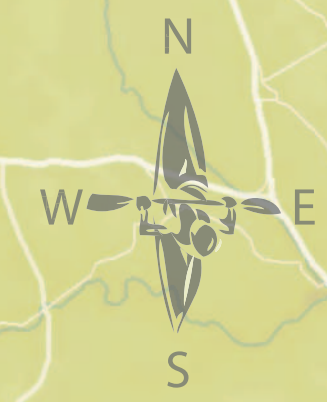
(L) and (R) indicate the left or right riverbank when facing downriver. All river mileages are measured from the junction of the Three Rivers at the

ACCESS AND AMENITIES ALONG THE WAY



Legend

Dock Launch	Public Restrooms
Beach Launch	Parking
Ramp Launch	ADA Accessible
	Storage Rack
	Picnic Area
	Food
	Shopping
Three Rivers Heritage Trail	
Road Bridge	
Railroad Bridge	
Lock & Dam	
Hazard Area	



PITTSBURGH

Monongahela River

Allegheny River

Emsworth Locks & Dam Pool

Dashields Locks & Dam Pool

Ambridge Reservoir

Montgomery Locks & Dam Pool

Raccoon Creek

Beaver River

Little Beaver Creek

Ohio River

Ohio

Pennsylvania

West Virginia



Ohio River Water Trail



Map & Guide

A Water Trail

Developed by Ohio River Trails Council

OHIO RIVER TRAILS COUNCIL

Ohio River Quote

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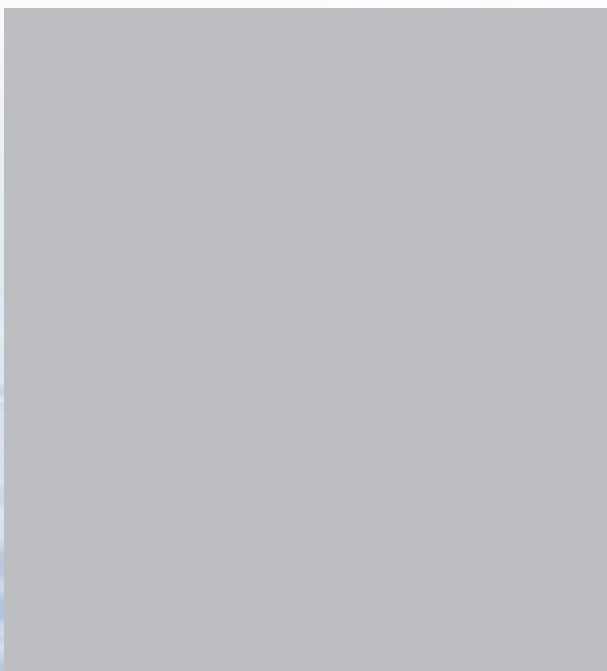
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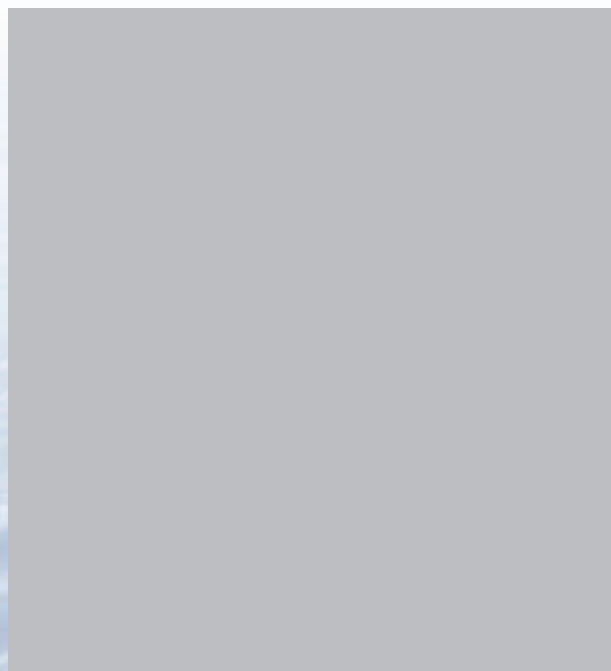
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The Mighty Ohio River



An Adventure by Water



WHAT IS A WATER TRAIL?

Water trails are recreational waterways on lakes, rivers or oceans between specific points, containing access points and day-use and camping sites for the boating public. Water trails emphasize low-impact use and promote resource stewardship. Explore this unique Pennsylvania water trail.

FOR YOUR SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT

- Always wear a life jacket.
- Obtain proper instruction in boating skills.
- Know fishing and boating regulations.
- Carry proper equipment.

PENNSYLVANIA BOATING REGULATIONS



- A U.S. Coast Guard-approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD or life jacket) is required for each person on board. In addition, one throwable device (seat cushion or ring buoy) is required on boats 16 feet in length or longer. Canoes and kayaks, regardless of length, are not required to carry a throwable device.
- Life jackets must be the appropriate size for the person intended and must be in good, serviceable condition.
- Life jackets must be worn by all children 12 years old and younger on all boats 20 feet or less in length while under way, and on all canoes and kayaks. Others are strongly encouraged to wear a PFD at all times on the water.
- All boats must display an anchor light (a white light visible 360 degrees) when at anchor between sunset and sunrise. Boats can use a lantern or clip-on battery-powered unit to meet this requirement.
- Unpowered boats must carry a white light, either hand-held or installed, to be displayed in time to avoid a collision between sunset and sunrise and during restricted visibility.
- All powered boats must show running lights between sunset and sunrise. All boats are required to carry a sound-producing device. Athletic whistles meet this requirement.
- All motorboats must be registered, regardless of where they launch.
- Unpowered boats (canoes, kayaks, rowboats) using Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission or State Park or Forest access areas must either be registered OR display a valid launch permit. Launch permits can be purchased through the Commission's website at www.fishandboat.com (Click the "Outdoor Shop" icon.) or at many state park offices
- Operating watercraft, including canoes and kayaks, under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal. This law is strongly enforced for user safety. For further information on boating regulations, contact the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission at www.fishandboat.com

PADDLING THE WATER TRAIL:

SAFETY TIPS

Paddle the Ohio River Water Trail at your own risk. Be sure to take appropriate safety precautions and pay attention to the natural conditions of the rivers.

PUTTING IN

- Never boat alone. Boating safety increases with numbers.
- Scout ahead whenever possible. Know the river and avoid surprises.
- Wear your life jacket. Some eighty percent of all recreational boating fatalities happen to people who are not wearing a life jacket.
- File a float plan with a reliable person. Decide on the best places for getting started, and consider how far you must carry a boat to your vehicle.
- Be prepared for the weather. Get a forecast before you go. Sudden winds and rain are common and can turn a pleasant trip into a risky, unpleasant venture.
- Check the river conditions before you launch. River levels and currents can rapidly change with recent rainfall.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Expect to get wet.
- Be prepared to swim. If the water looks too hazardous to swim in, don't go paddling.

ON THE WAY

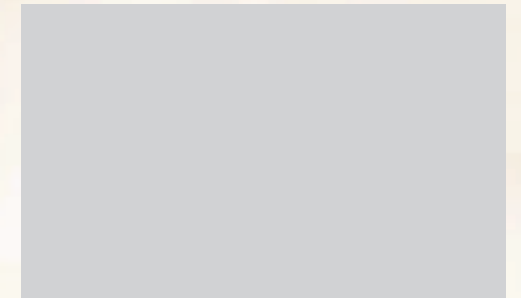
- Keep ropes coiled and secured.
- Never tie a rope to yourself or to another paddler, especially a child.
- Anticipate wakes of passing motor boats.
- Watch out for commercial traffic. Although barges are large and slow, they can sneak up on inattentive paddlers.
- Paddle near to shore, away from the navigational channel.
- If you collide with an obstruction, lean toward it. This will usually prevent the current from capsizing or flooding the boat.
- Stay clear of strainers, such as moored barges, docks and downed trees, these can trap a person underwater.
- If you capsize, hold onto your boat, unless it presents a life-threatening situation. If floating in current, position yourself on the upstream side of the capsized boat.

LOCKING THROUGH

- ⚠ Locking through is recommended for experienced paddlers only!
- When heading downriver, the dam is difficult to see. Stay alert and keep track of your location (be visible and cognizant of others). Cross over to the correct side of the river that the lock is located on as much as one mile before you arrive and hug the shoreline. Keep an eye out for the "DANGER DAM" signs and the white and orange pillar buoys (they may be taken out of the river depending on time of year and river flow).
- Let the Lock Master know you are there by ringing the bell located at the end of the storm wall, calling them on the phone or VHF radio channel 13 or by sounding one long blast from a boat whistle followed by one short blast. Advance communication is advised. Check schedule for hours.
- Approach the lock and be aware of the following signals: Red means stand clear and do not enter, Yellow means approach lock under full control and Green means proceed to enter lock directly. The Lock Master may also signal via air horn: one long blast means enter landward lock, two long blasts means enter riverward lock, one short blast means leave landward lock and two short blasts means leave riverward lock.
- Carry aboard at least seventy-five feet of mooring line to secure your small craft safely to the lock wall. The Lock Master reserves the right to deny permission to pass through due to inadequate line. To proceed, give one end of the line to the Lock Master. He will place around the mooring hook above. Feed the rope through your hand going up/down with the water level while holding the other end securely.
- After being let up/down, wait for the Lock Master to give you an OK before proceeding. Leave at a slow and consistent speed staying close yet visible beside the storm wall. Do not stop until you are well away from the pull of the dam's current and other boat traffic.

RULES & REGULATIONS

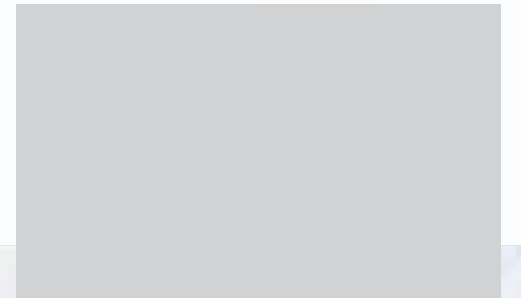
STEWARDSHIP



- Plan and be prepared.
- Dispose of waste properly.
- Leave what you find.
- Respect wildlife.
- Be considerate of others.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Emergency Contacts
All areas dial 911
VHF Channel 16



Weather & River Conditions

Weather Forecasts
412.262.2170
www.weather.gov
VHF 162.55 MHz (Weather Channel 1)

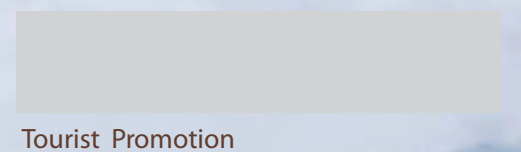
River Conditions
412.262.5290
www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
412.395.7500
www.lrp.usace.army.mil

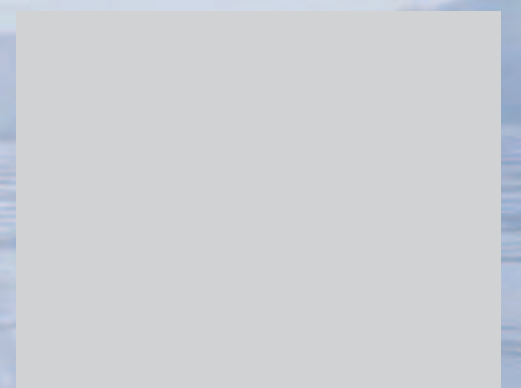
Rowing



Guided Kayak Trips



Tourist Promotion



Get Involved

The Ohio River Trails Council is a membership-based organization charged with increasing awareness and engagement with the Ohio River Region's trails, rivers and riverfronts through activities, stewardship and expansion of water and land trails. Please help us to continue our work by becoming a member or contributing to one of our projects. Call us at (724) XXX-XXXX or visit us online at www.ohiorivertrail.org to learn more about our organization.



Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program



US Army Corps of Engineers

