



MAP ID	WATER TRAIL LANDING	RIVER MILE FROM POINT & BANK	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
<b>ALLEGHENY RIVER</b>				
A1	6th Street Clemente	0.6 - Right	40 26 47	80 00 13
A2	Three Rivers Rowing	2.8 - Right	40 28 13	79 58 25
A3	Lawrenceville	3.1 - Left	40 28 18	79 58 01
A4	Millvale Riverfront Park	3.2 - Right	40 28 30	79 58 10
A5	Sharpsburg Riverfront Park	5.5 - Right	40 29 35	79 55 45
A6	O'Hara Chapel Harbor	7.9 - Right	40 29 06	79 52 51
A7	Verona	10.5 - Left	40 30 13	79 50 36
A8	Oakmont	12.0 - Left	40 51 71	79 84 90
<b>MONOGAHELA RIVER</b>				
M1	Station Square	0.75 - Left	40 26 04	80 00 15
M2	4th Street	1.25 - Left	40 25 52	79 59 42
<b>WATER TRAIL LANDING</b>				
M3	South Side Riverfront Park 1	2.25 - Left	40 25 57	79 58 31
M4	South Side Riverfront Park 2	2.5 - Left	40 25 53	79 58 16
M5	Nine Mile Run	7.5 - Right	40 24 50	79 55 01
M6	Braddock at 11th Street	10 - Right	40 23 41	79 51 59
<b>OHIO RIVER</b>				
O1	Heinz Quay	.01 - Right	40 26 41	80 00 41
O2	Westshall Street	2.75 - Right	40 28 18	80 02 36
O3	Sewickley	11.75 - Right	40 32 09	80 11 16
<b>YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER</b>				
Y1	McKeesport	0.1 - Left	40 21 36	79 52 20



# Three Rivers Water Trail

## Map & Guide



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.



### URBAN ADVENTURE



Canoeing and kayaking have long been popular ways to explore the waterways of the Allegheny Plateau Region. Although it has mostly been associated with rural and mountainous experiences, today, seeking adventure on the now cleaner urban waters is increasingly popular. The opportunities found in our own backyard can introduce all citizens to new experiences in fitness and recreational activities. Friends of the Riverfront is making it happen. Imagine paddling to the South Side for shopping or a lunch of international food, docking on the North Side for a show at the Warhol Museum or a baseball game, watching the blue herons swoop in search of food while you picnic on an island in the Allegheny River or listening to the distant traffic while you take an early morning paddle amidst the Golden Triangle's skyline.

### PADDLING THE RIVERS

With the creation of the Three Rivers Water Trail, residents and visitors can get a new perspective on our region from the rural countryside to downtown Pittsburgh. With the help of this guide, you can witness history in the making and embark on a river adventure that gives you a glimpse of our past, present and future. Take a moment to consider the following as you prepare for your journey. It's important to know the waters on which you plan to boat, and users must know their own capabilities. The water levels are controlled through a series of locks and dams, but always be cognizant of your surroundings as well as other private and commercial boat traffic. Float speed on the Three Rivers is about 2-3 miles per hour with leisurely paddling. Remember that heavy rains and seasonal ice can significantly affect the flow conditions. For your safety and enjoyment, please boat only when water levels are appropriate for your skill level. The latest condition information can be found at [www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc).

### ACCESSES AND AMENITIES ALONG THE WAY

#### Allegheny River

**A1** 6th Street, Clemente. Spectacular urban access beneath the 6th Street (Clemente) Bridge, located adjacent to the Three Rivers Heritage Trail. Also the home of Kayak Pittsburgh.



**A2** Three Rivers Rowing. Home turf to a world-class rowing facility, this site offers users access to the adjacent Heritage Trail and Millvale Riverfront Park just off of Route 28 and Grant Avenue.

**A3** Lawrenceville. Excellent access under the protection of the 40th Street Bridge. Ample land and water trailhead parking adjacent to the landing.

**A4** Millvale Riverfront Park. Great access can be found just off the sunken barge. Refreshments, bike rentals and fishing equipment available in the adjacent trailhead parking just off of Grant Avenue in the park.

**A5** Sharpsburg Riverfront Park. Prime example of small municipal planning with big impacts. Follow Main Street, turn onto 13th for parking, picnic facilities and restrooms.

**A6** O'Hara Chapel Harbor. Soft landing on the shores of the Allegheny River. A turf grass ramp allows access to Chapel Harbor residents and nearby marina.

**A7** Verona. Spacious docks of Steel City Rowing offer easy put-in and take-out. Follow the paddle sign from Allegheny River Boulevard to the Arch Street trailhead facility.

**A8** Oakmont Washington Avenue. Adjacent to the bustling central business district, this site offers access for both motorized and non-motorized craft.

#### Monongahela River

**M1** Station Square. In the heart of the Golden Triangle, this access offers users their choice of entertainment, dining and unique shops. Stow your craft and take a ride on the Monongahela Incline for a bird's eye view.



**M2** 4th Street. Former home of River Rescue, this landing has ample room for a put-in and take-out as well as nearby parking and access to the Community Bike Program just off of 4th Street in the South Side.

**M3** South Side Park 1. Serene setting in the middle of the city, this access is designated for both motorized and non-motorized craft. The South Side Riverfront Park, located at the end of 18th Street off East Carson, offers ample parking and access to nearby amenities and entertainment.



**M4** South Side Park 2. Small, protected cove allows for calm-water entry and exiting. Park facilities include restrooms, picnic tables and access to the Heritage Trail and the historic South Side. Stow your craft, and discover what the South Side has to offer.

**M5** Nine Mile Run. Rustic access at the mouth of Nine Mile Run. This access offers excellent fishing, trails and views of the Waterfront across the river from the spacious trailhead facility.

**M6** Braddock at 11th Street. Large access for both motorized and non-motorized craft. Parking is available along 11th Street.

#### Ohio River

**O1** Heinz Quay. Beat the traffic and paddle to the game. Hang around and catch home runs at the ballpark. This popular access offers a wide array of amenities including food and entertainment.

**O2** Westhall Street. Trailhead parking is available off of River Avenue with access along the riverfront just across from Heritage Trail.

**O3** Sewickley. The Sewickley Riverfront Park offers easy access to the Ohio River and nearby shopping and dining.

#### Youghiogheny River

**Y1** McKeesport. Located at the mouth of the Youghiogheny River, this is an excellent access for people wishing to explore the Steel Valley Trail, part of the Great Allegheny Passage, or take an easy walk to the nearby amenities of McKeesport.



### GET INVOLVED

We couldn't have done it without you. Friends of the Riverfront is a 15-year-old membership-based organization charged with increasing awareness and engagement with the Pittsburgh Region's rivers and riverfronts through activities, stewardship and expansion of water and land trails. To learn more about our organization and for membership information, please call us at 412.488.0212 or visit us online at [www.friendsoftheriverfront.org](http://www.friendsoftheriverfront.org).



### STEWARDSHIP

Friends of the Riverfront works with over 1,000 dedicated volunteers just like you every summer to help care for our riverfronts. Please help care for the land, water and cultural resources along the Three Rivers Water Trail by respecting private property, wildlife and other enthusiasts. "Leave No Trace," a national outdoor ethics program, provides guidelines to minimize your impact by following these simple concepts. For information on "Leave No Trace," visit [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).

- Plan and be prepared.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Dispose of waste properly.
- Leave what you find.
- Minimize campfires.
- Respect wildlife.
- Be considerate of others.

### RESPECT THE PRIVACY OF OTHERS

Plan and make stops at Three Rivers Water Trail's designated landings and shorelines open to the public. Respect the privacy and rights of landowners by obtaining permission before entering privately owned land.

### FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

The Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers near Pittsburgh offer a tremendous variety of quality fishing opportunities throughout the year. Remember, though, that fishing success varies by water conditions and year class strength of the various species.

Late fall, winter and early spring (October to March) is a prime time to pursue walleye and sauger. These two species are more active when the water is colder. Concentrate your fishing within a mile of the downstream side of the dams and at the mouths of tributaries. This is also the time of the year for trophy-sized musky, particularly in the lower Allegheny River.

April to June is a period to target smallmouth bass, white bass and freshwater drum when the water is cooler. There will also be opportunities to catch a 2- to 5-pound hybrid striped bass. The summer months and early fall bring the best action for channel catfish, flathead catfish, carp and smallmouth buffalo when the water is warm.

Muskies and hybrid striped bass are stocked by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission to provide the fishery. The fishery for all other species mentioned are maintained by natural reproduction in the rivers.

### PENNSYLVANIA BOATING REGULATIONS

- One wearable, Coast Guard-approved life jacket (personal flotation device or PFD) in serviceable condition and of the appropriate size is required for each person in your boat. If your boat is 16 feet or longer, one throwable device (seat cushion or ring buoy) is required. Canoes and kayaks, regardless of length, are not required to carry a throwable device.
- 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 life jacket at all times on the water.
- All boats must display an anchor light (a white light visible at 360 degrees) when at anchor between sunset and sunrise. Boats can use a lantern or clip-on battery-powered unit to meet this requirement.
- All powered boats must show running lights between sunset and sunrise. Between sunset and sunrise, unpowered boats must carry a white light (visible at 360 degrees), installed or portable, ready to be displayed in time to avoid a collision.
- All motorboats are required to carry a sound-producing mechanical device audible for a half-mile. Athletic whistles meet this requirement.
- All motorboats must be registered, regardless of where they launch.
- Unpowered boats (canoes, kayaks, rowboats, rafts) using Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission access areas must either be registered OR display a valid launch permit. Launch permits can be purchased on the web at [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com). Click the "Outdoor Shop" icon.
- Operating watercraft, including canoes, kayaks, and rafts, under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal. The law is strongly enforced for user safety. For further information on boating regulations, contact the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission at [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com).



### PADDLING SAFETY TIPS

- Wear your life jacket. Some 80% of all recreational boating fatalities happen to people who are not wearing a life jacket.
- Expect to get wet. Even the best paddlers sometimes capsize or swamp their boats. Bring extra clothing in a waterproof bag.
- Be prepared to swim. If the water looks too hazardous to swim in, don't go paddling.
- If you capsize, hold on to your boat, unless it presents a life-threatening situation. If floating in current, position yourself on the upstream side of the capsized boat.
- Scout ahead whenever possible. Know the river. Avoid surprises.
- 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.
- Wear wading shoes or tennis shoes with wool, polypropylene, pile or neoprene socks.
- Never take your boat over a low-head dam.
- Portage (carry) your boat around any section of water about which you feel uncertain.
- Never boat alone. Boating safety increases with numbers.
- Keep painter lines (ropes tied to the bow) and any other ropes coiled and secured.
- Never tie a rope to yourself or to another paddler, especially a child.
- Kneel to increase stability before entering rougher water, like a rapid.
- If you collide with an obstruction, lean toward it. This will usually prevent capsizing or flooding the boat.
- File a float plan with a reliable person, indicating where you are going and when you will return. Remember to contact the person when you have returned safely.



### LOCKING THROUGH

- On the downriver approach, dams are 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 well 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.
- Approach the lock aware of the following signals: Red means stand clear and do not enter. Yellow means approach the lock under full control. Green means proceed to enter the lock directly. The lock master may also signal via air horn: One long blast means enter the landward lock. Two long blasts mean enter the riverward lock. One short blast means leave the landward lock. Two short blasts mean leave the riverward lock.
- Carry aboard at least 75 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 because of inadequate line. To proceed, give one end of the line to the lock master. He or she will place it around the mooring hook above. Feed the rope through your hand going up or down with the water level while holding the other end securely.



- After being let up or 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.

### Three Rivers Water Trail Access Landings

Each Three Rivers Water Trail landing contains directional red paddle signs that orient paddlers from both land and water. Amenities such as ramps, interpretive signs and canoe and kayak racks are also a part of each location. Remember to stow your craft properly before setting out on foot to explore nearby historic sites, parks, restaurants and cultural attractions.



### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Emergency Contacts**  
All areas dial 911  
Pittsburgh River Rescue  
412.323.7260  
U.S. Coast Guard 412.644.5808

**Allegheny River**  
Highland Park Lock and Dam #2  
Phone 412.661.2217  
6.2 miles from the Point

**Three Rivers Water Trail Manager**  
Friends of the Riverfront  
33 Terminal Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
412.488.0212  
[www.friendsoftheriverfront.org](http://www.friendsoftheriverfront.org)

**Ohio River**  
Emsworth Locks and Dam  
Phone 412.766.6213  
6.2 miles from the Point

**Tourist Promotion Agencies**  
Visit Pittsburgh 412.281.7711  
[www.visitpittsburgh.com](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com)

**Outfitters & Canoe Liveries**  
Kayak Pittsburgh 412.969.9090  
[www.kayakpittsburgh.com](http://www.kayakpittsburgh.com)

**River Gauge & River Flow Resources**  
National Weather Service-river forecasts 412.262.5290  
[www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
[www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc/](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/ohrfc/)

REI 412.488.9410  
[www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com)  
Ekursion Outfitters  
412.821.0206  
[www.ekursion.com](http://www.ekursion.com)  
Three Rivers Rowing  
412.231.8772  
[www.threeriversrowing.org](http://www.threeriversrowing.org)  
Steel City Rowing 412.828.5565  
[www.steelcityrowing.org](http://www.steelcityrowing.org)

**Locks and Dams**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
412.395.7500  
[www.lrp.usace.army.mil](http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil)

**Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission**  
[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)

**Monongahela River**  
Braddock Lock and Dam #2  
Phone 412.271.1272  
11.2 miles from the Point

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

