

National Park Service

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Rivers, Trails, and
Conservation Assistance
Program



With our Partners:

- Protect 1,000 miles of river
- Create over 2,000 miles of trails
- Conserve more than 70,000 acres of open space

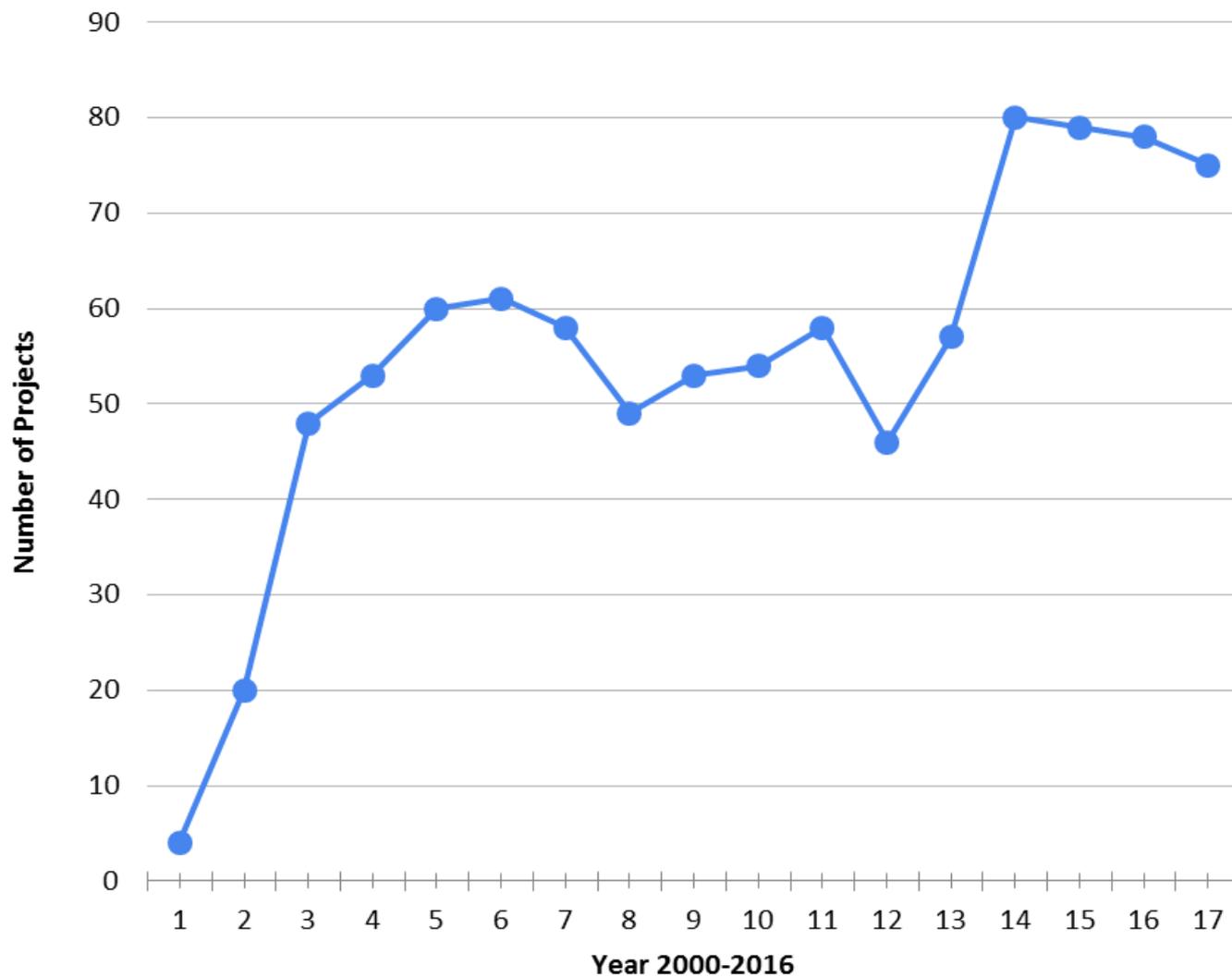


- National Water Trail System
- Lake Michigan Water Trail
- Statewide Water Trail Programs
- Regional Water Trail Efforts





National RTCA Water Trail Projects



Every water trail must have:



- A local managing organization or partnership to care about and manage the trail.
- Support by the local community and local government.
- A minimum level of public access to support a trail experience.
- Public information provided online or in print to market the trail to potential trail users, to help them find the trail, plan their trip, use the trail safely, and learn about the natural/cultural resources



NATIONAL WATER TRAILS SYSTEM

Celebrating:

- 21 National Water Trails
- 3366 miles of trail
- 20 States

A National System of Exemplary Water Trails.



NATIONAL WATER TRAILS SYSTEM



A distinctive national network of exemplary water trails which are designated by the Secretary of the Interior. The trails within the National Water Trails System are cooperatively supported and sustained.



- **Protect and restore** America's rivers, shorelines, and waterways and conserve natural areas along waterways
- **Increase access** to outdoor recreation on shorelines and waterways

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Who Designates Them?

- Designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture
- Recognized as part of the National Trails System

Who Manages Them?

- Managed by a local management entity (local, state, or federal government agency; nonprofit organization; interagency organization)



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NWTS Program Benefits

- Inclusion in the NWTS Learning Network, a community that mentors and promotes the development of water trails and shares BMPs
- Inclusion on the NWTS website and database
- Receipt of a set of NWTS markers
- Access to technical assistance from NWTS program partners and through the learning network (American Rivers, River Network, RMS)
- Access to funding opportunities



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Criteria for National Recreation Trails

- The trail (and its access points) must be **open to public use** and be **designed, constructed, and maintained** according to best management practices, in keeping with the anticipated use.
- The trail is **in compliance** with applicable land use plans and environmental laws.
- The trail will be **open for public use** for at least 10 consecutive years after designation.
- The trail designation must be **supported by the landowner(s)**, (public or private), on which access points exist.



NATIONAL WATER TRAILS SYSTEM

Best Management Practice Category: Recreation Opportunities



Recreation Opportunities



Education



Conservation



Community Support



Public Information



Trail Maintenance



Planning



Mapping toolbox

Definition:

The water trail route has established public access points that accommodate a diversity of trip lengths and provide access to a variety of opportunities for recreation and education.

Launches and Access Sites



Prepare to Launch! Guidelines for Assessing, Designing, and Building Launch Sites for Carry-in Watercraft is a resource designed to help river and water trail managers and park planners build 'put-in and take out' sites as they address the evolving needs of paddlers and other users.

Connectivity

How well the water trail connects with other water trails, land recreation networks, and public transportation networks including sidewalks, bike trails, bus routes, etc.

Bronx River Blueway NRT Map



Map of Access points along the water trail showing street grid.

Online Interactive Map

The Mississippi National River and Recreation Area has created an online interactive map to integrate the water trail into the regional transportation networks. The map shows bikeshare stations, bike routes, bus stops, rail stations, and streets.

<http://rivertripplanner.org/>

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Island Loop Trail	11 miles	(Port Huron, MI)
Huron River	104 miles	(Ann Arbor, MI)
Kitsap Peninsula	371 miles	(Seattle, WA)
Black Canyon	30 miles	(Arizona, Nevada)
Bayou Teche	131 miles	(Los Angeles, CA)
Chattahoochee River NRA	48 miles	(Atlanta, Georgia)
Mississippi River NRA	76 miles	(Minneapolis, MN)
Bronx River Greenway	8 miles	(New York, NY)
Willamette River Water Trail	216 miles	(Oregon)
Hudson River Water Trail	256 miles	(New York)
Mississippi/ Great River WT	121 miles	(St. Louis, MS)
Okefenokee NWR	120 miles	(Georgia)
Alabama Scenic River Trail	631 miles	(Alabama)
Kansas River Water Trail	173 miles	(Kansas City, KS)
Rock River Water Trail	330 miles	(Qaud Cities, IL)
Waccamaw River Blue Trail	100 miles	(South Carolina)
Mississippi River National Recreation Area and Trail	76 miles	(Mississippi)
Great Miami River Water Trail	291 miles	(Ohio)
Arkansas River Water Trail	192 miles	(Arkansas)
Kankakee River Water Trail	133 miles	(Indiana)
Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails	371 miles	(Washington)

Island Loop National Water Trail



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



Public Health ST. CLAIR COUNTY
 Cargill

JUNE 9, 2012 • ST. CLAIR COUNTY

RIVER DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2012

GET OUT AND SHOW THE WATER SOME LOVE!
 A FULL DAY OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES!

CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

- ART ON THE RIVER (JUNE 9 & 10) • PORT HURON
- FAMILY FISHING CLINIC (JUNE 9 & 10) • PORT HURON
- BLUE WATER YMCA SWIMMER SAFETY • PORT HURON
- WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT VIRTUAL TOURS • PORT HURON
- BAKERS FIELD RIVERFRONT PARK GRAND OPENING • PORT HURON
- KIDS FISHING DERBY • ST. CLAIR
- PADDLE THE PINE RIVER • ST. CLAIR
- NATIVE PLANT SALE • GOODDELLS
- COLUMBUS COUNTY PARK TOUR • COLUMBUS
- MARINE CITY FAMILY FISHING MANIA • MARINE CITY
- DISCOVER THE DELTA PADDLE-PALOOZA • CLAY TOWNSHIP
- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION • ALGONAC

WWW.RIVERDAYFUN.COM f

PADDLE & POUR
 Sunday, September 9

130

Map showing the route for Paddle & Pour in Port Huron, Michigan. The route is marked with a blue line and includes locations like Lakeside Park, BWSB, and The Roche Bar.

PADDLE
 BOATS LAUNCH @ NOON
 (@ Quay St.)

POUR
 BBQ STARTS AT 5PM
 BANDS START AT 7PM
 (FOOTBOOTS w/ Code Brown)

@ The Roche Bar
 405 Quay Street - Downtown Port Huron

Huron River National Water Trail

The Huron River Water Trail

The Huron River Water Trail is a 104-mile (167 km) inland paddling trail connecting people to the river's natural environment, its history and the communities it touches in Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

From the rapids at Delhi and Dexter to the placid flat water at the entrance to Lake Erie, a variety of paddling experiences await you. For kayaking, canoeing, fishing on a fly, and other freshwater pursuits, follow the Huron River Water Trail to learn what others already know — the Huron River is a Michigan treasure worth exploring.



Paddler's Companion book of trail maps available.



Huron River WATER TRAIL

www.huronriverwatertrail.org

©2013 Huron River Watershed Council



PURE MICHIGAN
Your life begins at Michigan's water.



US-23	82.0 mi 132.0 km	Distance to Lake Erie:
Winans Lake Rd.	77.9 mi 125.3 km	Distance to Lake Erie:
Stark Strasse St.	44.6 mi 71.8 km	Lake Erie:
MI-36	76.0 mi 122.3 km	Distance to Lake Erie:
McCabe Rd.	83.6 mi 134.5 km	Distance to Lake Erie:
Delhi Acc	58.0 mi	Distance to Lake Erie:



BUILDUP!

**TURNING OUR COMMUNITIES
TO FACE THE RIVER**

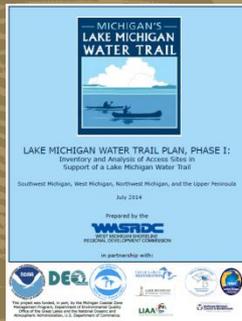
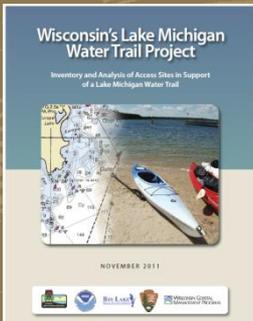


EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



Lake Michigan Water Trail

One lake, four states, all trails, a world class destination connecting people to adventure and exploration around Lake Michigan. 1600 miles, 760 MI miles



State Water Trail Programs

# of state programs	26
# of water trails	1,394
# of water trail miles	40,824 miles (approximation)

*There is at least 1 water trail reported in every state except Oklahoma, but only 26 states have statewide water trail programs. 2015 NPS-RTCA survey

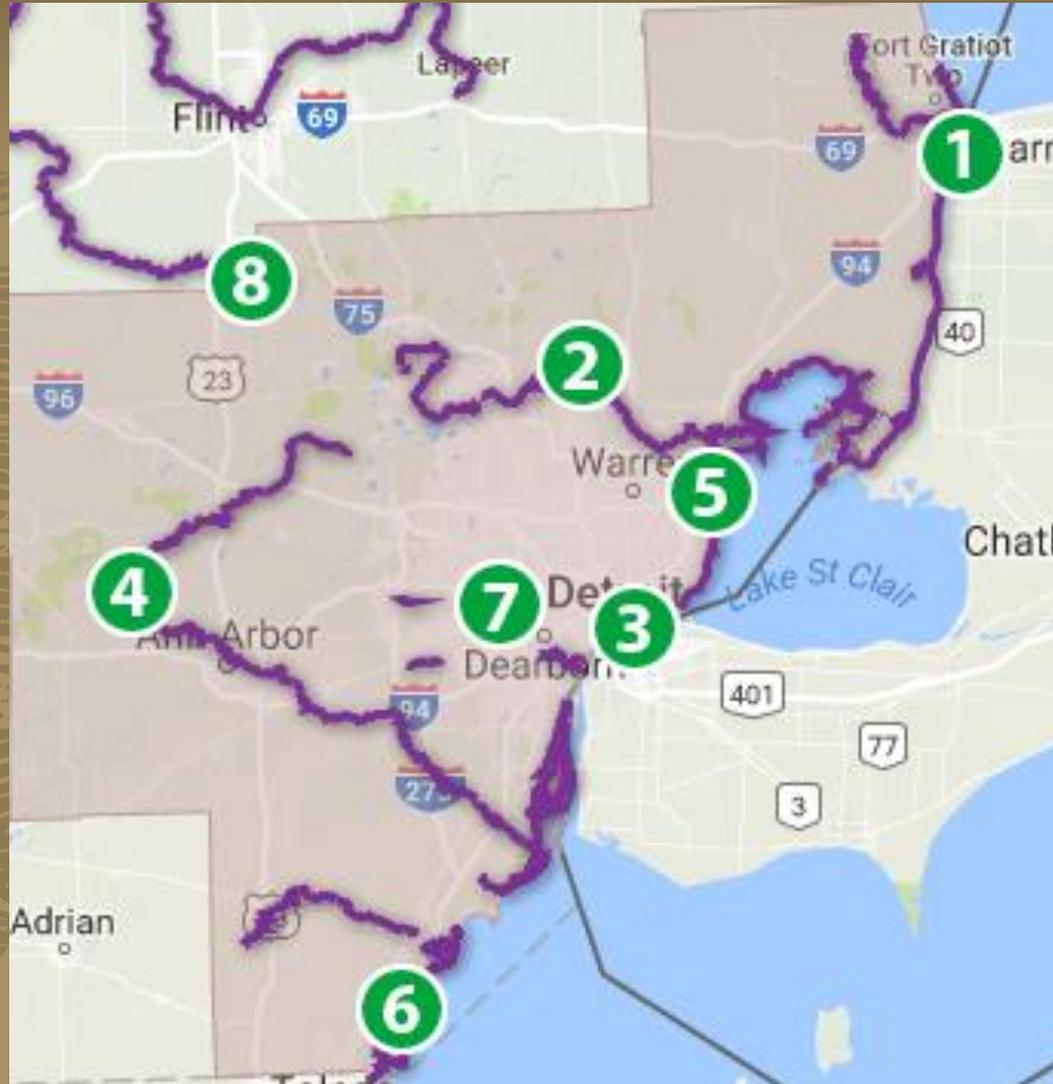
Statewide Water Trail Programs

- Connecticut – NGO
- Georgia – NGO
- Pennsylvania – Partnership
- Florida – Partnership
- Minnesota - State
- Texas – State
- Iowa - State



Southeast Michigan Water Trails

1. Blueways of St. Clair (17)
2. Clinton River Water Trail
3. Detroit Heritage River WT
4. Huron River National WT
5. Lake St. Clair Coastal WT
6. Monroe County Water Trails (6)
7. Rouge River Water Trail





2015 Michigan National Water Trails Forum

0:00 / 14:50



National Water Trails Forum 2015



UpNorth TV

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Coordinating Organizations

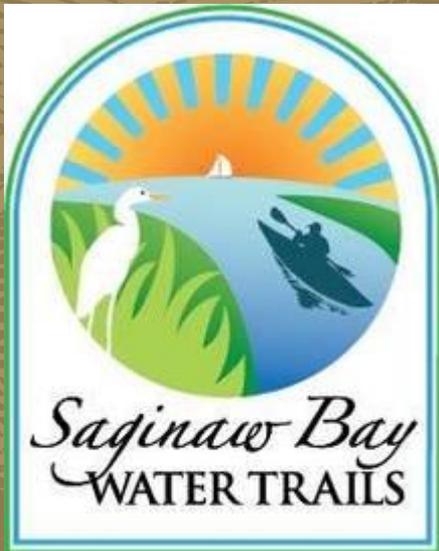
- National Park Service
- River Network
- River Management Society
- Huron River Water Trail
- St. Clair County
- Michigan Sea Grant
- Riverside Kayak Connection

36 views



Saginaw Bay Watershed Water Trails

1. Saginaw Bay Water Trail
2. Cass River Water Trail
3. Flint River Water Trail
4. Shiawassee River Water Trail



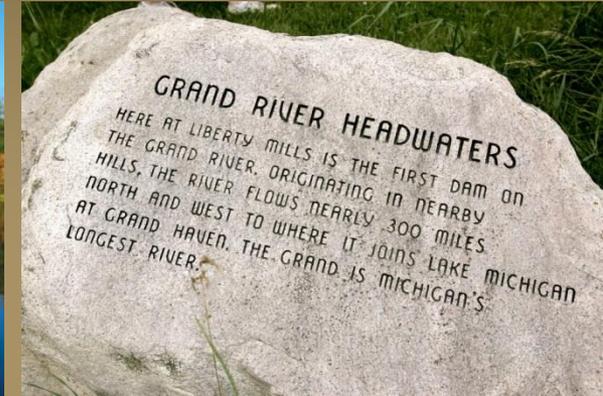
Grand River Water Trail - 250 miles

Lower Grand River

Water Trails

Grand Ravines North
9904 42nd Avenue, Jenison, MI

**LOWER GRAND RIVER WATER TRAIL
COMMUNITY FORUM**



GRAND RIVER HERITAGE WATER TRAIL REACH 1
7.61 MILES

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS	DISTANCE FROM PREVIOUS (MILES)	TOTAL DISTANCE (MILES)
1. VENER	1.48 MILES	1.48
2. JENISON	0.41 MILES	2.08
3. UNDERCUT TREES	0.46 MILES	2.55
4. FALLER - ON TREES	1.00 MILES	3.57
5. BOYNTON FARM	0.78 MILES	4.35
6. BEND AREA	0.41 MILES	4.76
7. HOVEY EQUIP	0.81 MILES	5.57
8. HAZEL LANDING	1.00 MILES	6.57
9. LONGING LANDING	0.87 MILES	7.44
10. SAND CREEK LANDING	0.18 MILES	7.62
11. GRAND RIVER PARK	0.05 MILES	7.67

LEGEND

- NATURAL FEATURE
- HISTORICAL FEATURE
- MILEAGE MARKER
- KAYAK ACCESS POINT

Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission

MIDDLE GRAND RIVER HERITAGE WATER TRAIL GUIDEBOOK

MGROW
MIDDLE GRAND RIVER ORGANIZATION OF WATERSHEDS

Updated 2nd edition!

Paddle Through History from Eaton Rapids to Lyons
Maps · Access Points · Heritage Sites · Hazards



Jackson County, Upper Grand River Watershed Alliance, LIAA



For More Information

- **National Water Trail System**
www.nps.gov/watertrails
- Toolbox
- Prepare to Launch <http://www.river-management.org/prepare-to-launch>
- **NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program** www.nps.gov/rtca



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Suttons Bay – World Record Flotilla 2,099 - Find Paul Yauk

