

# OHIO RIVER WATER TRAIL DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

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## VISION

The Mid-Ohio Valley will become nationally recognized for the canoeing and kayaking opportunities available locally.

## GOALS

1. Enhance economic tourism development in the Greater Parkersburg area by encouraging and enabling visitors and residents to enjoy canoeing and kayaking on the Ohio River, the Little Kanawha River, and the many other rivers, streams and lakes in the mid-Ohio Valley.  
Effectively market the Ohio River Water Trail.  
Develop travel and tourism products for the enjoyment of current and future visitors.
2. Provide boater safety information.
3. Educate visitors and residents about the area's scenic, natural, recreational, history and engineering resources.
4. Collaborate with Ohio River Water Trail co-sponsors.
5. Plan future Ohio River Water Trail maintenance and development.

## DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

Access sites with good signage, parking, kiosks with good information.

Consistent Design / Look of signage.

## ACTIVITIES

	RESPONSIBLE	DUE	STATUS	STATUS DATE
<b>Community Support</b>				
<b>Partnerships</b>				
Recruit the Ohio River Museum, Marietta, OH as a co-sponsor	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE	9/4/2016
<b>Surveys and Public Opinion</b>				
<b>Economic Impact Studies</b>				
<b>Landowner Relationships</b>				
<b>Funding</b>				
<b>Conservation</b>				
<b>Water Quality, Cleanups, and Invasives</b>				
Ohio River Clean Sweep	City of Parkersburg	2017		
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>				
<b>Conservation</b>				
<b>Restoration</b>				
<b>Planning</b>				
<b>Other</b>				
<b>Education</b>				
<b>Events &amp; Festivals</b>				
Waterfowl Day,	ORINWR	2017		
<b>Museums/Visitor Centers</b>				
Interpretive Programs, such as "Brunch with Margaret", "Tea at Maple Shade", Dining With The Blennerhassetts"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017		
Interpretive programs, such as "Brunch with Mark Twain"	Ohio River Museum	2017		
<b>Programs</b>				
Education programs such as "Birds of Prey", "Celebrating Butterflies", "Moth Night"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017		
<b>Youth Programs</b>				

Youth Ecology/Conservation programs, such as "Nature Walk - What's In a River", "Bugs, Bug, Bugs"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017
Passport to Fun: Summer Camp at the Museum	Ohio River Museum	6/20/2017
Youth ecology/conservation programs, e.g. "Junior Biologist"	ORINWR	2017

**Conferences and Competitions**

Planning

Develop Trail Development and Maintenance Plan	WCATC	2017
Review Trail Development and Maintenance Plan every 6 mo.	WCATC	2017
Develop ORWT Vision	WCATC	2017
Develop ORWT desired future conditions	WCATC	2017
Develop strategies to strengthen best management practices	WCATC	2017

Public Information

**Access, Routes, and Maps**

Develop ten 'Paddle Trips' itineraries on the Facebook page	WCATC	2017	4 currently developed	8/14/2016
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**Brochures/ Fact Sheets**

Develop pamphlets for Water Trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	TBD
Inventory Engineering points of interest on the Water Trail	WCATC	2017

**Events & Festivals**

Pioneer Heritage Days	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017
Paddlefest	Greater Parkersburg CVB	Sep-2017
Inland Waterways Festival	Ohio River Museum	Aug 5-8 2017
Welcome Back carp	Ohio River Museum	4/8/2017
Endangered Species Festival	ORINWR	2017
Attend two local festivals to promote the ORWT	WCATC	2017

**Publicity**

Develop map for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	TBD		
Figure out Logo situation for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	TBD		
Build up Water Trail Facebook page to 100 'likes'	WCATC	2017	25	8/14/2016

**Safety, Hazards and Water Quality**

## Recreation Opportunities

### Access, Routes, and Maps

Develop web page for water trail

Greater Parkersburg CVB

TBD

### Connectivity

### Recreation Info and Facilities

## Trail Maintenance

Develop Trail maintenance management process

WCATC

2017

## Activity category Definitions

### Recreation Opportunities

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.

#### 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.

#### Recreation Info and Facilities

Information about recreation opportunities and existing facilities.

#### Access, Routes, and Maps

### Conservation

The water trail provides opportunities for communities to develop and implement strategies that enhance and restore the health of the local waterways and surrounding lands.

#### Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to filter water, reduce flash-flooding, prevent sewer overflows, and create healthier urban environments.

#### Water Quality, Cleanups, and Invasives

Water quality monitoring, cleanups, invasive plant monitoring and removal.

#### Conservation

Methods of protecting land may include acquisition, conservation easements, local ordinances for riparian protection, zoning changes, and other legal acts.

**Restoration**

Ecological restoration initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem's health, integrity and sustainability. Often the ecosystem has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed as a result of human activities and cannot recover its predisturbance state or its historic developmental trajectory.

**Planning**

Planning documents specifically focused on conservation. Also listed in the planning section of the toolbox.

**Other**

Everything else

**Public Information**

The public is provided with accessible and understandable water trail information, including details for identifying access and trail routes; cultural, historic, and natural features; hazards; and water quality. The water trail is promoted to the community and broad national audience.

**Access, Routes, and Maps****Publicity**

Newspaper articles and other publicity

**Brochures/ Fact Sheets**

Brochures and Fact Sheets about the water trail

**Safety, Hazards and Water Quality**

Items pertaining to safety, hazards, and water quality

**Events & Festivals**

Events and festivals put on by the water trail and partners.

**Planning**

The water trail managers maintain a water trail plan that describes a vision, desired future conditions, and strategies to strengthen best management practices.

**Education**

The water trail users are provided with opportunities to learn about the value of water resources, cultural heritage and boating skills and outdoor ethics.

**Events & Festivals**

Events & festivals put on by the water trail or partners.

**Youth Programs**

Programs targeting children and teens.

**Museums/Visitor Centers**

**Conferences and Competitions**

**Programs**

### **Community Support**

Local communities provide support and advocacy for the maintenance and stewardship of the water trail.

**Surveys and Public Opinion**

Surveys and studies of public opinions of water trails.

**Economic Impact Studies**

**Studies of the economic impacts of water trails.**

**Partnerships**

**Landowner Relationships**

**Funding**

Funding mechanisms to raise money for the water trail.

### **Trail Maintenance**

The water trail managers demonstrate ability to support routine and long-term maintenance investments on the water trail. Facilities are designed, constructed, and maintained by incorporating sustainability principles.

## **TRAIL MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

1. WCATC will encourage trail users (and others) to report maintenance issues or concerns via the Trail web page.
2. WCATC will track all reported maintenance issues.
3. WCATC will report the maintenance concern to the co-sponsors, and to the owner of the issue.
4. WCATC will encourage the owner to correct the issue and to report when the maintenance issue is fixed.
5. If possible, WCATC will report back to the person who originally reported the concern the ongoing status and final resolution.

## TRAIL PARTNERS

### Ohio River Water Trail Sponsor

Wood County Commission  
Wood County Alternative Transportation Council  
Greater Parkersburg CVB

Marty Seufer	County Administrator	seufer@woodcountywv.com
Lloyd Roberts	Chair	Lloyd_T215@yahoo.com
Mark Lewis	President and CEO	mlewis@parkersburgcvb.org

### Ohio River Water Trail Co-Sponsors

Ohio River Island National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of the Ohio River Island National Wildlife Refuge  
Ohio River Trail Council  
City of Vienna  
City of Williamstown  
City of Parkersburg  
Ohio DNR

Rebecca Young	Refuge Manager	rebecca_young@fws.gov
Rebecca Young	Refuge Manager	rebecca_young@fws.gov
Dr. Vincent Troia		drvtroia@ohiorivertrail.org
Linda Kern		lindakern@vienna-wv.com
Marty Seufer		willcity@suddenlinkmail.com
Sam Tuten	City Planner	Samuel.Tuten@parkersburgwv.gov
Douglas Leed	Ohio Water Trails Program Administrator	douglas.leed@dnr.state.oh.us

Blennerhassett Historical State Park  
Marietta Adventure Company  
Washington County Commission

Miles Evenson	acting Superintendent	Miles P. Evenson@wv.gov
Ryan Smith		mariettaadventurecompany@gmail.com
Rick Peoples	Clerk, Washington County Commission	rpeoples@wvcgov.org

Marietta Rowing and Cycling Club  
Ohio River Museum

Rick Ralston		RickRalston67@Gmail.com
Glenna Hoff	Director of Education and Programs	ghoff@campusmartiusmuseum.org

### Interested non-sponsors

National Park Service  
Pleasants County CVB  
Belpre Chamber of Commerce

Peggy Pings	Outdoor Rec Planner	Peggy_Pings@nps.gov
Jody Murphy		pleasantscvb@frontier.com
Kelly Cox		kellycox@suddenlink.net