



Program Agenda

Wednesday, October, 28, 2009

4:00-6:00 PM **Optional Sunset Float Trip (see info on field trips for details)**

Thursday, October 29, 2009

7:30-9:00 AM **Registration, coffee, light breakfast and social**

9:00-10:15 AM **Welcome & Opening Plenary**

Welcome

Christine Olsenius, Executive Director, Southeast Watershed Forum
Jeff Duncan, Southeastern Rivers Program, National Park Service
David Vela, Southeast Regional Director, National Park Service

Plenary Speakers - *Joe Cook*, Executive Director and Riverkeeper of the Coosa River Basin Initiative and the Coordinator of Paddle Georgia & *Dana Skelton*, Director of Administration and Outreach for Georgia River Network

10:15-10:30 AM **BREAK**

10:30-12:00 PM **Concurrent Sessions**

Panel on Water Trails 101

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	Topic	LOCATION
Jeff Duncan	National Park Service – RTCA	Trail Development	
Paul Sanford	American Canoe Association	Basics of Trail Development	
Mary Crockett	South Carolina Dept. of Natural Resources	Trail Development	

Moderator: Jeff Duncan

State Water Trail Programs

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Ron Smith	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Texas Paddling Trails Program	
Glen Bishop	Arkansas Tech University	Boating Arkansas Trails	

Moderator: Charlotte Gillis

Economic Benefits of Water Trails

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Nancy MacPhee	Lee County FL Visitor & Convention Bureau	Benefits of Water Trails to Local Economic Development	
James Caudill & Tim Richardson	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service American Land Conservancy	The Economic Impacts of the Recreational Use of the Lower Mississippi River Fishing and Boating Trail	
Wayne Williams & Stephanie West	Appalachian State University	Economic Impact of Canoeists on the New River	

Moderator: James Caudill

12:00-1:30 PM Jim Ogden, NPS Historian - "History along the Tennessee Blueway"

1:30-3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

Southeastern Success Stories

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Liz Smith-Incer & Judy Steckler	National Park Service RTCA Program	Paddling Along the Mississippi Gulf Coast	
Francesca Gross	Five Mile Creek Greenway Partnership	A Beginning: Five Mile Creek Blueways	
Jim Felder	Alabama Scenic River Trail	Creating the Alabama Scenic River Trail	

Moderator: Liz Smith-Incer

Private Sector Water Trail Efforts

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Marshall Olson	Alcoa Power Generating Inc.	Through Paddling on the Little Tennessee River	
Steadman Suggs	Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	Duke Energy Paddle Trail projects	
April & John Haight	Cave Run Bicycle and Outdoors Center	A grassroots effort to promote water trails – a business perspective	

Moderator: Mary Crockett

Water Trail Construction and Maintenance

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Steve Logan & Jane Polansky	Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association Harpeth River State Park	Ingenuity, Tenacity, Success! (Harpeth River)	
Tom Potter	North Carolina Paddle Trail Association	TBD	

Moderator: Josh Moore

3:00-3:15 PM BREAK

3:15-4:45 PM Concurrent Sessions

Stewardship and Conservation

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Liz Sparks	Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission	Sustaining Wildlife while Enhancing Water-based Recreation	
Steve Spencer	Western Kentucky University	Warren County Blueways: Expanding River Awareness/Stewardship	
Matt Rice & Staci Williams	American Rivers	Protection through Recreation: Using Your Water Trail as a Tool to Protect the River	

Moderator: Liz Sparks

Funding Opportunities & Strategies

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Bob Richards	Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation	Funding Options for Water Trail Development	
Alison Bullock	National Park Service RTCA Program	Building Capacity through RTCA	

Moderator: Alison Bullock

Exploring the Role of Partnerships Panel

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Lucia Peel	Roanoke River Partners	Roanoke River Paddle Trail and Camping System	
Mary Rawl	Friends of Billy's Creek	Case Study: Billy's Creek Blueway segment of the Great Calusa Blueway	
Justin Boner	The Conservation Fund	The Conservation Fund's Experiences in Paddle Trail Development and Management	

Moderator: Deirdre Hewitt

5:00-6:30 PM *Evening Social and Reception*

Friday, October 30, 2009

7:00-8:30 AM **Topical Breakfast** — Join your colleagues for an informal early morning discussion of relevant water trail topics. Each table will be devoted to a specific topic.

8:30-10:00 AM **Concurrent Sessions**

Cutting Edge Water Trail Innovations

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Dennis Crumby	TN Department of Transportation and TN Wildlife Resources Agency	Park and Float Program in Tennessee	
Ed Poolos	Waterways Management LLC	Tennessee Boating Trail	
Paul Ayers	University of Tennessee	GPS-based Video for Water Trail Mapping and Virtual Tour Opportunities	

Moderator: Frank Fiss

Information Technology and Water Trails

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC	LOCATION
Tricia King & Andy Carroll	Land Trust for Tennessee Univ. of Tennessee Chattanooga GIS	GIS Modeling for Highlighting Conservation Opportunities along Blueways	
Christine Olsenius	Southeast Watershed Forum	Mapping & Promoting Southern Blueways	
Doug Alderson	Florida Office of Greenways & Trails	Lessons Learned Mapping the Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail	
Bob Spain	Planning and Mapping Coastal Paddling Trails- Texas Style	Mapping Water Trails	

Moderator: Christine Olsenius

Tennessee River Blueway Roundtable

SPEAKER	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION
Jeff Duncan	National Park Service RTCA Program	
Jim Brown	Tennessee River Gorge Trust	
Philip Grymes	Outdoor Chattanooga	
Tina Crawford	Chattanooga Nature Center	
Jim Felder	Alabama Scenic River Trail	

Moderator: Jeff Duncan

- 10:00-10:30 AM** **BREAK (hotel check-out)**
- 10:30-11:00 AM** **James Dion, Associate Director Center for Sustainable Destinations at National Geographic Society**
- 11:00-11:30 AM** **Terry Eastin, Executive Director, Mississippi River Trail - "Why Our Work is so Important"**
- 11:30-12:00 AM** **Wrap-up**
- 12:00 PM** **Adjourn**

FRIDAY AFTERNOON FIELD TRIPS (Optional)

#1 Lookout Creek Canoe Trip

Friday, October 30, 2:00-4:00

Limit: 30 participants

Cost: \$15

Enjoy a leisurely paddle on the gently flowing waters of Lookout Creek while learning about the Chattanooga Nature Center role in developing the creek as a component of the Tennessee River Blueway. The trip will be led by a Chattanooga Nature Center naturalist, and put in and take out at the Centers newly opened, state-of-the-art canoe and kayak facility—the Paddlers Perch. In addition, you will learn about the important role Lookout Creek played in the Civil War and Native American history. Expect to see a variety of wildlife as well as unobstructed views of Lookout Mountain and Reflection Riding Arboretum and Botanical Garden. Participants will also be able to tour the Chattanooga Nature Center which includes a variety of live exhibits. Sorry, transportation NOT provided! (But it's only about 5 miles from the Marriott!)

#2 Two Rivers, Two Islands by Sea kayak

Friday, October 30, 1:30-5:30

Limit: 14 participants*

Cost: \$15

Join us for a relaxing and scenic paddling on Lookout Creek and the Tennessee River Blueway while enjoying the peak fall colors of the Tennessee River Gorge. We'll put in at the Chattanooga Nature Center's newly opened Paddler's Perch and visit historic Williams Island before taking out at Suck Creek Boat Ramp. Discussions will include the implications of designating and managing a long distance paddling trail. This trip is appropriate for intermediate paddlers capable of paddling approximately 6 miles by sea kayak. Transportation will be provided.

* Additional participants welcome, but you must provide your own boat and arrange your own transportation.

#3 South Chickamauga Creek Launch Tour

Friday, October 30, 1:30-4:30

Limit: 11 participants

Cost: \$15

This is a land based trip (by van) with site visits to two South Chickamauga Creek Put-in/Takeout locations. The tour will include an enhanced gravel put-in owned by the City of Chattanooga, and then move downstream to the Tennessee Riverpark showcasing its newly christened ADA-accessible canoe and kayak launch. These two projects were funded in part with a State of Tennessee Recreational Trails Program grant of \$100,000. On site discussions will include essential elements for river access sites, operations, management and maintenance. Transportation will be provided.

Pre-Conference Workshop - Wednesday, October 28, 4:00-6:00

Sunset Paddle Along the Chattanooga Waterfront

Limit: 12 participants*

Cost: \$15

Enjoy the sunset from a kayaks on downtown Chattanooga's greatest natural resource: the Tennessee River. Get up close and personal with the breathtaking cliffs of The Hunter Museum, wave to the curious pedestrians on the Walnut Street Bridge, and sneak up on wildlife that lives on Maclellan Island. This 2 mile trip will have you paddling in the heart of downtown past some of Chattanooga's greatest landmarks and provide you with a unique view of our waterfront. The trip will start and end at the Outdoor Chattanooga Center located at 200 River Street.

* Additional participants welcome, but you must provide your own boat and arrange your own transportation.

Field trips will be filled on a first come, first served basis until full. When registering for field trips please indicate if another field trip would be acceptable in the event your first choice is full. Also when registering, please identify and special needs or conditions that trip organizers need to consider.

For more information about specific field trips, please contact Jeff Duncan at (423)987-6127 of jeff_duncan@nps.gov.