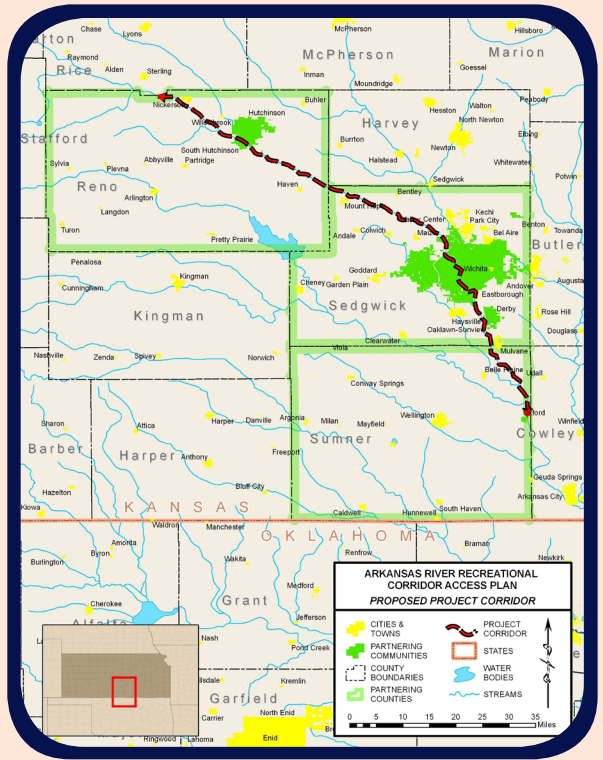


The Arkansas River Corridor Access Plan

The Arkansas River Corridor Access Plan (ARCAP) is an invitation to create enjoyable opportunities along the Arkansas River. It describes the Arkansas River as a recreational resource that shows its seasons, solitude, boating challenges and scenic attractions to those who seek and find access to its shores and channels.

In order to establish the Arkansas River as a premiere recreational amenity for the state and the region, it is necessary to provide safe access to the river in the appropriate locations. To this end, the ARCAP project partners have identified twenty-three access opportunities along the river.



The Arkansas River Corridor Access Map



How you can help

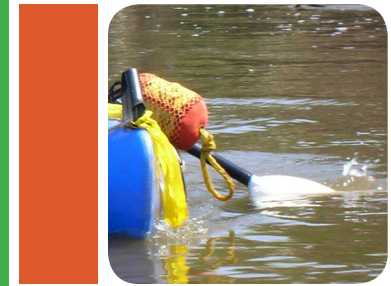
You, a group and your community are encouraged to develop a recreation access point for river recreation. A basic process for doing this includes two important requirements:

1. Become a sponsor for a site. This can be one or more of the following:
 - City or Municipality
 - Private owner
 - Township
 - Private organization
2. Develop and implement a maintenance plan and law enforcement support activities for the site. It is important to maintain sponsorship and the maintenance program to ensure the access point is kept clean and safe for users. Suggestions for developing your site:
 - Contact your local government for help and expertise.
 - Initiate fundraising to support your goals.
 - Hold regular trash pickups and other events at your chosen site.
 - Use it for floats.
 - Publicize your efforts.

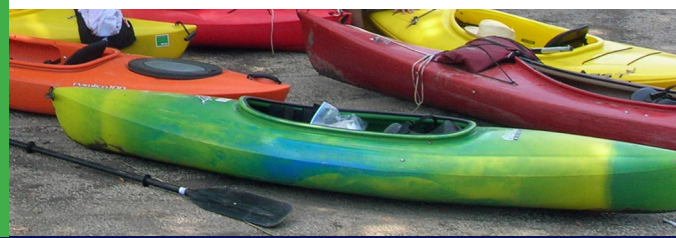
For more information contact: Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks Region 4 Office at 316-683-8069; the Wichita Parks & Recreation Dept. at 316-268-4179; or visit www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Environmental/River/ARCAP/.

The Arkansas River

Corridor Access Plan



Creating opportunities for access and recreation on the Arkansas River



Creating access to the Arkansas River

Enjoying the recreational benefits of our river



The ARCAP Project Vision: To establish the Arkansas River as a premiere recreational amenity for the state and for the region.

Why is access to the Arkansas River important?

Kansas ranks near last nationally in the amount of land open to public access. The Arkansas River is one of only three navigable waterways in the state and the only one in the region. It offers one of the few public use areas for outdoor recreation in the state. Water sources are attractive areas for outdoor activities. Therefore, there is a need to create opportunities to enjoy this rare and valuable natural experience.

What type of recreational benefits does the Arkansas River have for me?

Studies show that the Arkansas River upstream of Wichita has good flow during March through June for canoeing, with rain runoff providing intermittent flows for floating at other times of the year. There is usually enough water flow in the river at and below Wichita for boating year round, and plenty of reasons to take advantage of the chance to spend time in the outdoors.

How does the ARCAP Master Plan help?

The ARCAP Master Plan was created to provide general guidelines for establishing river recreational access points throughout a 100-mile section from the Rice/Reno County line down to the city of Oxford while protecting the character, natural attractiveness and values of the Arkansas River corridor.

What needs to be done to create access to the Arkansas River's many benefits?

Twenty-three access points are identified in the ARCAP master plan. The implementation of the ARCAP plan will be a cooperative effort by citizens, private organizations, local government and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Each access point needs a sponsor to build it and provide ways for long-term maintenance, as well as safety and law enforcement monitoring.

Historically, the Arkansas River was host to native peoples, European explorers, cattle drives and commercial trade. Today, it remains a water source for livestock and recharges the aquifer that supplies municipal and irrigation wells. The native plants on the banks and within riparian areas of the river provide natural habitat for wildlife.

ARCAP stands for Arkansas River Corridor Access Plan. The plan encompasses a 100-mile long corridor along the Arkansas River from the Rice/Reno County line to Oxford, Kansas.

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