

OHIO RIVER WATER TRAIL DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN STATUS 2017

CONTENTS

VISION.....	2
GOALS.....	2
DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS.....	3
ACTIVITIES.....	3
Community Support.....	3
Conservation.....	3
Education.....	3
Planning.....	4
Public Information.....	4
Recreation Opportunities.....	5
Trail Maintenance.....	5
TRAIL MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.....	5
TRAIL PARTNERS.....	6
Ohio River Water Trail Sponsor.....	6
Ohio River Water Trail Co-Sponsors.....	6
Interested non-sponsors.....	6

VISION

This Water Trail will be an easily accessible recreation resource for residents and visitors.

This Water Trail will contribute to the economic development of Wood County and the surrounding region.

The Mid-Ohio Valley will become a nationally recognized destination for canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding and other non-motorized water activities, resulting in improved communities and a strengthened economy.

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.
 - Develop a Water Trail marketing and promotional plan.
2. Develop more access points for the Water Trail.
 - Work with Water Trail communities to include Water Trail access and amenity development in their community and economic development planning.
 - Mobilize and organize Water Trail communities and citizens to implement their Water Trail-related community and economic development plans.
3. Work with agencies and communities to provide water safety educational information and signage at Water Trail access points.
4. Develop, with partners, interpretive materials and tools to educate Water Trail users about the area's scenic, natural, recreational, historical and engineering assets.
5. Build Collaboration.
 - Foster and nurture an environment of cooperation and collaboration among the many partners involved in the diverse aspects of creating and developing the Water Trail.
 - Develop supportive relationships among the communities along the Water Trail.
6. Plan future Ohio River Water Trail maintenance and development.
 - Create, in cooperation with partners, sponsors and water trail communities, plans for developing the water trail and its amenities.
 - Develop maintenance strategies and agreements.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

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

Consistent Design / Look of signage.

More access points.

Interstate signs.

ACTIVITIES

	RESPONSIBLE	DUE	STATUS	Comment
Community Support				
Partnerships				
Recruit the Ohio River Museum, Marietta, OH as a co-sponsor	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE	
Recruit WV DNR as a co-sponsor	WCATC/Paul Elliott	2017	add to 2018 plan	
We are open to recruiting new co-sponsors				
Surveys and Public Opinion				
	Kent Spellman			
Economic Impact Studies				
Landowner Relationships				
Funding				
Conservation				
Water Quality, Cleanups, and Invasives				
Ohio River Clean Sweep	City of Parkersburg	2017	COMPLETE	
Green Infrastructure				
Conservation				
Restoration				
Planning				
Other				
Education				
Events & Festivals				
Waterfowl Day,	ORINWR	2017	COMPLETE	
Museums/Visitor Centers				
Interpretive Programs, such as "Brunch with Margaret", "Tea at Maple Shade", Dining With The Blennerhassetts"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017	COMPLETE	
			3/8/2018	L. Roberts

Interpretive programs, such as "Brunch with Mark Twain"	Ohio River Museum	2017	COMPLETE
Programs			
Education programs such as "Birds of Prey", "Celebrating Butterflies", "Moth Night"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017	COMPLETE
Youth Programs			
Youth Ecology/Conservation programs, such as "Nature Walk - What's In a River", "Bugs, Bug, Bugs"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017	COMPLETE
Passport to Fun: Summer Camp at the Museum	Ohio River Museum	6/20/2017	COMPLETE
Youth ecology/conservation programs, e.g. "Junior Biologist"	ORINWR	2017	COMPLETE
Conferences and Competitions			
Planning			
Develop Trail Development and Maintenance Plan	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE
Review Trail Development and Maintenance Plan every 12 mo.	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE
Develop ORWT Vision	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE
Develop ORWT desired future conditions	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE
Develop strategies to strengthen best management practices	WCATC	2018	
Public Information			
Access, Routes, and Maps			
Develop ten 'Paddle Trips' itineraries on the Facebook page	WCATC	2017	4 developed as of 8/14/2016 6 developed as of 2/11/18
Develop more access points – Point Park	City of Parkersburg	COMPLETE	Point Park much improved
Develop more access points – Spencer Landing	City of Vienna	Long term	
Brochures/ Fact Sheets			
Develop pamphlets for Water Trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017	COMPLETE
Inventory Engineering points of interest on the Water Trail	WCATC	2017	no activity
Events & Festivals			
Pioneer Heritage Days	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017	COMPLETE
Paddlefest	Greater Parkersburg CVB	Sep-2017	COMPLETE
Inland Waterways Festival	Ohio River Museum	Aug 5-8 2017	COMPLETE
Welcome Back carp	Ohio River Museum	4/8/2017	COMPLETE
Endangered Species Festival	ORINWR	2017	
Attend two local festivals to promote the ORWT	WCATC	2017	did not happen add to 2018 plan

Publicity

Develop a marketing and promotional plan.	WCATC/CVB	2017	COMPLETE/ongoing		
Develop map for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017	COMPLETE		
Figure out Logo situation for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017	COMPLETE, use existing logo		
Build up Water Trail Facebook page to 100 'likes'	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE	99	3/11/2017
				190	2/11/18

Safety, Hazards and Water Quality

Recreation Opportunities

Access, Routes, and Maps

Develop web page for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017	COMPLETE		
Interstate signs	Kent Spellman				

Connectivity

Connect with NBRT	WCATC/Paul Elliott				Kayak/bike trips
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Recreation Info and Facilities

Develop opportunities for overnight camping	WCATC				
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Trail Maintenance

Develop Trail maintenance management process	WCATC	2017	COMPLETE		
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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.
6. Web page for reporting issues will include phone numbers for entities managing access points.

No maintenance web page, but an issue has been reported with Leachtown Lane via the FB page. Reached out to property owner (WV DNR). Tracking issue.

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
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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@wcv.gov

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
Rails Trail Conservancy
Mike Fox
Tom Breitmeier

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