

# OHIO RIVER WATER TRAIL DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN 2017

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## 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	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
Recruit WV DNR as a co-sponsor	WCATC/Paul Elliott	2017		
We are open to recruiting new co-sponsors				
<b>Surveys and Public Opinion</b>				
	Kent Spellman			
<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		
			3/18/2017	L. Roberts

### Museums/Visitor Centers

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

### Programs

Education programs such as "Birds of Prey", "Celebrating Butterflies", "Moth Night"	Blennerhassett Island HSP	2017
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### Youth Programs

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	ongoing.
Review Trail Development and Maintenance Plan every 12 mo.	WCATC	2017
Develop ORWT Vision	WCATC	complete
Develop ORWT desired future conditions	WCATC	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 currently developed	8/14/2016
Develop more access points – Point Park	City of Parkersburg	?		
Develop more access points – Spencer Landing	City of Vienna	?		

##### Brochures/ Fact Sheets

Develop pamphlets for Water Trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017
Inventory Engineering points of interest on the Water Trail	WCATC	2018

##### 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		
<b>Publicity</b>				
Develop a marketing and promotional plan.	WCATC/CVB	TBD		
Develop map for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017		
Figure out Logo situation for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017		
Build up Water Trail Facebook page to 100 'likes'	WCATC	2017	99	3/11/2017

**Safety, Hazards and Water Quality**

Recreation Opportunities

**Access, Routes, and Maps**

Develop web page for water trail	Greater Parkersburg CVB	2Q 2017		
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	plan developed, need to implement	
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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.

## 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@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

Peggy Pings	Outdoor Rec Planner	Peggy_Pings@nps.gov
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