

Calendar of Events for PaddleRI 2008

To introduce recreationist to the varied and beautiful rivers in our state, RI Blueways Alliance has organized a series of events that celebrate Rivers Month in June and Bay Day in July. Trips are sponsored by non-profits, usually the watershed councils for that river, RIDEM and some generous outfitters. Some events charge fees which will go towards support of that organization. All events require advanced registration. Bring your own boat. Some groups have boat rentals available. For more details go to exploreri.org or contact the organizers of that event.

Salt Ponds Spring Paddle - Ninigret Pond

1 Saturday, May 31: Explore the fascinating world of a coastal salt pond on this 4-hour paddle suitable for people of all ages and abilities. Highlights include a local historian and information about salt pond and barrier beach ecology. Sponsored by Salt Ponds Coalition, www.saltpondscoalition.org. Contact Mark Bullinger, 401.322.3068 or mbullinger@gmail.com.

Wood River Source to Sea Paddle

2 Sat, June 7: On this 7-mile, 5-hour voyage paddlers will experience the most wild and scenic section of the Wood River. This event is open to paddlers with some experience on rivers. There will be one portage with lunch (byo) at WPWA headquarters. Sponsored by the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association, www.wpwa.org. Contact Denise Poyer, 401.539.9017 or denisep@wpwa.org.

Paddle the Pawtuxet

3 Sun, June 8: We will either launch at Rhodes Casino parking lot or, should our new canoe launch be ready, at Pontiac with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a 6-mile paddle downstream to Rhodes. PRA will provide food and refreshments. Sponsored by the Pawtuxet River Authority, www.pawtuxet.org. Contact Bob Nero, 401.330.0812 or pra@pawtuxet.org.

Ten Mile River Fathers Day Family Paddle

4 Sun, June 15: On this two hour down river trip, which is good for all levels of experience, we will paddle the surprising urban wilderness of Pawtucket. End at the Kimberly Rock Sports Complex for refreshments. Sponsored by the Ten Mile River Watershed Council, www.tenmileriver.net. Contact Keith Gonsalves 401.474.3813 or KTGroup@aol.com.

Rivers Day Celebration

5 Sat, June 21: Join Blackstone River Watershed Council and Blackstone Valley Outfitters for free 1-hour guided tours into the Valley Falls Pond and wetlands complex on this all day event. Sponsored by the Blackstone River Watershed Council, www.blackstoneriver.org. Contact Don at Blackstone Valley Outfitters, Don@bvori.com.

Summer Solstice Paddle

6 Sat, June 21: Celebrate the first day of summer on the beautiful upper Pawtuxet River with a late afternoon paddle from Hope Pond up to the Gainer Dam and back. Participants are invited to bring a picnic dinner and enjoy the sunset from the Hope Pond beach after the paddle. Sponsored by the Scituate Conservation Commission. Contact Ruth Strach, 401.934.2277 or rstrach@verizon.net. After May 30 call Cindy Gianfrancesco, 401.934.9212.

Ride the Tide on Buckeye Brook

7 Sat, June 21: Explore one of Warwick's hidden treasures on this 2-hour paddling event, which is open to all levels of experience. Highlights include discussion of over 300 years of history made along this beautiful watershed. Meet at Conimicut Point parking lot, Warwick. Sponsored by the Buckeye Brook Coalition, www.buckeyebrook.org. Contact Paul Earnshaw, 401.739.6592.

Pettaquamscutt Paddle

8 Sun, June 22: This 2 hour tour of the lower Narrow River will leave from Narrow River Kayaks, just east of Middle Bridge Road, for a roundtrip to Narragansett Beach and back. Kayak rentals available. Sponsored by the Narrow River Preservation Association, www.narrowriver.org. Contact Jason Considine, 401.789.0334 or narrowriverkayaks@verizon.net.

Afternoon Paddle on the Lower

Woonasquatucket

9 Sat, June 28: Paddle the lower Woonasquatucket and Providence Rivers on this easy paddle through the heart of Providence. Some canoes and kayaks are available but please bring your own if you have one. Sponsored by the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, www.woonasquatucket.org. Contact Lisa, 401.861.9046 or lisa@woonasquatucket.org.

Big River Paddle

10 Sun, June 29: Take a 3-hour tour up and back on a little explored river in RI, the Big River. Starting at Zeke's Bridge in Coventry, this section winds through a wide variety of freshwater wetland habitats. Sponsored by RIDEM. Contact Chuck Horbert, Freshwater Wetlands Program, 401.222.4700 ext. 7402 or chuck.horbert@dem.ri.gov.

Save The Bay Summer Paddle

11 Sat, July 12: Join STB for this salt-water paddle around Pawtuxet Cove and upper Narragansett Bay. Trip comes complete with marine educators, canoe guides, and other enthusiastic paddlers. You can bring your own boat or coordinate a canoe rental with STB. Meet at the Aspray Boathouse. Sponsored by Save The Bay, www.savebay.org. Contact Rob Hancock, 401.272.3540 ext 103 or rhancock@savebay.org.

Narragansett Bay Day

12 Sat, July 27: RI Blueways and REI will have an informational booth set up from 10 am to 2 pm at the RI DEM Bay Day Family Picnic at Goddard State Park in Warwick. Try out boats and learn about new and old water trails in RI. Enjoy a free picnic lunch provided by RIDEM. RI Blueways Alliance, Keith Gonsalves, 401.474.3813.

Aquidneck Island Planning

Commission Blue Trail Launch

13 TBA (late June): See Aquidneck Island's new Blueways passage and signage and join dignitaries for a ribbon cutting event at Weaver's Cove Boat Ramp, Portsmouth. There will be a canoe and kayak paddle trip to Cory's Lane and back. Sponsored by Aquidneck Island Planning Commission. Contact Tina Dolan, tina@aquidneckplanning.org.

Please turn over for Map.