



Andrea Irland
National Park Service
Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance

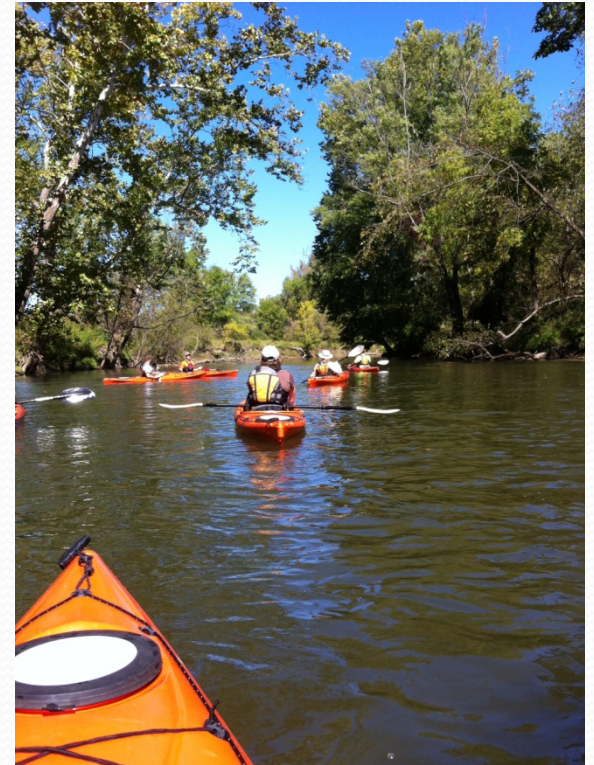
Paddle sports more popular than ever

- Accessibility
- Affordability
- Approachability
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding
- Kayak Fishing



The Concept: A water trail?

- Already exists – sort of....
- Improved facilities
- Maintenance
- Signage
- Maps
- Education
- Management
- Branding
- Integrate with other recreational activities
- Designate



Nationally

Hundreds of water trails, thousands of miles of paddling



Recreation Opportunities

Education

Conservation

Community Support

Public Information

Trail Maintenance

Planning

Ohio Water Trails Program

- ⊕ East Sandusky Bay Water Trail
- ⊕ Great Miami River Water Trail
- ⊕ Kokosing River Water Trail
- ⊕ Mad River Water Trail
- ⊕ Mahoning River Water Trail
- ⊕ Maumee River Water Trail
- ⊕ Mohican River Water Trail
- ⊕ Muskingum River Water Trail
- ⊕ Olentangy River Water Trail
- ⊕ Stillwater River Water Trail
- ⊕ Vermilion-Lorain Water Trail





1969







Cuyahoga River Water Trail Partners

American Canoe Association

American Whitewater

City of Akron

City of Cuyahoga Falls

Cleveland Metroparks

Conservancy for CVNP

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Cuyahoga River Restoration

Friends of the Crooked River

Friends of the Gorge

Geauga Park District

Keelhaulers Canoe Club

Kent Parks and Recreation

Kent State University

National Park Service RTCA

Northeast OH Regional Sewer District

ODNR Scenic Rivers Program

Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition

Ohio EPA

Portage Park District

Share the River

Silver Lake Parks and Rec

Summit Metroparks

The Trust for Public Land

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Enthusiastic Citizens

Cuyahoga River Water Trail

From the river that burned to a regional recreational asset!!

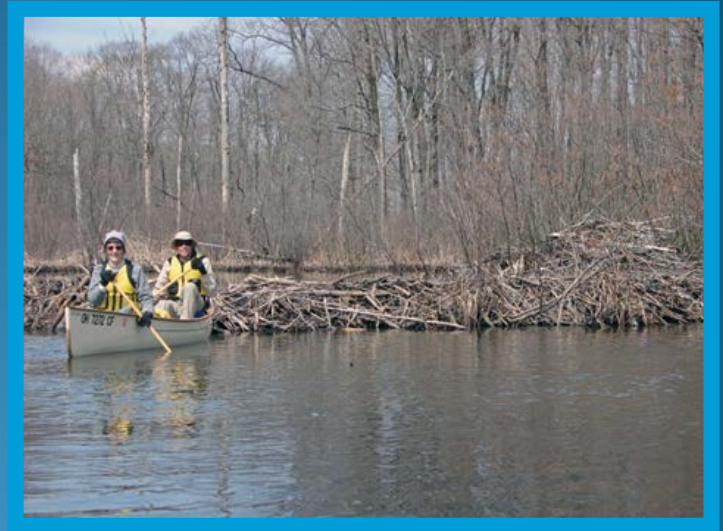


Cuyahoga River Water Trail

May 2013



Scenic



Lake Rockwell

Water Source Conservation Area

NO PADDLE ZONE!

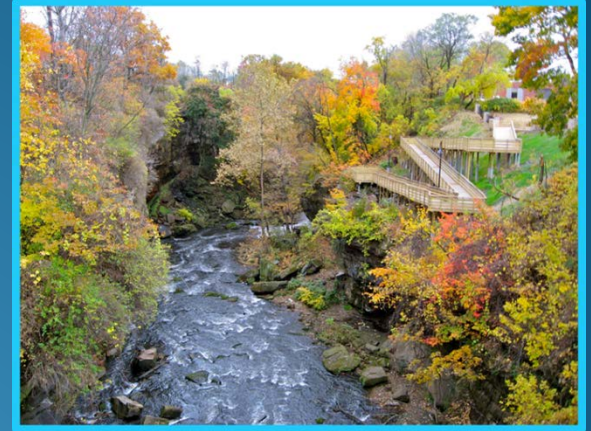


City of Akron Water Supply

Heritage



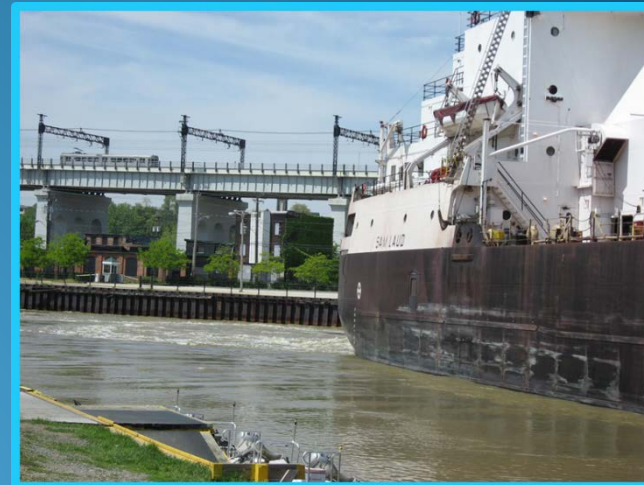
Gorge



Cuyahoga Valley



Burning River



Lakefront



Challenges



Dams
Portages
Access Points
Debris
Seasonal Flow
Water Quality
Safety
Boat Traffic
Partners

Cuyahoga River Water Trail Benefits

Education and Stewardship
Increased Recreation Opportunities
Blue Green Trail Connections
White Water Paradise
Historical and Cultural Wonders
Wildlife Viewing
Economic Development
Health and Fitness
Sustainable



Our goal:

Ohio State Water Trail Designation by June 2019

- Management Structure
- Mapping/GIS
- Access
- Recreation
- Safety
- Publicity/Promotion
- Community Engagement
- Maintenance



What we will be working on...

- Creating a regional brand and identity
- Developing a strategy of implementation
- Developing best management practices
- Identifying access points and facilities
- Community meetings of stakeholders
- Identify other regional connections
- Working towards state and national designation

Cuyahoga River Water Trail

Celebration of the Cuyahoga & Northeast Ohio

