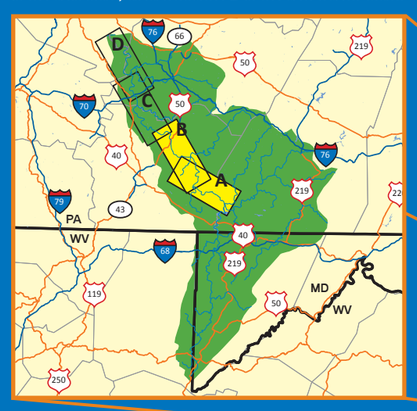
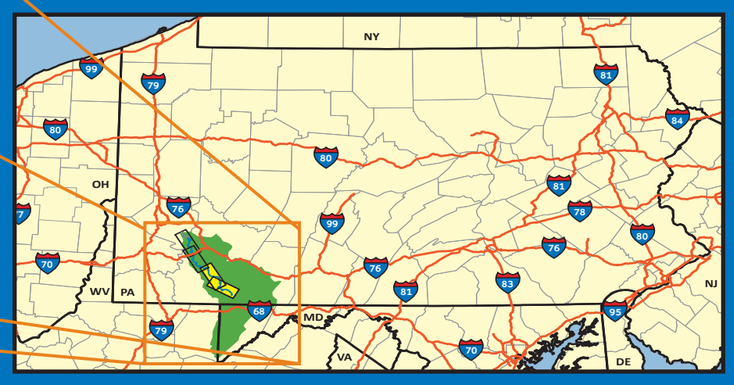
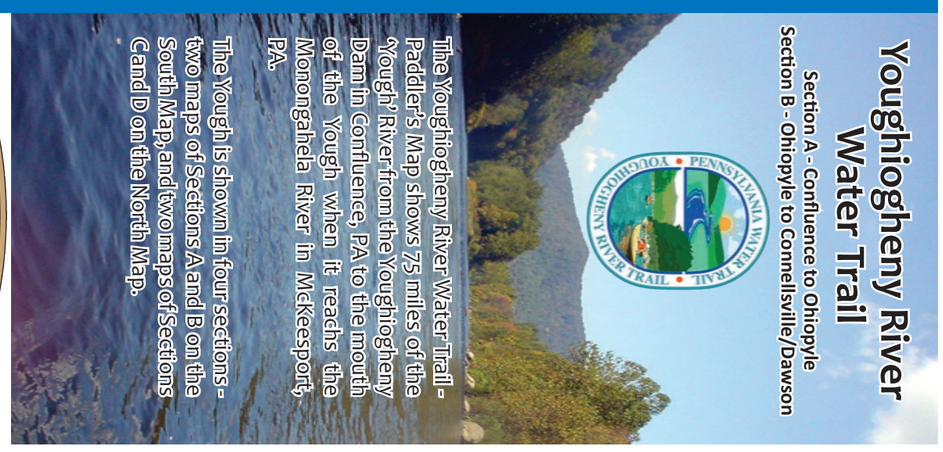
This brochure has maps on both sides. Section A is on this side, and Section B is on the other side.



The Youghiogheny River Water Trail is a premier destination for paddling, sport fishing, and scenic beauty. It is only a day's drive from most Mid-Atlantic and Midwest cities. Water trails emphasize low-impact use and promote stewardship of natural resources. See Pennsylvania by water!



Youghiogheny River Water Trail - South



Use this map to guide you while you enjoy the scenic beauty and paddling adventures that the Youghiogheny River has to offer. Please respect the laws when paddling. Please leave no trace and paddle responsibly.

Mountain Watershed Association
YOUGHIOGHENY RIVERKEEPER
www.mtwatershed.com

www.mtwatershed.com/youghiogheny-river-water-trail/

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This map of the Youghiogheny River Water Trail - South, Section A shows river miles 0 - 20, from the Yough Dam in Confluence (river mile 0), to just past the whitewater section of the Lower Yough at Brunner Run (river mile 20). Controlled releases from the Youghiogheny Dam make this section of the river floatable year-round. Do not paddle beyond the Middle Yough Take-Out! Paddling Ohiopyle Falls is restricted!

Camping on unauthorized state and federal land is prohibited. Camping in Ohiopyle State Park is available at the Kentuck Campground (724-329-8591). Camping in Confluence is available at three US Army Corps of Engineers Youghiogheny River Lake Campgrounds (877-444-6777). Private camping, motels, and bed-and-breakfast services are also availble in Confluence and Ohiopyle.

Go to http://www.mtwatershed.com/youghiogheny-river-water-trail/ for updated town service details.

About the take-out: The take-out sign is posted on river-left, look for the large rock (called 'Elephant Rock') in the near-center of the river for where to exit on river-left. It is a short walk up the dirt ramp to the parking area. This is the best place to park when paddling the Middle Yough (Section A - Confluence to Ohiopyle) unless you plan on parking overnight. There is an overnight parking lot across Route 381 near Ferncliff Peninisula usually used for hikers of the Laurel Highlands Trail. Be sure to check out Ohiopyle State Park's new Laurel Highlands Falls Area Visitor Center. It is an 11,500-square-foot interpretive showcase that also boasts fantastic views of Ohiopyle Falls.

OHIOPYLE - River Mile 12

The name 'Ohiopyle' is likely derived from a native american word meaning 'white frothy water'. Ohiopyle Falls foiled Gen. George Washington's attempt to reach Pittsburgh by boat and indirectly led him to engage in the French and Indian War. The town is located between the Laurel Hill and the Chestnut Ridge and the Yough carves through these features on a northwestern route to the Mongahelia River. Today, the town of Ohiopyle is completely surrounded by one of Pennsylvania's largest state parks. A nature lover's dream, Ohiopyle provides all the services a paddler needs and more.

Connellsville take-out

CONFLUENCE - River Mile 1

Named after the geographic feature that is the junction of the Casselman and the Laurel Hill Creek with the Youghiogheny River, Confluence is a hub of outdoor sporting activity including bicycling, fishing, and paddling. The town of Confluence is situated on floodplains of these three mountain waterways (the shape looking like a 'turkeyfoot' which is where the local school district gets its name), but is now protected by the Youghiogheny River Lake Dam. Boater amenities and gear can be found at several businesses in town.

Ramcat put-in

About the put-in: If you plan on floating the entire Middle Yough section of the Youghiogheny River from the Ramcat put-in near Confluence to the Middle Yough take-out at Ohiopyle, it's best to park your shuttle vehicle at the take-out in Ohiopyle and travel Sugarloaf Road (SR 26116) out of Ohiopyle until you intersect with Taylor Road on the right and Ramcat Road to your left (be sure to stop at the Baughman Rock Overlook for a great view of 'The Flats'). Take the left down the long descent to the Ramcat put-in where you will find parking and a change house with restrooms.

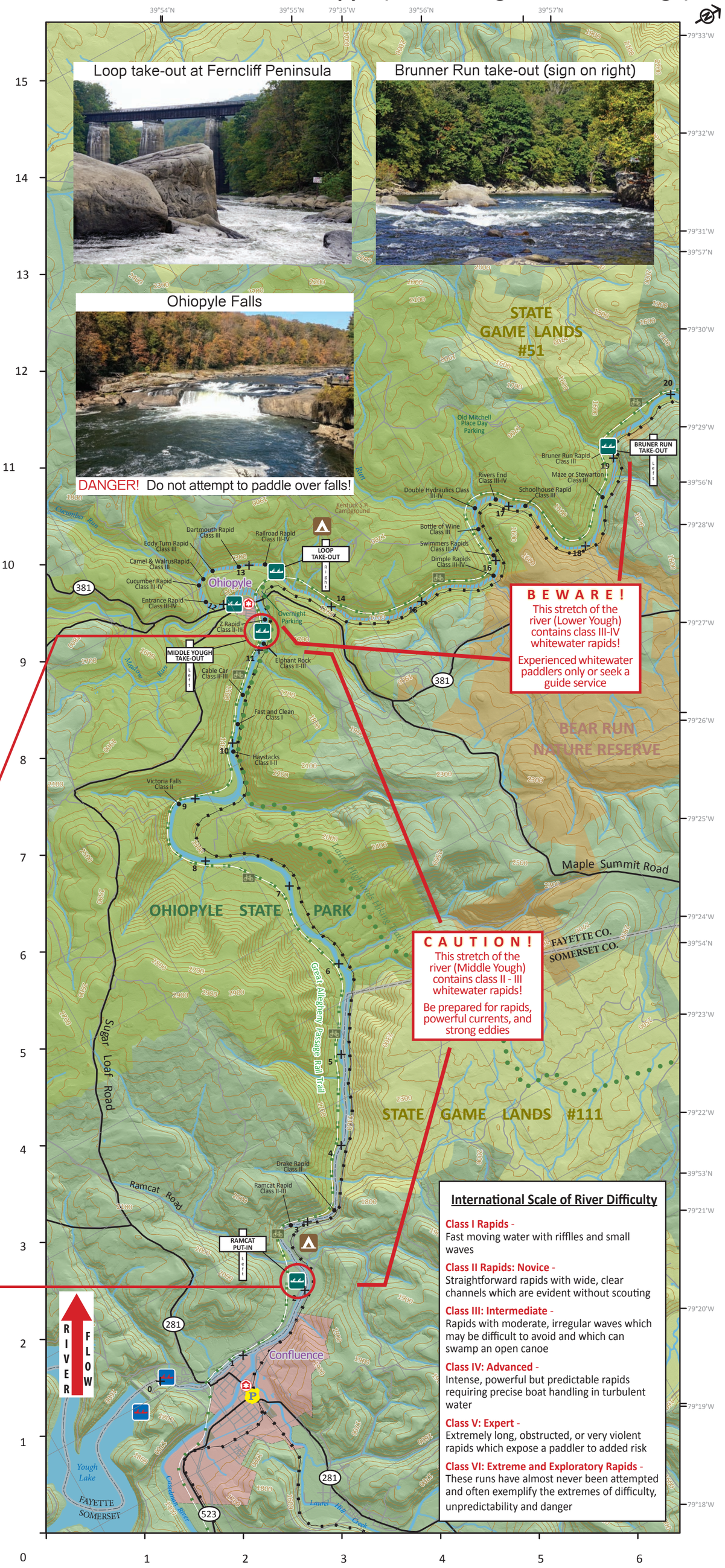
KEY:

EMT/Fire
River Mile-marker
Hospital
Rail-trail
Police
Camping

Access Ownership

US Army COE
State Park
Public
County
Fish & Boat Comm.
Private
Local Munic.
Game Comm.
Unknown

Section A - Confluence to Ohiopyle (Middle Yough and Lower Yough)



International Scale of River Difficulty

Class I Rapids - Fast moving water with riffles and small waves

Class II Rapids: Novice - Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels which are evident without scouting

Class III: Intermediate - Rapids with moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid and which can swamp an open canoe

Class IV: Advanced - Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise boat handling in turbulent water

Class V: Expert - Extremely long, obstructed, or very violent rapids which expose a paddler to added risk

Class VI: Extreme and Exploratory Rapids - These runs have almost never been attempted and often exemplify the extremes of difficulty, unpredictability and danger

Pennsylvania State Plane, South / NAD 1983 / US Feet. All data obtained via PASDA. 1:60,000. RJH, 2017.

GENERAL BOATING REGULATIONS

A Coast Guard-approved wearable life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD) is required for each occupant on all types of boats in all waters.

Motorboats (including boats powered by electric motors) must be registered, and they must be registered in their state of principal use. Boat operators of boats with greater than 25 horsepower and born on or after Jan. 1, 1982, may not operate unless they have obtained and have in possession a Boating Safety Education Certificate. All PWC (personal watercraft) operators must have obtained and have in possession a Boating Safety Education Certificate. Persons 11 years of age or younger may NOT operate a boat with greater than 25 horsepower or a PWC. Persons 12–15 years of age may not operate a PWC with any passengers on board 15 years of age or younger or rent a PWC.

Owners of unpowered boats (canoes, kayaks, rowboats, stand-up paddleboards, etc.) can launch their boats at Commission lakes, access areas and properties, and at PA state parks and forests if their boats display the Commission's launch use permit OR boat registration, OR PA state parks launch permit OR mooring permit. An unpowered boat may have a registration OR launch permit, but it is not required to have both. The Commission does NOT recognize launch permits from other states.

MOTORBOAT OPERATORS

Did you know that the state liquid fuels tax you already paid on boat fuel is returned to the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission for every gallon reported as used or purchased? This benefits you and other boaters by enhancing boating programs and facilities. When you renew your registration, you will be asked to report the total number of gallons used or purchased. If unsure, please leave the section blank – DO NOT use a zero.

Boaters are required, by law, to wear life jackets on boats less than 16 feet in length or any canoe or kayak during the cold weather months from November 1 through April 30. This requirement is intended to protect boaters from the dangers of cold water shock if they fall into the water.

PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (Life Jacket) REQUIREMENTS

- All boats must have a USCG-approved wearable life jacket on board for each person.
- In addition to wearable life jackets, boats 16 feet and over must have a throwable device (ring buoy, life ring or buoyant seat cushion) on board. Canoes and kayaks, regardless of length, are not required to carry a throwable device.
- Life jackets must be used in accordance with any requirements on the approval label.
- All life jackets must be in good and serviceable condition and legibly marked showing the USCG approval number. This means the life jacket must be fully functional, free of tears or defects in the material. All buckles, straps, zippers and other closures must be operable.
- Wearable life jackets must be "readily accessible," which means that they are stowed where they can be easily reached or that they are out in the open ready to wear. Throwables devices must be "immediately available," which means that the device cannot be in a protective covering and shall be within arm's reach of the operator or passenger while the boat is operated. A PFD that is sealed in its original packaging is not readily accessible or immediately available.
- Life jackets must be the appropriate size for the person intended and adjusted to wear.
- A throwable device may not be used as a substitute for a wearable device.
- Children 12 years of age and younger on Commonwealth waters when underway in any boat 20 feet or less in length and in all canoes and kayaks.

LIFE JACKET WEAR REQUIRED BY LAW NOVEMBER 1 TO APRIL 30

- Life jackets must be the appropriate size for the person intended and adjusted to wear.
- A throwable device may not be used as a substitute for a wearable device.
- Children 12 years of age and younger on Commonwealth waters when underway in any boat 20 feet or less in length and in all canoes and kayaks.

SHARE THE WATER

The enjoyment of Pennsylvania's flowing waters isn't limited to anglers anymore. Anglers and paddlers must work together to be safe and reduce conflicts. Keep these things in mind when fishing or paddling.

ANGLERS

- Respect paddler's use of the water, they likely share your passion for that special place.
- Like you, paddlers contribute to conservation when they purchase related equipment, through the excise tax placed on fishing and boating equipment.
- Be mindful of paddlers and understand that activity may increase during higher stream flows.
- Share the channel. Paddlers should do their best to avoid crossing in front of you. However, they may have no other option.
- Respect other angler's space. There is plenty of water for everyone, so there is no need to fish shoulder-to-shoulder.
- Share the stream. Fish and move on.
- Anglers should use the shoreline to travel from one point to another, rather than wading through the stream.

PADDLERS

- Launch only at designated areas.
- Be mindful of anglers and respect their use of the stream.
- Don't paddle unfamiliar waters without walking the stream first.
- Paddle only when stream flow permits.
- Be prepared to portage over shallow water, don't drag your boat across shallow riffles, or other obstructions.
- Yield to wading anglers as you would natural obstacles. Look ahead and plan a way around anglers well in advance. Paddlers should avoid the angler if at all possible.
- Provide a wide berth around wading anglers, preferably going behind the angler. Do your best to avoid floating over an angler's fishing spot. If a fishing hole cannot be avoided, let the angler know you meant well, apologize, and move on.
- Keep a distance from anglers on the stream bank. Avoid their tackle and create as little disturbance as possible.
- Pass anglers quickly and quietly, creating as little disturbance as possible and do not loiter nearby.

ANGLERS & PADDLERS

- Park only in designated areas; do not block driveways or other access.
- Respect private property.
- Clean your gear. Do your part to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species; check, clean, drain and dry.
- Don't litter. If you pack it in, pack it out. Take a few minutes and pick up litter others have left behind.

PA Fish & Boat Commission SW Regional Office:
814-445-8974

See water pollution? Report it!
Toll free: 855-FISH-KILL

Renew boat registration or purchase fishing licenses at:
www.GoneFishingPA.com

WEAR IT PENNSYLVANIA!