

## Texas Cooperative Extension Guide To Water Trail Development

A Compilation of online resources, August 2007

### Water Trail Information Sites

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### Example Businesses

- **Luna Sea Kayaks:** We specialize in sea kayaking instruction but we also offer classes for recreational paddlers. [www.lunaseakayaks.com](http://www.lunaseakayaks.com)
- **Boat Rental at State Parks:** Escape the traffic of the city and wheel your way into the wilds, coasting down steep and gentle slopes, circling lakes and following rivers, taking in the state's extraordinary variety of scenery as you go.  
[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/activities/outdoor\\_recreation/boat/rental/#cadd](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/activities/outdoor_recreation/boat/rental/#cadd)
- **Caddo Lake** - (903) 679-3073 - Leased Concession Operation rents Canoes and offers guided pontoon tours March through November, every day except Tuesdays and Wednesday. Canoe rentals available on weekends only December through February. Available at other times with advanced reservations.
- **Old Port Caddo Rentals and Tours** or call them at (903) 679-3073 or (903) 930-0075 for more information. Jon boats with motors available in Uncertain, Texas 6 miles east of park on FM 2198.  
<http://www.oldportcaddo.com/>
- **Caddo Lake Park Management**  
[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/historic\\_sites/ccc/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/historic_sites/ccc/)
- **Guadalupe Canoe Livery:** Established in 1971, Guadalupe Canoe Livery has new proprietors as of May 2006. They are U.S. Military Veterans and are committed to your safe and enjoyable river experience. They offer six canoe, kayak, raft or tube trips on the Upper Guadalupe River above Canyon Lake from FM 3351 to Rebecca Creek Road.

<http://www.guadalupecanoelivery.com/trips.php>

- **Bigfoot Canoes:** Bigfoot Canoes offers canoeing, kayaking, rafting and tubing trips on the remote and very scenic Upper Guadalupe River a few miles away and a world apart from the maddening crowd of people who flock to the lower Guadalupe between Canyon Lake and New Braunfels. <http://canoeman.com/bigfoot/docs/rates.html>
- **TEXAS Canoe racing Association:** The TEXAS Canoe Racing Association is a statewide club for persons interested in paddle sport racing. The primary focus of the club is USCA and ICF class marathon racing, but other disciplines of paddle sports are promoted through TCRA's Race Calendar and Points Program. <http://www.txcanoeracing.org/>
- **Southwest Paddlers**  
The Rivers of Texas is your on-line one-stop resource for information about canoeing, kayaking, rafting and tubing the rivers, creeks and streams of Texas. Included on this guide are listings for rental liveries, shuttle services, campgrounds, and boat and gear resellers. <http://southwestpaddler.com/>
- **Travel By GPS.com**  
Search this site to find and download hundreds of free GPS maps and tour guides for on- and off road sightseeing. Media rich content includes narrative audio and visual images, point of interest data, maps, GPS waypoints and tracks for touring through unique travel experiences. Use GPS for safer and more enjoyable adventures. <http://www.travelbygps.com/guides/lighthouse/lighthouse.php>

#### **The following Businesses Service Luling Zedler Mill Paddling Trail:**

- T.G. Canoe Livery: *San Marcos, Texas:* [www.tgcanoe.com/RENTALS.html](http://www.tgcanoe.com/RENTALS.html)
- Austin Outdoor Gear and Guidance: *Austin, Texas:* [www.kayaktexas.com/boatrentals.htm](http://www.kayaktexas.com/boatrentals.htm)
- Austin Canoe and Kayak: *San Marcos, Texas:* [www.austinkayak.com/rentals.php](http://www.austinkayak.com/rentals.php)
- Mud Outdoor Center, Kayak Rentals: *Bee Cave, Texas:* [www.mudoutdoorcenter.com](http://www.mudoutdoorcenter.com)
- Power Olympic Outdoor Center: *San Marcos, Texas:* [www.redriverracing.com](http://www.redriverracing.com)
- Rising Phoenix Adventures: *Bastrop, Texas:* [www.risingphoenixadventures.com](http://www.risingphoenixadventures.com)
- Spencer Canoes: *Martindale, Texas:* [spencercanoes.net](http://spencercanoes.net)

#### **The Following Business Service Columbus Paddling Trail**

- Howell Canoe Livery: *Columbus, TX:* [www.howellcanoe.com](http://www.howellcanoe.com)

#### **The Following Businesses Service Christmas Bay Paddling Trail**

- Suncoast Watersports: [www.suncoastkayak.com](http://www.suncoastkayak.com)

- **SouthWest PaddleSports:** *The Woodlands, Houston, Texas:* [www.paddlesports.com](http://www.paddlesports.com)

### The Following Businesses Service Lighthouse Lakes Paddling Trail

- **Aransas Kayak Works:** *Aransas Pass, Texas:* [www.aransaskayakworks.com](http://www.aransaskayakworks.com)
- **Capt. Sally's Rockport Outdoors:** *Rockport, Texas:* [www.kayakrockport.com](http://www.kayakrockport.com)
- **Coastal Bend Kayak:** *Portland, TX: Phone: (361) 537-8668*
- **Offshore Adventures:** *Aransas Pass, TX:* [www.portaransasadventures.com](http://www.portaransasadventures.com)
- **Slow Ride Guide Service:** *Aransas Pass, Texas:* [www.slowrideguide.com](http://www.slowrideguide.com)

### Outside Texas

- **Lake Tahoe Water Trails** The Lake Tahoe Water Trail provides an opportunity to plan a custom paddle trip around the 72 mile shoreline of Lake Tahoe. The Lake Tahoe Water Trail Guide/Map lists access points, resting places, campgrounds, lodging, points of interest and related support facilities to accommodate kayakers and canoeists.  
<http://www.laketahoe-water-trail.org/>
- **Dreams Unlimited: Creative Website Design & Maintenance:**  
Our goals are to design a site that is fast loading attractive visitor friendly easy to navigate with well organized content.  
[daydreamsunlimited.com](http://daydreamsunlimited.com)
- **Adventure Maps, Inc.**  
High Quality Trail Maps Water Proof Tear Resistant, Frequently Updated  
<http://www.adventuremaps.net/>
- **The Outdoor Guide**  
Adventure vacations for the busy professional.  
Easily find the Adventure Travel Vacation, Wilderness Adventure, Ecotourism Vacations, Adventure Travel Tour or Holiday, Outdoor Adventure you've been looking for...  
<http://www.outdoortrips.info/search-kayaking-seakayak.php>
- **OutdoorTrips.Info Marketing and Solutions Group Inc.** OutdoorTrips.Info Marketing and Solutions Group Inc. has developed this web site because Search Engines can not organize information by topic, they are text based only, not topic based. You go to a Search Engine and get (Results 1 - 10 of about 84,000,000) ..... and 50% of their results are irrelevant. Busy professionals don't have time to dig through all that information.  
<http://www.outdoortrips.info/company.htm>

### Examples of Water Trails

- For Maps of Texas Water Trails see the Texas Parks and Wildlife Paddle Trails Site where you can download maps from each specific trail page. Some maps are available from local retailers. Many of the trail maps have been produced by Shoreline Publishing, for information call them at 713-973-1627.

The majority of the following examples from Texas are those designated by TPWD and the links bring to the TPWD web page for that trail. At the bottom are some examples from outside of Texas

### Texas In Land Paddling Trails

- **Luling Zedler Mill Paddling Trail:** Located on the San Marcos River near the city of Luling, this six-mile river trail can be floated in two to four hours.  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/inland/luling/>
- **Goliad Paddling Trail:** Enjoy quiet pools and several small riffles on the first inland paddling trail to include a State Park.  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/inland/goliad/>
- **Columbus Paddling Trail:** Paddling the Colorado River through the town of Columbus you have the opportunity to see wildflowers, birds, turtles and more!  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/inland/columbus/> Texas Coastal Paddling Trails
- **The Lighthouse Lakes Paddling Trail:** It is the very first Texas Paddling Trail and is actually a series of four loops ranging in length from 1.25 miles to 6.8 miles.  
[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/lighthouse\\_lakes/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/lighthouse_lakes/)
- **The South Bay Paddling Trail:** The trail follows the shores of South Bay in a loop of about eight miles. This pristine, shallow, subtropical body of water consists of approximately 3,500 surface acres, bounded on the south by the riparian edge of the Rio Grande [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/south\\_bay/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/south_bay/)
- **Christmas Bay Paddling Trail:** It is a 19.1-mile circumnavigation of this pristine minor bay on the western end of the Galveston Bay complex. Easily accessible from the Houston metropolitan area, the Christmas Bay Paddling Trail offers popular, shorter loops of 3.8 and 10.3 miles with outstanding coastal angling and bird watching opportunities.  
[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/christmas\\_bay](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/christmas_bay)
- **Galveston Island State Park Paddling Trail:** As the name implies the trail is found in waters that surround Galveston Island State Park. Because most of trails are protected by breakwater, the water is normally calm and makes for excellent paddling. The trail was established in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is maintained in partnership with the Friends of Galveston Island State Park. For more information on the paddling trails contact a member of our Friends group at (409) 737-5567  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/galveston/>

### Examples from Outside of Texas

- **North Carolina Flatwater Paddling and Canoeing | North Carolina water trails**  
Find detailed information for North Carolina Flatwater Paddling & Canoeing on

Trails.com, including where to find Water Trails in North Carolina.  
<http://www.trails.com/stateactivity.asp?area=10698>

## Federal

- **Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program**  
The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, State, and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. The RTCA program implements the natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation mission of the National Park Service in communities across America.  
<http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/index.htm>

## State, County or City Government web sites

- **TEXAS Parks and Wildlife Paddle Trails** The TEXAS Paddling Trails is a new program to develop public inland and coastal paddling trails throughout the state and support these trails with maps, signage and other information.  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/>
- **Online series on how to build a paddle trail from North Carolina Paddle Trails**  
<http://www4.ncsu.edu/%7Eeckline/index.htm>
- **Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission**  
Paddling Trail Resources  
Paddling Trail Resources, Paddling trail, Paddling trail markers, Paddling trail signs, Paddling signs, Waterway markers, Waterway trail, Waterway paddling signs, Waterway signs, Canoe trail, Canoe signs, Canoe trail signs, Canoe trail markers, Canoe paddling signs, Canoe paddling trail signs, Canoe paddling trail markers, Kayak trail, Kayak signs, Kayak trail signs, Kayak trail waterway markers, Kayak paddling signs, Kayak paddling trail signs, Kayak paddling trail markers  
<http://myfwc.com/Boating/Paddling/Guidelines.htm>
- **Recreational Trail Design and Construction**  
This publication is a guide for private woodland owners, organizations, and businesses (including nature centers, youth groups, schools, conservation clubs, and resorts) that are interested in designing and constructing trails. It describes step-by-step construction methods, ways to handle trail obstacles, and recommended standards for the most common types of trails.  
<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD6371.html>
- **Ohio DNR Ohio Water Trails: How to get a Trail Designated**

Find information regarding, how to get started with a trail, guidelines for designation, resources and for much more information visit

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/watercraft/watertrails/howto.shtm>

- **Michigan heritage water trail task list**

Find the outline of Michigan heritage water trails tasks.

[http://www.wmich.edu/glcms/watertrails/tasks\\_outline.htm](http://www.wmich.edu/glcms/watertrails/tasks_outline.htm)

- **San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission - Water Trail Implementation - Second Report**

Find information regarding Water Trail Implementation – Part 2; Trail Head Designation Process.

<http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/index.php?p=569&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1>

- **Information on safety and Leave no Trace from Pennsylvania Water Trails**

<http://www.fish.state.pa.us/watertrails/trailindex.htm>

- **Maryland’s Water Trails**

Since 1999, the Greenways and Water Trails Program of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has focused on creating a statewide network of water trails to compliment the statewide greenways and green infrastructure networks.

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/greenways/watertrails.html>

- **Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) - Projects**

Find information for Detroit river water trail and the Phase 1 development plan.

<http://www.mac-web.org/Projects/PhaseOne.htm>

- **Water Trail Committee Accomplishments | Lower Columbia River Water Trail**

Find information about the Water Trail Map of lower columbia river water trail, Stewardship, Safety, and Resources and the committee accomplishments

<http://www.columbiawatertrail.org/about/accomplishments>

## Private Organizations

- As part of its strategic Agenda for 2004-2008, the ACA has undertaken an initiative to support the development and promotion of water trails.

<http://www.americancanoe.org/stewardship/watertrails-overview.lasso#initiative>

- **North Carolina Trails and Greenways, Rail Trails and guide to hiking, biking, and trail riding.**

<http://www.americantrails.org/resources/statetrails/NCstate.html>

- **Ten Water Trails**  
Dedicated to preserving and enhancing public open space in northeastern Illinois  
<http://www.openlands.org/watertrails.asp?pgid=181>
- **River alliance of Wisconsin**  
Home Page for the River Alliance of Wisconsin, a non-profit, non-partisan, statewide, river conservation organization.  
<http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/index.php?page=content&mode=view&id=62>
- **Texas Outrigger Canoe Club**  
Texas Outrigger is the first of its kind on the western Gulf Coast. Our club is committed to fostering the Hawaiian Aloha spirit inherent in outrigger paddling which is experiencing rapid growth across the globe.  
<http://www.tocc.org/>
- **Houston Canoe Club**  
Houston Canoe Club's members are interested in all types of paddlesport from canoeing to kayaking, quietwater, whitewater, touring and racing  
<http://www.houstoncanoeclub.org/>
- **The Houston Rowing Club**  
A non profit alliance promoting rowing for all ages. Come visit us at our floating boathouse for an instant vacation without the travel hassles. Take a peak inside at our website, it is loaded with the fun stuff we do.  
<http://www.houstonrowing.com/press.html>
- **Southwest Paddlers**  
The Rivers of Texas is your on-line one-stop resource for information about canoeing, kayaking, rafting and tubing the rivers, creeks and streams of Texas. Included on this guide are listings for rental liveries, shuttle services, campgrounds, and boat and gear resellers. <http://southwestpaddler.com/>

### Private Firms, Consultants etc providing guidance

- **Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) - Projects**  
Find information for Detroit river water trail and the Phase 1 development plan.  
<http://www.mac-web.org/Projects/PhaseOne.htm>
- **Water Trail Committee Accomplishments | Lower Columbia River Water Trail**  
Find information about the Water Trail Map of lower columbia river water trail, Stewardship, Safety, and Resources and the committee accomplishments

<http://www.columbiawatertrail.org/about/accomplishments>

- **Southwest Paddlers**

The Rivers of Texas is your on-line one-stop resource for information about canoeing, kayaking, rafting and tubing the rivers, creeks and streams of Texas. Included on this guide are listings for rental liveries, shuttle services, campgrounds, and boat and gear resellers.

<http://southwestpaddler.com/>

- **Texas Water Trails Inc.**

Canoeing in Texas. Statewide and regional guidance for schools scouts, churches, and others looking for an outdoor experience...

<http://www.outdoortrips.info/outfitter-profile.php?id=2760>

- **Guide To Texas Outside**

Texas offers kayakers a wide range of choices to enjoy this great outdoor activity. With more than 3,700 named streams, 15 major rivers and some 3,300 miles of tidal shoreline along the Gulf Coast, Texas offers myriad opportunities for paddling adventures of all types. You have plenty of freshwater streams, rivers, and lakes to choose from and lots of choices for saltwater paddling.

<http://www.texasoutside.com/kayaking/index.html>

### Miscellaneous Websites and Publications

- **Paddlers' Trail history and Use: Lake Champion committee**

The vision for the Lake Champlain Paddlers' Trail began to take shape in the early 1990's. Kevin Rose, expert paddler and founder of the Champlain Kayak Club, formally conceived the idea of a Water Trail on Lake Champlain. The Lake Champlain Committee embraced the idea as a way to provide a permanent corridor on the Lake for low-impact recreational use

<http://www.lakechamplaincommittee.org/lake/paddlers.html>

- **Find information on Building Community Water Trails (application/pdf Object), 2006 River Valley, Workshop 7B.**

[http://www.rivernetwork.org/rally/2006-files/Rally06\\_7B.pdf](http://www.rivernetwork.org/rally/2006-files/Rally06_7B.pdf)

- **Kiski conemaugh guide map(application/pdf Object)**

The Kiski-conemaugh is a good novice and family canoe and kayak river. Explore this unique Pennsylvanian water trail.

[http://www.fish.state.pa.us/watertrails/kiski/kiski\\_conemaugh\\_guide\\_map.pdf](http://www.fish.state.pa.us/watertrails/kiski/kiski_conemaugh_guide_map.pdf)

- **Trail Funding Guide (application/pdf Object)**

Funding for trail related projects. The document focusses on whether to support initial trail planning, move established plans to implementation, or to maintain or improve

existing trails

<http://www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us/conserv/Trail%20Funding%20Guide.pdf>

- **Virginia Greenways and Trail Toolbox Section 04 5 (9application/PDF)**  
Find information on Trail Design  
[Click here for the PDF file](#)
- **02 Final STP Executive Summary (application/PDF)**  
Find the Vision for the West Virginias' Trails  
<http://www.wvtrails.com/trailplan/02%20Final%20STP%20exec%20summary.pdf>
- **Trail Development Manual from ATATrail.org(application/PDF)**  
Recreational use of rivers and trails can bring new visitors to nearby communities. This guide is designed to help leaders in these communities take advantage of the economic opportunity that rides or walks in the town. It will help you transform your town into a more memorable and inviting tourist destination, and in the process, make your town a better place for your own residents to live, work and play.  
<http://www.atatrail.org/pdf/1TTManual.pdf>
- **North Carolina Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Initiative : 2001 Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Research Proceedings**  
Publication #: UNC-SG-01-07 Price: free Pages: 153  
summarizes finding presented at symposium  
Categories: [Coastal](#) , [Marine Education](#) , [Wildlife & Nature](#)
- **North Carolina Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Initiative: Final Report**  
*by Jack Thigpen*  
Publication #: UNC-SG-01-08 Price: free Pages: 65  
provides project summary, including paddle trail maps and other products.  
Categories: [Coastal](#) , [Marine Education](#) , [Wildlife & Nature](#)
- **North Carolina Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Initiative: The State of North Carolina Paddling Survey**  
*by Jack Thigpen*  
Publication #: UNC-SG-01-06 Price: free Pages: 81  
summary of the economic impact of paddling activities along the state's coast.
- **Examples of Prices and Measure River Flow/Guideline Safety:**  
<http://www.guadalupecanoelivery.com/pricing.php>
- **River Safety:Â River Authorities for Brazos, Trinity Colorado, Rio Grande, and Guadalupe â€ˆ BlancoÂ**  
<http://www.brazos.org/> ; <http://www.trinityra.org/> ; <http://www.ucratx.org/> ;  
<http://www.lcra.org/index.htm> ;  
<http://ahps.srh.noaa.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=crp&gage=lidot2> ;  
<http://www.gbpa.org/>

- **Texas River Guide: Top 10 River Safety Tips**  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/habitats/rivers/safety.phtm>
- **North Carolina Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Initiative : 2001 Coastal Plains Paddle Trails Research Proceedings**  
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