



### Suggested Trips:

#### CHARTERS CREEK

Launch at Westhall Street for three to 7-mile paddle. Head upriver past Western Penitentiary and around the tip of Brunots Island. The island's back channel, free of barge traffic, leads to the mouth of Charters Creek. After passing under railroad and highway bridges, paddle more than a mile up this quiet waterway until the water gets shallow. Back at the Ohio River, finish rounding the island and return to Westhall Street.

#### HARMARVILLE TO SHARPSBURG

For a more adventurous trip, try locking through With a friend, drop a car at Sharpsburg Riverfront Park, load both boats onto the other car, and share a ride to the Deer Creek Access in Harmarville. This scenic trip passes Oakmont and the historic rowing club buildings in Verona. Pass Sycamore Island, the undeveloped island owned by the Allegheny Land Trust. Past the City of Pittsburgh Water Works, be sure to cross to the left bank before you approach Lock & Dam #2. Call the lock on the phone or radio to let them know you're there. Locking through can be intimidating the first time, but the friendly Corps of Engineers employees will help to guide you through, and after you've done it once, you'll be an expert! Exiting the lock, you're almost at the end of your 15-mile paddle - Sharpsburg Riverfront Park is just ahead on river right. Load the kayaks on the car, and then make the short drive to Harmarville to pick up the other car.

#### MILLVALE TO DOWNTOWN

This 5-mile round trip provides easy access to Downtown fireworks, festivals & landmarks, on a section of river used by many paddlers. Launch at Three Rivers Rowing in Millvale Riverfront Park, in Washington Landing's quiet back channel. Past the island, keep to the right shore as you parallel the Three Rivers Heritage Trail. Tree-lined banks lead to the bustle of Downtown. The North Shore hosts stadiums and memorials along the park at river's edge. Across the river, the view of the Downtown skyline is stunning, especially at night. This section of river can also be paddled with rental boats from Kayak Pittsburgh ([www.kayakpittsburgh.org](http://www.kayakpittsburgh.org)).

#### SOUTH SIDE RIVERFRONT PARK TO SANDCASTLE

This trip travels upstream! Remember that left and right bank orientation refers to a downriver approach. Launch using the non-motorized ramp at the east end of the park. Paddle up the Mon, beneath the Hot Metal Bridge, a relic of steel making days and now converted to pedestrian and bicycle use. Southside Works and the Three Rivers Heritage Trail are located along the left bank, which curves beneath the Hays Woods, a square mile of undeveloped forest along 400-foot high bluffs. Former and current industrial sites of the Hazelwood neighborhood, including barge mooring and servicing sites, are located along the right bank. Just around the bend, the blue Glenwood Bridge marks the location of Sandcastle water park on the left bank. Turn around for the return trip and enjoy a rare view of Oakland's university district from the water.

#### BRADDOCK TO THE POINT

A unique urban float trip begins at 11th street ramp, adjacent to the active US Steel mill. Paddle down the Mon beneath the bridge and hillside town at Rankin, and past the industrial remains of the Carrie Furnace on the right bank. Homestead steel works on the left bank is now a major brownfield redevelopment. Nine-mile Run emerges from Duck Hollow on the right bank, just before the towering Homestead Grays Bridge. Beyond Sandcastle waterpark on the left bank, and the blue Glenwood Bridge, the river turns north to give a unique view of Oakland from the water. Past the Hot Metal Bridge, Southside Riverfront Park offers a rest stop and take-outs on the left bank near the green Birmingham Bridge. Continue to the Point for views of the city, downtown bridges and inclines, and Mt Washington. This roughly half-day trip can be extended by continuing down the Ohio to the Westhall Street access. Public transit can be used to return to your vehicle in Braddock from downtown.

**Brunots Island**  
Lewis and Clark spent the first night of their voyage on this island after leaving Pittsburgh on August 31, 1803.

**Washington's Crossing**  
In 1753, 21-year old George Washington nearly drowned while crossing the icy river on his first military mission, after delivering a message to the French to vacate the Ohio Country.

**Sycamore Island**  
Allegheny Land Trust's permanently protected Sycamore Island is home to a rare hardwood floodplain forest. Rich in biodiversity, the outdoor space is framed by the arching canopy of silver maples, sycamores and eastern cottonwood trees. It is unique habitat for a range of unusual bird and aquatic species.

**Boathouse Row**  
The riverfront at Verona, once called Sylvan, was the historical center for recreational boating in this region with a "Boathouse Row" of seven canoe and pleasure boat clubs. Several of the old clubs are still present along the river.

**Hot Metal Bridge**  
The Hot Metal Bridge (1903) of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Co. carried molten iron in ladle cars across the river from the blast furnaces on the Oakland side to the hearth furnaces on the South Side, where it was turned into steel. Today, the Hot Metal Bridge serves pedestrians and cyclists as part of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail system.

**Carrie Furnace**  
U.S. Steel's Homestead Works was the greatest steel mill in the world, and Carrie Furnace was its heart. These blast furnaces have stood since 1907 and may someday be featured as a Rivers of Steel National Historic Site.

**Duck Hollow and Nine Mile Run**  
Secluded Pittsburgh neighborhood and a popular fishing spot at the mouth of a waterway that received the largest urban stream restoration in the nation. A primitive trail leads upstream to Frick Park.

### Legend

- Dock Launch
- Beach Launch
- Ramp Launch
- Public Restrooms
- Parking
- ADA Accessible
- Storage Rack
- Picnic Area
- Food
- Shopping
- Historic Attraction
- Three Rivers Heritage Trail
- Road Bridge
- Railroad Bridge
- Lock & Dam
- Hazard Area