



**SOUTHWESTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA  
WATER NETWORK**



## **Activities for the Confluence**

We encourage participants to use the Confluence, the Town and the Networking, as an opportunity to spend time in Penns Woods and along its streams, and make new connections among colleagues. Come early on Friday, June 14 or even make a weekend of the Confluence by staying in the Laurel Mountains.

The SW PA Water Network is pleased to highlight the following activities for the exclusive enjoyment of Confluence participants. While we have worked with providers to make these activities available, the activities come with their own instructions for reserving your space.

These are the activities that are suggested for you to enjoy and to meet other water colleagues:

### **Fishing**

Fly fishing demonstrations on the shores of Confluence will be led by an esteemed group of fishers of all ages. Ken Dufalla of the Harry Enstrom Chapter of the Izaak Walton League will teach how to tie flies...and then Derek Eberly, Director of the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation, will lead participants to learn better casting techniques. They will be joined by members of Pennsylvania's Youth Council. The group will meet at the Tissue Farm at 8:00 am before heading to the best fishing spot that morning. No pre-registration needed. Will take place rain or shine – dress for the weather!

### **Pedaling**

Bring your own and jump on the Great Allegheny Passage and you will be joined by others. Or, the Confluence Cyclery, a full-service bike shop situated just a short peddle from the Great Allegheny Passage bicycle trail, offers bike rentals.

Please call them directly at 814-395-9380 to reserve a bike rental. The Cyclery offer hourly (with a two hour minimum), half day and full day rentals and they have upright bicycles, e-bikes, pull behind trailers (to transport kids or gear), tagalongs and even a tandem bike as options for rentals. The rentals are well maintained and include the use of a helmet

The Confluence Cyclery, a full-service bike shop situated just a short peddle from the Great Allegheny Passage bicycle trail, offers new bike sales, bike rentals, bike repairs and the sale of a wide selection of gear and accessories. The Confluence Cyclery also offers a photo opportunity

with an old fashioned high wheel bicycle (the bicycle shop's logo). [www.confluencecyclery.com](http://www.confluencecyclery.com)

### **Paddling**

Riversport is providing a relaxing 30 min. to 1 hour trip down the Yough starting **at 8:45 am.**

The 2 mile journey is an easy class I trip that takes paddlers on a scenic tour that allows views of the local hillsides where George Washington surveyed the area. The three rivers (Laurel Hill, Casselman River, and Youghiogheny River) coming together gave the appearance of a Turkey's foot, hence it was named Turkey Foot Valley by the survey group.

During the trip, visitors can paddle up into the mouth of these joining rivers. Along the way you may encounter bald eagles, great herons, and see the local palomino trout.

### **Trip Logistics:**

**Meet at Riversport by 845 am. It is located at 855 River Ave., next to the Lucky Dog Café and near the Youghiogheny Bridge on Rt 281.**

The group will paddle downstream to the take out located 2 miles downstream at Ram Cat Bike Trailhead.

After the paddle the Equipment/ Gear can be left at take out as Riversport will be waiting for the Paddlers as they come off the river. A shuttle will bring the paddlers back to Riversport.

**Single Kayak** (Feel Free Sit On Top called the Nomad) comes with PFD, Paddle and Dry Bag- \$29 (\$10 discount)

**Tandem Kayak** (Feel Free Gemini) comes with PFD, Paddle and Dry Bag- \$39 (\$10 discount)

**Raft** (4 person) - \$40 Comes with paddle, PFD, and Dry Bag \$45 (\$10 discount)

To register for the trip or if you have questions contact Andy Smith at:

[riversportschool@gmail.com](mailto:riversportschool@gmail.com) or Call 724-880-4384. Andy can send a Square Online invoice with the discount included. The Waiver can be completed at Riversport before departure.

Originally known as River Paths in the late 1970's, Riversport moved across the river and evolved into Riversport during the early 1980's. Since the mid 80's, Riversport has been a family owned business and premier instructional paddling school with a retail store located along the majestic Youghiogheny River in Confluence, Pennsylvania. The knowledgeable staff of ACA certified instructors, young National Geographic sponsored paddlers, and teachers provide safe and positive learning experiences on the water. The rental location specializes in recreation on the Youghiogheny River and Lake with stable Kayaks, stable SUPs and relaxing Rafting trips.

### **Walking**

The town of Confluence spans across and along three rivers and provides numerous opportunities for strolls, including the Great Allegheny Passage and two pedestrian bridges. One

recommendation among the many is to cross the Casselman River and head down to River Road near Riversport and hike the Joshua C. Wetzel, Jr. Memorial Recreation Area. It is a 40-acre conservation area with an up-and-back half-mile trail that ascends a hillside to a scenic observation area. The look out provides a downstream view of the Casselman and Youghiogheny rivers.

### **Ohiopyle State Park Escape Room**

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources features an Escape Room that highlights the railroad history of the town and Yough Valley. The Western Maryland Railway along with the B & O were the “Life blood” of Ohiopyle in the early 1900’s. The Western Maryland line was located in what we now know as “The Great Allegheny Passage.” This escape room clues and puzzles about the impact the railway had on the town. Find the golden tickets before “the train leaves”...and enjoy a different bit of Ohiopyle. **Pre-registration is required.** The minimum number of participants is 6 and the maximum is 12. **Please email [john@swpawaternetwork.org](mailto:john@swpawaternetwork.org)** if you and guests are interested and we will see if we can get a party together. **Deadline is EOB June 10.**

### **Staying**

There are a lot of options in the Laurel Mountains, but make plans now as the mountain streams and woodland trails attract many visitors. Here are some possibilities:

Somerset hotels (33-minute drive)

- [Fairfield Inn & Suites](#)
- [Holiday Inn Express](#)
- [Comfort Inn](#)
- [Hampton Inn](#)

Farmington hotels

- [Nemacolin](#) (23-minute drive)
- [Historic Summit Inn](#) (30-minute drive)

Ohiopyle hotels (18-minute drive)

- [Falls Market & Inn](#) (7 rooms)
- [Ohiopyle Suites](#) (10 rooms)

Confluence B&Bs

- [River’s Edge Café](#) (3 rooms)
- [Bed and Breakfast by Benyak Shoreline](#)(4 rooms)
- [Smith House Inn](#) (4 rooms)
- [The Parker House](#) (6 rooms)
- [Stepping Stone Farm](#) (5 rooms)
- Paddler’s Lane (booked)

Addison B&B (13-minute drive)

- [Hartzell House](#) (6 rooms)

RV campgrounds

- [Benner’s Meadow Run RV Campground](#) (25-minute drive)
- [Yogi Bear’s Jellystone Park Mill Run](#) (25-minute drive)