Oil Heritage (Southern) Segment Tionesta to Emlenton - 62 Miles

The Allegheny Wild and Scenic River flows through the Oil Region National Heritage Area (ORNHA). Venango County and the southeastern corner of Crawford County were designated in 1984 as a State Heritage Park Area for its importance in the history of petroleum. Nearby in Titusville, in 1859, Edwin Drake drilled the first commercial oil well, and that discovery changed the world. The region received federal designation as a National Heritage Area in 2004 for its historical significance in the history of our nation. This area is well-known for its colorful history, many historical attractions, along with the scenic recreational attributes. Please visit www. oilregion.org for more information.

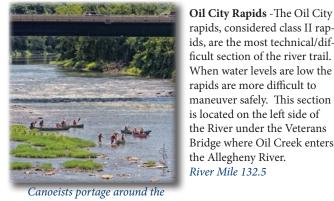
This southern segment begins at the boat access site in the borough of Tionesta, Forest County (River Mile 154.7) and ends at the community of Emlenton, Venango County (River Mile 90).

Remnants of the iron, oil and railroad industries are visible along the way. This trail segment contains four public islands owned by Venango County, in addition to 64 islands under other ownership. The public islands are open for camping and recreation. Access is available, but more limited compared to the northern segment upriver from Tionesta.

Along the Way (Southern)

Village of President - This is an informal boat access site on the left bank, which is owned by the Village of President and is available for use by the public for a small fee. Some parking is available. Lodging is available. Private camping is available just past President. River Mile 146.2

Oil City - Fourteen miles north of here, upstream along Oil Creek, lies the birthplace of the world's oil industry. The first successful oil well in the world struck on August 27, 1859, sending this rural, sparsely settled region into an exciting new era of frenzied growth and prosperity. This valley has been aptly referred to as "The Valley That Changed The World." Located at the confluence of Oil Creek and the Allegheny River, throughout the 1860s, Oil City was the staging area where much of the oil gathered in the region was shipped to the rest of the world. During 1865, approximately half of the oil shipped in the world was shipped through Oil City, often on rafts, packet boats and steamboats down the Allegheny River to Franklin or Pittsburgh. Oil City is a full-service community, with restaurants, lodging, stores and more. River Mile 132.5



rapids, considered class II rapids, are the most technical/difficult section of the river trail. When water levels are low the rapids are more difficult to maneuver safely. This section is located on the left side of the River under the Veterans Bridge where Oil Creek enters the Allegheny River.

rapids in Oil City.

A novice or inexperienced canoeist should portage around this area on the shallower right-hand river bank. Experienced paddlers should wear their life jackets if they attempt to run these rapids.

Oil City Marina - A developed boat access site, located a half-mile downriver of the rapids, along the left bank, is operated by the City of Oil City. Free parking is available, along with seasonal restroom facilities, primitive camping, and interpretation. River Mile 131.6

Samuel Justus Recreational Trail - This 5.8-mile paved non-motorized recreational trail, owned by Cranberry Township, follows the left side of the river to Franklin, where it meets the Allegheny River Trail. River Mile 130.5

Franklin - This county seat is located where French Creek enters the Allegheny River. Both the French and the English occupied forts in Franklin. It is the only city in Pennsylvania to have had four different

forts within its borders. Riverfront Park, at the confluence of French Creek and the River, is a public park located at the mouth of French Creek. A full-service community, Franklin is home to restaurants, lodging, and wide array of shops and stores. To access Franklin use access sites either a River Mile 124.2, or paddlers only at River Mile 124.8.



Allegheny River Trail and Cranberry Township Trailhead- On the left bank, just below the Route 322 bridge, lies the trailhead for the Allegheny River Trail with trail amenities. At this location, there is an access for canoes and kayaks, but requires carrying the craft on a set of stairs. This site offers ample parking, a trail visitor center, seasonal bathroom facilities, picnic tables and pavilions. The recreational trail follows the river downstream for approximately 28 miles to the community of Emlenton Borough. Five miles south of Franklin the Allegheny River Trail intersects the Sandy Creek Trail at Belmar Bridge. River Mile 124.8

Franklin Access -This is a developed boat ramp site on the right bank located on Third Street that is operated by the PA Fish & Boat Commission. Free parking is available, along with seasonal restroom facilities. River Mile 124.2

Cranberry Township Primitive Camping/Lower Two-Mile Run Primitive camping and picnicking facilities, with seasonal restrooms, are available just upriver from the confluence of Lower Two-Mile Run, on the left river bank. Drinking water is not available here.

Cranberry Township Primitive Camping - About three miles down the river from Franklin, a small primitive campsite is available on the left river bank. No restrooms or water are available.

Belmar Bridge - The spectacular Belmar Bridge over the Allegheny River was constructed in 1907 as part of a railroad built by local



Paddler approaches the Belmar Bridge.

oilman Charles Miller, ntended to connect New York to Chicago. Ultimately, it transported much of the coal from Clarion County to Ashtabula on Lake Erie. Belmar Bridge is now decked for safe. convenient pedestrian

and bicycle crossings.

Indian God Rock -Approximately 9 miles south of Franklin is a reminder of the use of the river by Native Americans. More than 50 carvings dating between 1200 and 1750 A.D. were made on a large rock at the river's edge, known as Indian God Rock. The rock, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, can be accessed from the water trail. An observation deck marks the location along the left river bank. River Mile 115.8

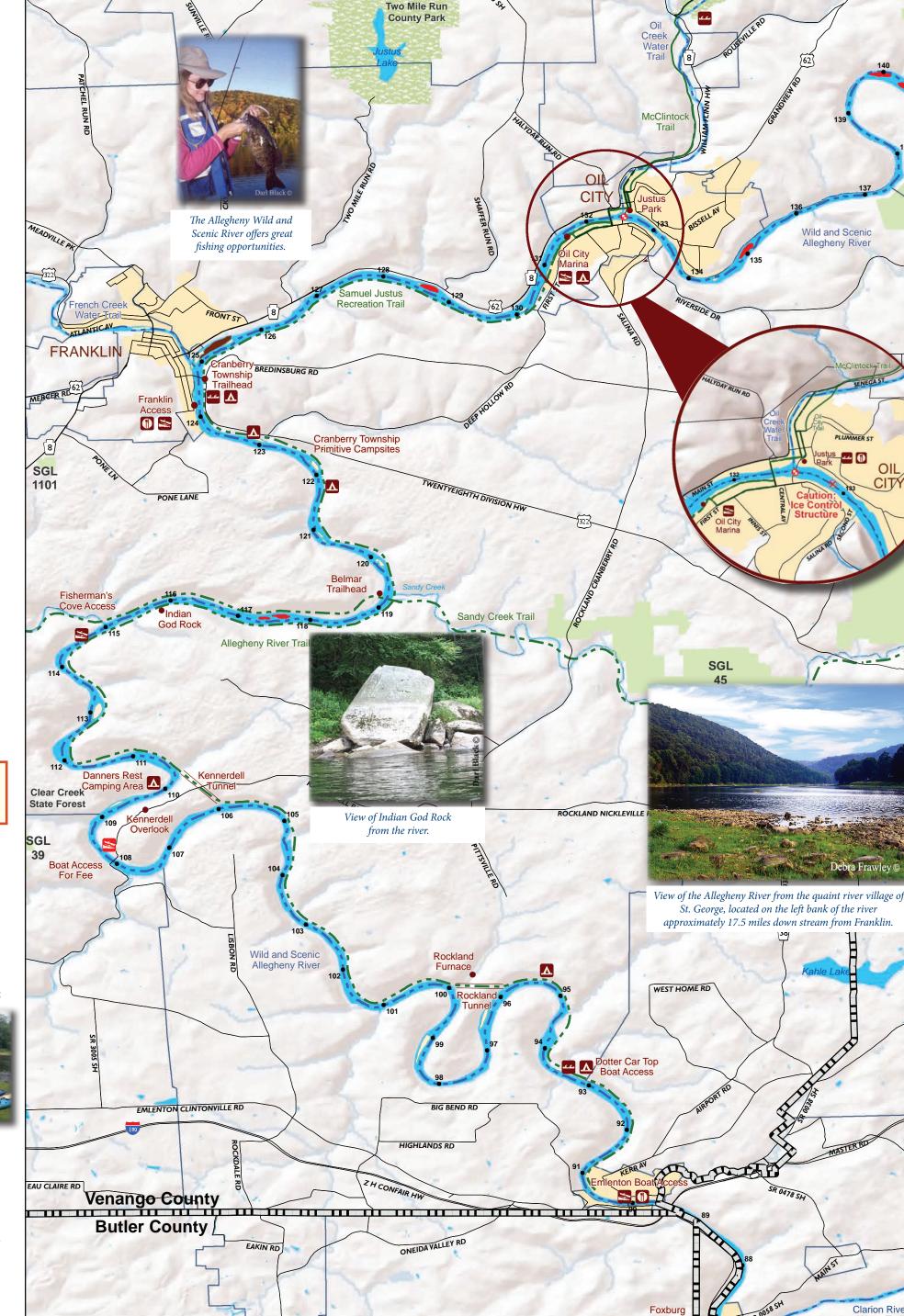
Fisherman's Cove Access -located on the right river bank, is a remote access area with a dirt drive, operated by the PA Fish & Boat Commision. Free parking is available, along with seasonal restroom facilities. River Mile 114.8

Danner's Rest/Clear Creek State Forest, Kennerdell Tract - This

state forest is administered by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry. This forest offers primitive overnight camping at Danner's Rest for float trips, as well as hiking trails, restrooms, spring water and day-use areas. Danner's Rest is on the right bank, about 400 yards past a gas line right-of-way and sign that says "Don't Anchor." River Mile 110



- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- **Travel and Camp on Durable**
- **Dispose of Waste Properly Leave What You Find**
- **Minimize Campfire Impacts** Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors
- Pack it in Pack it out For more information on Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics, go to www.lnt.org.



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Kennerdell -A private boat launch exists on the left bank of the river in Kennerdell. A fee is required to use this launch area. The Kennerdell monument (the obelisk seen on the left bank) is dedicated to the men who lost their lives to nitroglycerin blasts during the oil boom years. Private camping is available a quarter-mile below the bridge on the right.

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Dotter -The Allegheny Valley Conservancy provides a canoe/kayak access at this location approximately 4-miles north of Emlenton. A drive



through the off-loading area is provided with parking vailable in the lot just off Dotter Road beside the Allegheny River Trail. Located on the left river bank, the site provides the opportunity to learn about the conservation practices of the conservancy. River Mile 93.6

View of the River from the access at Dotter.

Emlenton - This community marks the end of the river trail. Established

in 1834, Emlenton became a junction for a narrow-gauge railroad that traveled east to present-day Clarion, and the Allegheny Valley Railroad that traveled south to Pittsburgh. The community became home to many wealthy industrialists and entrepreneurs due to the region's oil production, and the steps that climbed the hillsides to their homes became known as "the millionaires' stairs." There is an undeveloped boat access site on the left



Angling on the Alegheny near river mile 90. The Emlenton and Interstate 80 Bridges can be seen in the background.

side of the river at the first bridge in town. Parking is limited. Emlenton is a full-service community offering restaurants, lodging, groceries, and a convenience store. River Mile 90.

Be A Good Steward

Everyone can be a good steward to assist in maintaining the river's good health by following the "Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics" principles, volunteering to assist organizations that monitor the water quality, cleaning your boat after each venture on the water, and helping to clean up litter and debris along the waterway if it can be done so safely either by volunteering for cleanup events, and/or whenever you see litter.

Picking Up Litter: Take a garbage bag.

Take waterproof gloves if you have them. Dispose of any collected trash appropriately.

Do not take chances, if you cannot collect the trash safely – leave it,

Practice this simple idea -"Leave it better than you found it."

Fishing Opportunities

The Allegheny River supports a very diverse fishery. Beginning at the start of the river trail, below Kinzua Dam, trout can be caught. Farther down the trail, anglers can fish for musky walleye, smallmouth bass, catfish and carp.



Smallmouth Bass caught in the Allegheny



Remember to always dispose of any fishing ine properly as waterfowl and other animals can become tangled in it.

Check the current fishing regulations and seasons before fishing at www.fishandboat.com.

Fishing line waste container found at some launch sites

Keep on Fishing!

Threatened and Endangered Species

The Allegheny River corridor is home to several threatened and endangered species of concern.

The Indiana Bat is listed in Pennsylvania as endangered and is protected. Additional information on this species can be found at www.pgc.pa.gov/ $\underline{Wildlife/Endangered} and \underline{Threatened/Pages/default.aspx}$

Northern Riffleshell and Clubshell Mussels are currently listed federally as an endangered species. Please do not disturb any native mussels you see in the river, but enjoy their unique presence. To learn more visit www.fws. gov/northeast/pafo/endangered/clubshell.html

comeback along the river corridor, and are often seen while one is paddling. Easily disturbed, this can lead to stress that can affect their overall health. Please view silently from a distance.

Bald Eagles are making a



The **Monarch Butterfly** is declining in numbers since the 1990s. Their habitat supports pheasant, quail, waterfowl and many other species. Visit www.fws.gov/ by savethemonarch/ for more information.

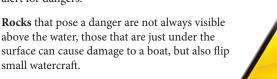


This photo of a Bald Eagle was taken by Lee Ann Reiners, along the Allegheny River in the Franklin, PA area.

Caution, Hazards on the Water

Recreating on the water is fun, and typically safe as long as you stay alert for dangers **Rocks** that pose a danger are not always visible

small watercraft.



Strainers are typically trees that have fallen in the water that block passage of solid objects, but let water flow through Strainers are extremely dangerous and can trap and flood boats, and pin a person underwater. Avoid strainers!

Dams create a back current or undertow with the water that flows over them that is capable of pulling a boat into the turbulence and trapping a person or watercraft. Lowhead dams can be very difficult to see as you look down river. The Allegheny Wild and Scenic River Water Trail does not have any dams.

Water current should not be underestimated. Moving water can be extremely powerful.

Cold water if a person is suddenly immersed, can cause cardiac arrest, or inhaling water. Use extreme caution if on the water when the water is still cold; dress appropriately, and remember it is the law that everyone wear a life jacket from November 1st through April 30th while underway or at anchor on boats less than 16 feet in length or any canoe

Other boaters can pose a danger if you are not alert - avoid collisions and conflicts by keeping a watchful eye on other water trail users.

The weather forecast can change quickly so be sure to check the forecast, and head for land and try to find safe shelter if a storm pops up.

Emergencies - dial 911.

Non-Emergencies Warren County State Police (814) 723-8880 Forest County State Police (814) 755-3565 Venango County State Police (814) 676-6596

PA Water Trails Contributing To The Allegheny Wild And Scenic River

Three designated Pennsylvania Water Trails flow into the Allegheny Wild and Scenic River Water Trail.

The mouth of Conewango Creek is located at Point Park in Warren, PA. This water trail is 13 miles in length.

Oil Creek designated in 2017 as a PA Water Trail is approximately 30 miles in length beginning just north of the City of Titusville, PA and entering the Allegheny at Justus Park in Oil City, PA.

French Creek, the longest of the three designated PA Water trails flowing into the Allegheny, is 78 miles long beginning at the Union City Dam to its confluence with the Allegheny Wild and Scenic River at Riverfront Park in Franklin, PA.

Boating Regulations

1. One wearable, Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD, or life jacket) in serviceable condition and of the appropriate size is required for each person in your boat. If your boat is 16 feet or longer, one throwable device (seat cushion or ring buoy) is required. Canoes or kayaks, regardless of length, are not required to carry a throwable device.

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2. PFDs must be worn by all children 12 years and younger on all boats 20 feet and less in length while underway, and on all canoes and kayaks. Others are strongly encouraged to wear a PFD at all times on the water.

3. All boats must display an anchor light (a white light visible 360 degrees all-around) when at anchor between sunset and sunrise. Boats can use a lantern or clip-on battery-powered unit to meet this requirement.

4. All powered boats must show running lights between sunset and sunrise. Between sunset and sunrise, unpowered boats must carry a white light (visible 360 degrees all-around), installed or portable, ready to be displayed in time to avoid a collision.

5. All boats are required to carry a sound-producing device, some mechanical means of making a sound signal audible for a half-mile. Athletic whistles meet this requirement.

6. All motorboats using PA Fish & Boat Commission access areas must be registered. Valid registration from another state is honored for up to 60 days for un-moored boats. Launch permits issued by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources allowing unpowered boats to launch at state park lakes are also valid for use at PA Fish & Boat Commission accesses. The Fish & Boat Commission issues launch permits in lieu of registration for unpowered boats.

7. Operating watercraft, including canoes, kayaks and rafts, under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal. This law is strongly enforced for

For further information on boating regulations, contact the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission or visit www.fishandboat.com.

Invasive Species

Invasive species to any waterway or landscape can harm or even destroy the ecosystem of the area in ways such as threatening native

species, or reducing habitat for wildlife. It is important to use caution when recreating in the natural surroundings. Introducing invasive species to an area can happen as simply as seeds from plants sticking to your clothing and other items you have with you and falling off in other areas. Firewood being brought from another area can trans-



port invasives. Aquatic life can cling to your watercraft. species that can quickly become dense Picking plants whose seeds crowding out native vegetation drop elsewhere. Use caution and brush your clothing off;

Zebra mussels were introduced into the lower Great Lakes Ba-

take pictures only; clean out and wash your boat thoroughly.

sin in 1986 from a ship and by 1989 they had spread throughout Lake Erie. Zebra mussels look like a marine mussel, with a yellowish or brownish shell marked with alternating zig-zag or wavy bands of brown or yellow. They are about the size of a fingernail, and the only freshwater mollusk that can firmly attach itself to solid objects. To date, no zebra mussels have been located in this stretch of the Allegheny River.

"Watch out for nature's hitchhikers!"

Helpful Hints To Help Prevent Nature's Hitchhikers

Drain water from your boat.

Remove any plants caught on equipment. Dispose of unwanted bait away from the water, on land.

Inspect your equipment and remove any foreign items, pressure wash with HOT water if required, but well away from water (a car wash works).

Brush your clothing and gear off. Never transport firewood into, or out of an area.

Take pictures only for your souvenirs.



Congress passed this landmark legislation on Oct. 2, 1968, to preserve selected rivers with outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future

Of the approximately 3.6 million miles of

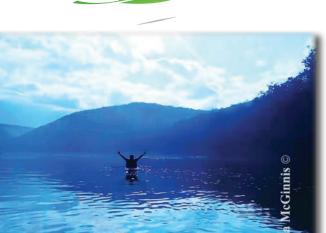
streams in the U.S., less than one quarter of RIVERS one percent – 12,734 miles – are protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. These miles include some of the most primitive and breathtaking landscapes in North America. The names of the streams, many of Native American and pioneer origin, roll off the tongue.

The Wild & Scenic Rivers Act safeguards the free-flowing character of rivers by precluding them from being dammed, while allowing for the public to enjoy them. It encourages river management that crosses political boundaries, and promotes public participation to develop goals for protecting streams.

For more information, please visit the public site www.wildandscenicrivers50.us.

Tionesta was home and the burial place of Howard Zahniser, who wrote the text of the precedent-setting Wilderness Act of 1964, which established a wilderness preservation system for the nation. Since the signing of this Act, over 105 million acres nationally have been added to the system - four percent of the entire U.S. land area. He would be proud to know that some of the very same islands he camped and picnicked on in the Allegheny River are now included in this Wilderness Preservation System, as the Allegheny Islands Wilderness.

"To know the wilderness is to know a profound humility, to recognize one's littleness, to sense dependence and interdependence, indebtedness and responsibility." - Howard Zahniser, February 25, 1906 - May 5, 1964.



Find Your Zen On The Allegheny Wild And Scenic River!