



JCWP's 8th Annual Sojourn "The Raystown Ramble"

(please consider some exaggeration in this article)

It is time to mark your calendars for this year's amazing JCWP annual sojourn! The Juniata Clean Water Partnership is excited to announce the 8th Annual Sojourn to be held on the Raystown Branch from June 13th through June 18th, 2008. This year's theme is "The Raystown Ramble".



Beginning Friday, June 13th, sojourners will camp along and enter the amazing and glorious waters of the Raystown Branch in historic Bedford, Pennsylvania. We will embark on a daring 53 mile expedition down the Raystown Branch rambling through the wilderness and mountainous terrain for a total of 6 unforgettable days. The strong, determined, and hopeful will conclude their journey at Heritage Cove Resort past the little metropolis of Saxton and at the headwaters of the great and mighty Raystown Lake. Join friends, family, co-workers, and fellow paddlers to explore, camp, and connect with nature and history along the Raystown. There will be various enlightening and hands-on programs scheduled for each day. Choose to attend one day, several days, or the entire 6 days. The meals, shuttling, campgrounds, river guides, washbasins, and

facilities will be provided. If you do not have your own canoe or kayak, local outfitters will have rentals available. It will be okay.

What is a sojourn? The word sojourn is defined as "a temporary stay or dwell." Therefore, a river sojourn might be defined as "a temporary stay or dwell on a waterway". This year's sojourn will dwell on the Raystown Branch if you didn't know that yet. We will have a thrilling and joyful 120 hour long adventure planned for you. We will have to take our chances with the 50 foot waterfalls, 20 foot long alligators, and massive whirlpools. Well, maybe not all of that.

Is the Sojourn *just* a canoe trip? My goodness no! The sojourn also provides participants with the chance to meet fellow paddlers, camp, swim, enjoy great food, and enjoy a variety of daily and nightly programs. The programs will range from presentations on history, local hiking trails, outdoor survival, fishing, and beneficial herbs and foods. There might be some occasional live music as well. We hope you will take this opportunity to join us on our sojourn.



Name (one per form): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email (if available): _____ Phone # _____

Dates attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ T-shirt size (circle one): M L XL

Thank you for registering for the Juniata River Sojourn!

Using the boxes provided on the bottom of this form, please check [x] which meals, nights of camping, and evening programs you will attend (all are included with registration fee). If you need additional information, contact the Juniata Clean Water Partnership office at (814) 506-1190 or tkomir@jcwp.org.

****Please fill out one registration form for each individual attending****

Full Weekend / All Events

Full Weekend Shuttle

Friday, June 13th Kick Off-Event Behind the scenes tour of Old Bedford Village

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Evening Program	Camping
Friday, June 13th				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday, June 14th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sunday, June 15th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monday, June 16th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday, June 17th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday, June 18th	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Please list special dietary needs/restrictions: _____

I will bring my own canoe or kayak, but need a partner: _____

Mail payment and completed form by May 30th, 2008 to:

JCWP, 416 Penn Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652

Make checks payable to Juniata Clean Water Partnership

Fees are as follows:

\$ 45 per day for adults (includes t-shirt, meals, camping sites, programs, & shuttle)

\$ 40 per day for JCWP members and children 17 and under (includes t-shirt, meals, programs, camping sites, & shuttle)

\$ 240 for adults, \$210 for members and children for the entire sojourn (includes t-shirt, meals, programs, camping sites, & shuttle)

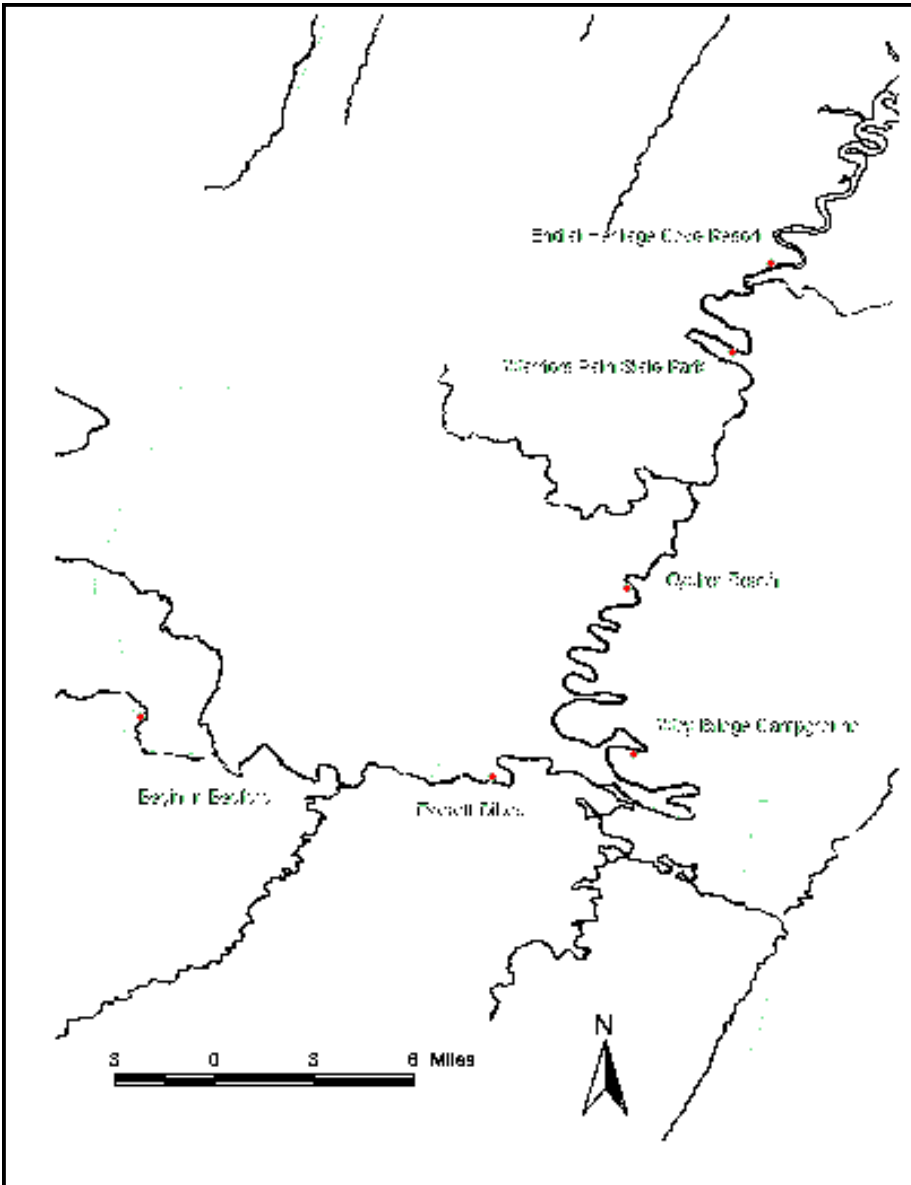


Kick-Off: Friday, June 13th – Old Bedford Village

Directions to Old Bedford Village: 2 miles north of Bedford on Bus Rt. 220, Exit 146 on the PA Turnpike, Exit 1 on I 99. Arrival & Registration Begins at 3:30PM, and the parking facilities are at the Old Bedford Village parking lot. Please pre-register for a guided tour of the village. Dinner will be on your own, and we will be camping near the village.



Day 2: Saturday, June 14th, Bedford to Everett Levees (12 mi.) Directions to the Everett Dikes: 500 yards downstream from Weicht Bridge near center of Everett. From old Rt. 30 turn south on Juniata St. and go to levee. Drive over levee to unload and parking is nearby.



Sojourners will need to provide their own canoes or kayaks and cook ware. If you do not have your own boat, you can rent one from the following outfitter.

Contact the outfitter directly to make rental arrangements.

Rothrock Outfitters

418 Penn St.
Huntingdon, PA 16652
(814)643-7226
rothrockoutfitters@comcast.net



Day 3: Sunday, June 15th, Everett to Woy Bridge Campground (13 mi.)

Directions to the Woy Bridge Campground: 2 miles east of Everett, turn north off US Rt. 30 at the Graceville sign. Go ¼ mile and turn right onto SR1010. Go 2 miles and turn left on Whetstone Rd.

Day 4: Monday, June 16th-Woy to Cypher (13 mi.) Directions to the Cypher Bridge: From PA Rt. 26 south of Hopewell, turn left on SR1020, Cypher Rd. to Mtn. Rose Beach Rd on left before bridge. Camping will be in the woods next to the river and in the field.

Day 5: Tuesday, June 17th-Cypher to Warriors Path State Park (12 mi.) Directions to Warriors Path State Park: Park is accessible via Saxton. From PA Rt. 913, turn on 8th St. and follow signs to park. It is Pavilion 2.

Day 6: Wednesday, June 18th-Warriors Path State Park to Heritage Cove Resort (6 mi.) Directions to Heritage Cove Resort: PA Rt. 913 E through Saxton. Approximately 1 mile outside of town look for Heritage Cove signs.



Things you need to know for the sojourn -

You must fill out the registration form by May 30th with payment, and have it sent to the JCWP office.

You will need to have and fill out the Survival Packet prior to the sojourn.

The cost is \$45 per person per day and \$40 for members and children.

You do not have to attend the entire sojourn if you do not want to.

You will need to provide your own canoe or kayak and cook ware.

You do not need to have any experience.

All your meals will be provided, and you can bring your own food as well.

There will be a shuttle to bring you back from dropping off your car and camping gear at the camping location.

If you have any questions please call Thomas Komir at (814) 506-1190 or email at tkomir@jcwp.org.

Anticipate on having an enjoyable experience.



On the full days of the sojourn wake-up time is 6AM, breakfast at 7AM, and the shuttle at 8AM. Lunch will be around noon, the evening stop around 4 or 5PM, dinner around 6PM, and entertainment around 7:30PM. Registration for the next day will be the evening before (around 5 to 8PM). The shuttle will be used to help you transport your car to the next camping location and bring you back to the launch site for that day. There will be no canoe/kayak shuttle since we will be camping at each launch site.





Article by Ben Plunkett

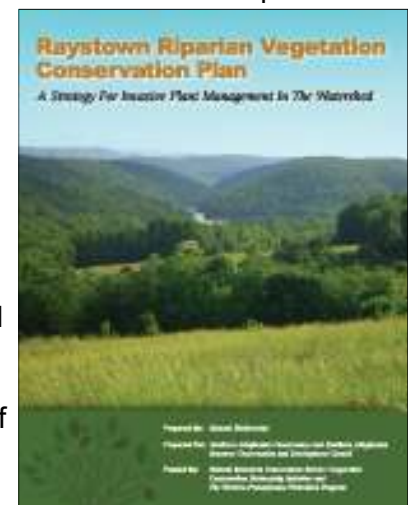
Natural Biodiversity Announces the Completion of a Plan to Prevent and Control Biological Invasions in the Juniata Watershed

The Raystown Branch of the Juniata River has a rich diversity of history, natural resources, productive agricultural land, and many recreational opportunities. However, the scenic river has become threatened due to the increasing presence of invasive plant species. Natural Biodiversity recognized the need for an effective conservation plan to prevent the spread of invasive plants and noxious weeds that are threatening the Juniata Watershed. Through funding provided to Southern Alleghenies Conservancy by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and to Natural Biodiversity by the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds, Natural Biodiversity has developed the Raystown Riparian Vegetation Conservation Plan.

Last summer landowners throughout the Bedford and Parts of Huntingdon Counties were gracious enough to allow trained staff from Natural Biodiversity to assess their land, in order to create a database of invasive plant species and locations. The assessments of 31 landowner properties and four state parks identified 13 PA noxious weeds and 22 invasive plant species. The data collected was not only utilized in the formation of the Raystown Riparian Vegetation Conservation Plan, but it was also used to create individualized landowner plans to provide technical assistance in weed control and identification.

The plan was able to identify twelve high threat species based on their abundance, ability to spread, and difficulty to control. One goal of the Raystown plan is to remove these high threat species and maintain weed free areas through sufficient planning, monitoring, and the rapid response program. The control of invasive plant species through proper management techniques will provide several benefits to the watershed. Removing unsightly invasive plants will create a more aesthetically pleasing outdoors, and will also increase accessibility for recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, and kayaking. Removal of alien invaders will also create a higher quality of wildlife due to increased food and cover for native species. The plan will be beneficial in the agricultural fields as well, as a result of the decrease in competition from invasive species for soil and water resources.

The Raystown Riparian Conservation Plan is a valuable resource for fighting the growing problem that threatens our natural treasures. The best way to control invasive plants is through prevention, and education is the key to prevention. Many people are not aware of the problem, and many more do not know how they can help. This management plan is available to the public as an educational tool to help control the spread of invasive plant species. It includes background information, removal techniques, plant profiles, and useful management resources. The plan can be viewed on our website at www.naturalbiodiversity.org under the research section. The website also includes a new section under Resources, called BioBullies, which outlines 30 of the more common invasives in PA.



UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE WATERSHED

Juniata Valley Audubon Association

April 22 (Changed from April 15) — “Hemlocks vs. Adelgids: The Threat to Our State Tree” Penn State ecologist [Dr. Carolyn Mahan](#) will draw lessons for Pennsylvania from her experience as a conservation consultant to [Shenandoah National Park](#), in Virginia, trying to mitigate damage from the hemlock woolly adelgid.

May 20 — “Wild Pennsylvania” Join photographer [Michael P. Gadowski](#) for a multi-media tour of Pennsylvania’s wild and natural areas, based on the book of the same title by Gadowski and Richard Whiteford. After the program, Michael will have copies of his book, *Wild Pennsylvania*, some greeting cards, and a few prints for sale.

Check www.jvas.org for additional programs.

2008 Water Festival to be held June 27th at the Logan Valley Mall !!!

The Blair Conservation District in partnership with the Altoona City Water Authority will be hosting its 3rd annual Water Festival on June 27th at the Logan Valley Mall in Altoona. The festival is a celebration of water and will run all day. The event will feature exhibits from local conservation groups, free workshops, live music, art work from local students, a water balloon toss, a children’s presentation with LIVE animals, and much more.

If you’d like to learn more about our event please feel free to contact Blair Co. Conservation District at (814)-696-0877 x5 or email and questions to gtlove@blairconservationdistrict.org.



Another Successful Year for BCCD's In-School Water Festivals

The 2008 season started slowly, but Blair County Conservation District's (BCCD) in-school water festivals have been another tremendous success. BCCD educators Jody Wallace and Gabe Tilove work with staff from a number dedicated local agencies to provide in-school water education for area elementary schools. Partnering organizations include: Juniata Clean Water Partnership, the Altoona City Authority, the City of Altoona, and Pennsylvania Rural Water Association. The programs have already been given to over 350 students in 5 schools with more than 8 schools still coming up this spring. Programs are geared towards PSSA standards and include information on watersheds, macroinvertebrates, water chemistry, fish anatomy, storm water management, and much more.

Canal Basin Park

The recreational park, located in Hollidaysburg, offers a historic look back at the glory days of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal and its marvelous lock system. During the 19th Century the site served as a terminus for the canal. Cargo would be removed from the boats and then be loaded onto railcars to continue its journey via the Allegheny Portage Railroad. A replica of the lock mechanism allows visitors to experience life along the canal. In addition to the historical attractions, the park offers several other recreational opportunities. The Canal Boat Playpark provides a great play area for the kids, and the walking/biking trails allow for enjoyment of all ages.

During 2006–2007 Natural Biodiversity began a project to control the invasive plants and noxious weeds that were controlling some areas within the park. We first needed to determine which species of plants were at the site and develop a plan of action. We were able to find three noxious weeds (Canada Thistle, Multiflora Rose, Purple Loosestrife), and five invasive plants (Bush Honeysuckle, Crown Vetch, Garlic Mustard, Japanese Knotweed, Tree-of-Heaven). After analyzing the data we designated an area that would be our focus point. It was an area that had several plots taken over by the invasive plants that were hiding the natural beauty of the site. We then held three separate days of cutting in which volunteers aided us with machetes and loppers to remove the invasives from the site. Professional herbicide applicators were also brought in to add an additional control method to the effort.

The control of invasive plants is not a one-and-done process. Future cuttings and herbicide applications will be required to keep re-growth under control. Follow up control efforts are being planned for the summer of 2008, and the help and support of the public is essential their success. If you would like to help out please contact us through email or by phone. All contact information can be found on our website at www.naturalbiodiversity.org.



Greetings Juniata residents and members. My name's Jennifer Bennett and I am the new Interim Watershed Manager, Juniata and Potomac Tributaries with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC). I have been with WPC since 2002, first as an AmeriCorps member, and then as a Watershed Scientist. I received a Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Science from Westminster College and my background includes macroinvertebrate collection and identification, nutrient management planning, and water quality monitoring. During my time at WPC, I have helped implement the construction of numerous miles of streambank fencing to protect important riparian areas, managed the monitoring program for our Riparian Restoration and Protection Initiative, and have completed several watershed assessments. I am looking forward to working more in the Juniata and Potomac Rivers region.

WPC recently received monies to implement two separate projects in the Juniata watershed. The first, a project funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is to address on-lot sewage management issues in the Morrison Cove region. WPC and our partners will hold an informative workshop about sewage management alternatives for township supervisors and local leaders at the end of May. A second workshop discussing proper septic system operation and maintenance will be held at the beginning of June for private homeowners. Residents of Morrison Cove that attend the workshop will be provided with a voucher for a free dye test to assess the functionality of their current on-lot system. These homeowners will also be eligible to receive cost-share funds to upgrade malfunctioning systems.

The second grant is a Growing Greener grant from the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Funds from this grant will be used to address agricultural impacts in the Morrison Cove region of Bedford and Blair counties. Partners for this project include Bedford and Blair County Conservation Districts, Juniata Clean Water Partnership, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Blair County Trout Unlimited.

For more information about the workshops, please contact Jennifer Bennett at 724-459-0953, extension 109.



Juniata Clean Water Partnership
416 Penn Street
Huntingdon, Pa 16652

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The Juniata Clean Water Partnership (JCWP) needs your help! After eight years of successful watershed education, conservation and improvement efforts, the JCWP still needs your financial support to maintain assistance to residence and organizations throughout the Juniata Watershed. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Annual Membership Categories

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="radio"/> Sustaining member | \$500 |
| <input type="radio"/> Corporate/Business (50+ Employees) | \$150 |
| <input type="radio"/> Non-profit/Small Business/Government | \$ 50 |
| <input type="radio"/> Family/Watershed group/Individual | \$ 35 |

A Watershed Planning Initiative for
Local Restoration and Protection
Projects

Email: jcwp@jcwp.org

Web: www.jcwp.org

814-506-1190

Juniata Watershed Journal

Editor: Thomas Komir

tkomir@jcwp.org

814-506-1190

