



The Westerly Land Trust

Summer Paddles 2008

Please join us for our free-guided kayak/canoe paddles on Thursdays. We will meet at 9:30am except on August 7, meeting at 2pm. We will pass various local conservation lands, including some of our own Westerly Land Trust preserves. The paddle times will be between 1 ½ to 3 hours. Bring your own kayak/canoe, paddle, life jacket, water, snacks, etc. Be aware that our trips leave promptly so be on time! We will meet at takeout points and carpool to launch sites.

Details

July 3rd **Woodville to Alton**

Put in on left bank below the bridge. The river runs deep and the current is steady. Marshy areas attract birds, and iris and pickerelweed are common in season. Mountain laurel is spectacular in June. Below Woodville the river makes a sharp turn to the left. The dead end millrace runs straight ahead. A weedy section of flat water (usually with a head wind) precedes the dam. Meet at Alton Dam, which is off Rte 91 in Alton. Leader: Carol Mathews, 401.596.6087, email: xmascarol181@verizon.net

July 10th **Switch Road to Woodville**

Put in on the east side of Switch Road. (Hope Valley/Woodville Road) at parking area just south of Rte 95 viaduct. This stretch is wooded and scenic. Be ready for frequent blow downs. Before the dam at Woodville is extensive swampy flat water. Abutment of an old bridge on right offers a good picnic spot in this area. Meet by bridge and dam on Woodville Road in Woodville. Leader: Marylin Green, 401.377.2793, email: greenpump@aol.com

July 17th **Rte 165 to WPWA headquarters**

Put in on south side of Rte 165, 3.5 miles west of Rte 3 where road crosses the river. Here the Wood River is scenic, shallow with some quick water. Arcadia Management Area edges the river and one sees many fishermen. Flat water precedes the dam at Barbersville. Meet at the WPWA headquarters, which is off Arcadia Road in Hope Valley. Leader: Geoff Sewall, 401.377.2826

July 24th **Barn Island (CT)**

Depending upon the wind direction will determine if we head towards Westerly or Stonington. Meet at the boat launch. Take US 1 west from Pawcatuck for 2.5 miles to the traffic signal at Wequetequoock Cove. Turn left on Greenhaven Road, then immediately right, on Palmer Neck Road. Follow Palmer Neck to the parking lot to the boat ramp. Leader: Charlie Hickox, 401.284.3078, email: charleshickox@cox.net

July 31st

Alton Dam to Bradford

Put in on south side of Rte 91 at state access area down a steep incline, river right. Wood River shortly joins the Pawcatuck on left. A two-foot drop over a broken dam in Burdickville can be run on right at reasonably high water. Look for fast-moving water just to left of a stony island near shore. For portage, ease boat over dam on left bank. About 300 yards after the first Amtrak trestle, Burlingame Management Area is on left. It provides camping and picnic sites; from here to Bradford the river is wide and scenic. Meet at Bradford Landing, which is located off Rte 91 in Bradford. Leader: Sally Hanson, 401.348.9109, email: sally.hanson@verizon.net

August 7th

Poquetannck Cove, Preston CT - MEET AT 2 PM

This large tidal cove is home to a wide variety of birds, including swans, osprey and one or two eagles. Bring binoculars and a windbreaker. Beautiful scenery in a rather unexpected location – don't miss this one! Meet at the Westerly train station. Leader: Geoff Sewall, 401.377.2826

August 14th

Potter Hill to Westerly Landing

Put in on right bank below the dam and bridge on Laurel St. Quick water at start is followed by a steady current. After passing under Boom Bridge, it is about 1.5 miles to the dam and mill at White Rock. The dam can be run down the millrace to the left (Class II rapids). Keep left of center all the way. The river runs under White Rock Bridge and it's about 0.5 mile to Rte 78. The Stillmanville dam is 0.75 mile downstream. A canal on left side is kayakable/canoeable (Class II rapids) in most conditions. River runs through Westerly with interesting views of commercial buildings. Meet at Westerly Landing, which is off Main Street, across from McQuade's Supermarket. Leader: Bob Jones, 860.599.4447, email: rrrtjone@wmconnect.com

August 21st

Bradford to Potter Hill

Put in at Bradford access on left side of river. Here the river runs under Rte 91 and almost immediately there is a large mill on left and a dam. Portage around dam on right. This is a beautiful section of the river with no obstacles that passes by Westerly Land Trust properties for several miles. After the Rte 3 crossing, the river meanders along a swamp. Meet on Potter Hill Road by bridge and dam in Westerly. Leader: Charlie Hickox, 401.284.3078, email: charleshickox@cox.net

August 28th

Shannock to Richmond Landing

Put in at the west end of the village, right bank, upstream from Shannock Road Bridge. Easy, pleasant paddling (2.2 miles). Wooded shores become swampy just before you reach Carolina and Rte 112. Take out on right at road. One can continue, but the river is channeled and fast under road followed by 200 yards of Class II rapids. These can be run in high water; check first. There is no portage. After rapids, river is calm to Rte 91 Bridge. The river abuts the Carolina Management Area on right and there is a camping and picnic spot on right just after a large rock in midstream. Meet at Richmond Landing, which is off Rte 91 by bridge. Leader: Elly Heyder, 401.322.1121, email: ehyder@cox.net