



## The Westerly Land Trust Summer Paddles 2026

Join the Thursday paddlers for free-guided kayak/canoe paddles on Thursday mornings. **We will shuttle vehicles at 9:30 AM except as noted below.** We will pass various local conservation lands, including some of our own Westerly Land Trust preserves. Bring your own kayak/canoe, paddle, life jacket, whistle, water, snacks, etc. Some of us will go swimming. Be aware that our trips leave promptly so be on time! We will meet at put in points and carpool to takeout sites unless stated differently in the blurb. This means you will have already dropped off your kayak/canoe at the put in and only drivers will go down to the takeout spot @ 9:30 AM.

### Important Notes

- o **Estimated Times:** Ending times are estimated as it is difficult to ascertain when it will finish due to number of people, how fast/slow the paddlers paddle, etc.
- o **Thursday paddles/WLT events:** [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for WLT's email list and receive a monthly email including Thursday hike, paddle, etc. schedule and other WLT events/programs.
- **Rhode Island boating safety regulation that went into effect on April 2, 2023:** All operators & passengers of canoes, kayaks, sailboards, kiteboards, paddleboards, and any other paddlecraft shall wear a US Coast Guard approved PFD at all times while underway regardless of age.
- If weather is questionable, contact leader.
- If you wish to have a free vessel safety check contact Sally Hanson. This can be done before or after a paddle as long as Sally is there. ([sallyhanson242@gmail.com](mailto:sallyhanson242@gmail.com) or 401 932-5295 cell).

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**VERY IMPORTANT: Boat ramps can normally be used to launch canoes and kayaks but keep the boat ramp clear for boat trailers.**  
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### Details:

**June 18            10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Alton to Woodville & back**

**No vehicle shuttle.** Maybe we will get up to Woodville where we normally put in. Put in: N 41° 26.274' W 071° 43.360'

**Leader:** Gerri Miceli and Deb Luz **Email:** [ger44@cox.net](mailto:ger44@cox.net) and [dluz@cox.net](mailto:dluz@cox.net)

**June 25            7:00 PM - 9:00 PM    Winnapaug Pond sunset paddle - Headlamp, flashlight, etc. is required**

**No vehicle shuttle.** Digest your dinner with an evening paddle around Winnapaug Pond! Route is weather dependent, but there is an 8:00 PM high tide on our side. Dessert will be provided and bring binoculars if you got 'em! Park and launch from Westerly Town Beach parking lot on the pond side.

**Leader:** Marc Doherty      **Phone:** 508 308-9787 **Email:** [mdoherty@westerlylandtrust.org](mailto:mdoherty@westerlylandtrust.org)

**July 2            10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Bradford to Burdickville and back**

**No vehicle shuttle.** This will be the stretch of the Pawcatuck River starting at Bradford Landing (across from BDA) and going upstream to Burdickville dam. Meet at Bradford Landing, which is located off Rte 91 in Bradford. From I-95, take Exit 1 and go South on Rte 3 for about 2 miles to Ashaway. Turn left (South) onto Rte 216 for about 2.3 miles to Rte 91 (and Rte 216) for about 0.4 mile to the Bradford Fishing Access Area which is on the left after crossing the river and across from Bradford Dying Association. The paddle is EASY and about 5 miles round trip.  
Launch site: N 41° 24.363' W 071° 44.905'

**Leader:** Janice Fifer      **Phone:** 401 213-6479 **Email:** [jhfifer@verizon.net](mailto:jhfifer@verizon.net)

**July 9            9:30 AM - 1:00 PM    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 Barberville. Takeout is at the WPWA headquarters, which is off Arcadia Road in Hope Valley. Put in: N 41° 34.382' W 071° 43.291'  
Take out: N 41° 32.430' W 071° 41.766

**Leader:** Sue & Geoff Sewall      **Phone:** 401-377-2826      **Email:** [suemsew@gmail.com](mailto:suemsew@gmail.com)

**July 16           10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Ninigret Pond**

**No shuttle required.** Paddling at Ninigret Pond in Charlestown, RI, offers a fantastic, protected flatwater experience. The 6.2-mile paddle route features coves, barrier beaches, and local wildlife (birds, turtles, fish and more). For more details see: [https://exploreri.org/documents/watertrailmaps/SPC\\_ninigret.pdf](https://exploreri.org/documents/watertrailmaps/SPC_ninigret.pdf)  
Meet at the USFWS launch located at the East Entrance of Ninigret Park (off Park Lane).

**Leader:** Bruno Hancock      **Phone:** 860 501-0472 **Email:** [brunohancock58@gmail.com](mailto:brunohancock58@gmail.com)

**July 23           9:30 AM - 1:00 PM    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. Takeout is by bridge and dam on Woodville Road in Woodville. Put in: N 41° 29.601' W 071° 42.963' Take out: N 41° 27.573' W 071° 43.139'

**Leaders:** Sue & Geoff Sewall      **Phone:** 401-377-2826      **Email:** [suemsew@gmail.com](mailto:suemsew@gmail.com)

**July 30           9:30 AM - 1:00 PM    Pawcatuck River: Potter Hill Mill to Westerly Municipal Boat Ramp - Intermediate paddle**

This paddle begins at Potter Hill Mill in Westerly and ends about 7 miles later at the Westerly Municipal Boat Ramp in downtown Westerly. This stretch of the Pawcatuck River is the boundary between Pawcatuck, CT to the west and Westerly, RI to the east. You will pass the site of the former White Rock Dam, which was removed in 2015 as a fish passage improvement project. You will also pass the WLT Champlin Farm preserve where we will stop briefly for a snack. A broken down dam at Stillman Ave. can be run down the millrace to the left, about 200 yards of class II whitewater, or portaged. The Pawcatuck River after this point is tidal and runs through downtown Westerly/Pawcatuck. It is an interesting trip, and the rapids and tidal portion make **it an Intermediate paddle.** Meet at 17 Post Office Lane, Potter Hill 41.41535° N, 71.79863° W

**Leader:** Bruno Hancock                      **Phone:** 860 501-0472 **Email:** [brunohancock58@gmail.com](mailto:brunohancock58@gmail.com)

**August 6            10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Barn Island**

**No vehicle shuttle.** 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 Wequetequock Cove. Turn left on Greenhaven Road, then immediately right, on Palmer Neck Road. Follow Palmer Neck to the parking lot to the boat ramp.            Launch site: N 41° 20.247' W 071 52.547'

**Leader:** Janice Fifer                      **Phone:** 401 213-6479 **Email:** [jhfifer@verizon.net](mailto:jhfifer@verizon.net)

**August 13                      10:00 AM - 12:00 PM            Flora Whiteley Preserve**

Grab your paddle and set off on the Pawcatuck River for a calm paddle upstream to begin your journey. Then hitch a ride back with the current and enjoy the quiet beauty of this Wild and Scenic River. Bring binoculars to spot birds, turtles, and other wildlife along the riverbanks. Paddle craft of your choice is welcome including kayaks and paddleboards. **Location:** Between Potter Hill Road and the Pawcatuck River, north of Lima Drive and South of the Potter Hill village. Flora Whiteley Preserve is across Potter Hill Road from the east arm of the Westerly Town Forest. Parking will be available in the field.

**Leader:** Lauren Barber                      **Phone:** 609-425-7047 **Email:** [lbarber@westerlylandtrust.org](mailto:lbarber@westerlylandtrust.org)

**August 20            10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Green Hill Pond**

**No vehicle shuttle.** Greenhill pond is similar to Ninigret, but a smaller body of water, and likewise it is an enclosed bay protected by a barrier beach. Directions: take Rte 1 north for approximately 9 miles (from Connecticut route 78 junction). Take a slight right onto 1A N for approximately 1.2 miles. Go right on Matunuck School House Road for 4/10 of a mile, then right on Charlestown Beach Road for 1.3 miles. This will terminate at the Charlestown Beach parking lot, where upon entering, turn immediately to the right and follow the dirt road down to the water. We will paddle east underneath the Charlestown Beach Road opposite the kayak center, and enter Green Hill Pond.

**Leaders:** Gerri Miceli & Deb Luz                      **Phone:** 401 788-4042                      **Email:** [ger44@cox.net](mailto:ger44@cox.net)

**August 27            9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Poquetannck Cove - Preston, CT**

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 in the Pawcatuck Stop & Shop parking lot closest to Rte 49.** Put in: N 41° 28.221' W 072° 03.561'

**Leaders:** Sue & Geoff Sewall                      **Phone:** 401-377-2826                      **Email:** [suemsew@gmail.com](mailto:suemsew@gmail.com)

**September 3    10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Mystic Y around Enders Island and back**

**No vehicle shuttle.** We will launch at the beach and head south toward Enders Island. Directions: go South on Rte 1 toward Mystic, pass the Big Y market on your right and take a left at the light, turn right onto Harry Austin Drive and head straight to the beach.

**Leader:** Janice Fifer                      **Phone:** 401 213-6479 **Email:** [jhfifer@verizon.net](mailto:jhfifer@verizon.net)

**September 10 Hikes start!**