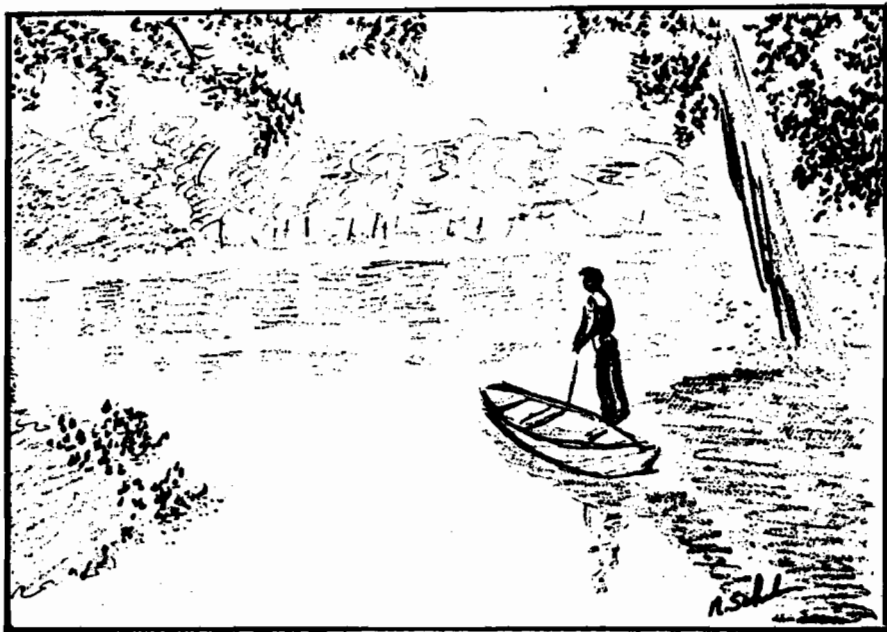


# **ALLEGHENY**

## **National Forest**

# **CANOEING**



U. S. Forest Service  
P. O. Box 847  
Warren, PA 16365

We believe you'll find canoeing on the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) an outstanding recreation experience. This booklet provides canoeing information on the TIONESTA, BROKENSTRAW and CONEWANGO CREEKS; the ALLEGHENY and CLARION RIVERS, the ALLEGHENY and TIONESTA RESERVOIRS, BEAVER MEADOWS recreation area (ANF), and CHAPMAN STATE PARK near Clarendon, PA.

If the telephone area code is not given, it is 814. Most recreation facilities are administered by Allegheny National Forest, P. O. Box 847, Warren, PA 16365, unless otherwise stated.

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### ALLEGHENY AND TIONESTA RESERVOIRS

Exercise caution when canoeing on the Allegheny and Tionesta Reservoirs. Power boat use on these lakes is especially heavy on weekends, so we recommend early and late in the day as the best time to canoe on weekends during the summer season.

#### TIONESTA RESERVOIR

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) completed the Tionesta Dam in 1940, impounding a 480-acre lake and providing flood control.

Here you can camp, picnic, swim and launch a boat, (COE facilities). Recreation activities include fishing, hiking, boating, canoeing, water skiing, and hunting (in season). You can obtain additional information by calling 744-3512 or writing: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tionesta Dam, Tionesta, PA 16353.

#### ALLEGHENY RESERVOIR

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers completed the Kinzua Dam for flood control in 1965. It impounds the Allegheny Reservoir, 24 miles long and contained by 91 miles of shoreline.

The U. S. Forest Service, Allegheny National Forest, provides camping and launch facilities in Pennsylvania. In New York State, the Seneca Nation of Indians (716-945-1790), Cattaraugus County (716-938-9111, ext. 55), and Allegany State Park (716-354-2545), offer similar facilities.

Six boat access campgrounds in Pennsylvania, Handsome Lake, Hooks Brook, Hopewell, Morrison, Old State Road and Pine Grove, add another dimension to the canoeing opportunities. The limited facilities at these campgrounds really enhance the primitive experience.

You'll find conventional camping near the water at Dewdrop, Kiasutha and Willow Bay Campgrounds. Red Bridge is also quite close. You may find a site at Tracy Ridge during peak holiday overflow periods; other times it's for organizations only. No camping on the Reservoir except in designated areas.

Free reservoir launch sites are available at Elijah, Roper Hollow and Webbs Ferry, and at Dewdrop campground.

For a small fee, you can launch at Kiasutha and Willow Bay campgrounds, and Allegheny Reservoir Marina (route 59), 726-1650. Mail marina information requests to Allegheny Reservoir Marina, P.O. Box 825, Warren, PA 16365. Off season, call 412-368-3656 (Butler listing for permittees who operate marina on special use permit from Forest Service.

You'll find excellent fishing, both in the reservoir and the tailwaters. You can swim at Kinzua Beach, route 59, or Kiasutha recreation area. You can rent canoes and camping equipment from Allegheny Outfitters, P. O. Box 691, Market Street Plaza (on the Allegheny River), Warren. Canoes are also available from Allegheny Reservoir Marina and from Bob's Trading Post, R. D. #2, Kane, PA 16735, 945-6223.

## CLARION RIVER, TIONESTA AND BROKENSTRAW CREEKS

These are probably the only nearby waterways that are navigable by canoe but too shallow and rocky for power craft. Beyond mid-June, the Tionesta and Brokenstraw usually fall too low for canoeing except for periods of heavy rainfall. The Clarion becomes a good stream for the novice.

### CLARION RIVER

In early spring, the Clarion River has four rapids. You'll find the first at mile 6 from Ridgway, near a railroad trestle. The second, third and fourth, at miles 15, 15-1/2 and 16, are known as rapids X, Y and Z. The "chicken route" (safest) for all except X is to the extreme right. In X rapid, head right down the middle. Love's Canoe Rentals in Ridgway provides a good map brochure. Warning: An underwater pipe just below the trestle may dump unwary canoeists.

You'll find this river scenic and interesting. You can rent canoes from Love's at Ridgway (776-6285), or from any of the following in the Cooksburg area: Cook Riverside Canoe Livery (744-8300), Cook Forest Canoe Livery (744-8094); Forest View Canoe Rentals (744-8413 or 8175); or Pinecrest Canoes, which also has cabins and riding stables, (752-2375).

The fast water all runs between Ridgway and Hallton, a distance of about 19 miles. Below Hallton, the route flattens out and becomes less challenging. The section from Ridgway gets an "intermediate" skill level rating until about mid-May. Later, it drops to "novice".

You can launch at Portland Mills (mile 9), Hallton (mile 19), Belltown (mile 27), Clear Creek State Park (mile 32), Cooks Forest State Park at route 36 bridge (mile 43), and Piney Dam at Clarion, route 322 bridge (mile 61).

Several good places to camp enroute, although unmarked and without facilities, should be obvious from the water.

### TIONESTA CREEK

Tionesta Creek runs from Chapman Dam to Tionesta Dam. During high water in very early spring, you can put in at Farnsworth Road, just south of Clarendon. Other high water starting points include the bridges at Weldbank (mile 2.5), Tiona (mile 4.4); Sheffield (mile 7.6), Lynch (mile 16); or Mayburg (25.9). The bridge at Kellettsville (mile 30.3) has a nice landing. Tionesta Dam is mile 45.4.

The landscape is lovely from Sheffield to the Tionesta Dam, but generally cannot be floated after mid-May or early June.

### BROKENSTRAW CREEK

You'll find some of the best fast-water canoeing during high water on the Brokenstraw Creek between Garland and its confluence with the Allegheny River. Good launch points include the bridge south of Columbus, PA; in the town of Spring Creek; at the route 77 bridge below Spring Creek (watch out for low-hanging cables from here to Garland (12.3 miles); and from the junction of route 27. From this latter launch to Buckaloons Campground, on the Allegheny River, makes a nice trip (about 12 miles).

### CONEWANGO CREEK

You can float the Conewango Creek from the bridge on Riverside Road, about two miles south of Frewsburg, NY, to the parking lot at Beaty Junior high School in Warren (about 15 miles). Please exercise extreme caution when encountering the old dam about a mile below the third bridge; you may want to portage here. You'll see the Beaty parking lot to your left just after the third of three MORE bridges. You can portage around the waterfall below this parking lot and continue to the confluence of the Allegheny River if you wish. (Do not attempt to go over the dam.)

## CHAPMAN DAM AND BEAVER MEADOWS

Only non-motorized craft can use these interesting areas. We recommend early morning and late evening for highest enjoyment of wildlife. You'll find good fishing at both.

### CHAPMAN DAM

In this state park located five miles south of Clarendon, PA, attractions include fishing, boating, picnicking, camping and swimming. You can rent canoes for use on the lake from a concession right at the water's edge.

### BEAVER MEADOWS

An ANF campground located between Marienville, PA and the Abraxas Center, Beaver Meadows has a small launch, a 15-acre lake, and primitive camping facilities. Birds and other wildlife abound; be sure to bring your camera..

## ALLEGHENY RIVER

The Allegheny River is sprinkled with islands. By the Pennsylvania Wilderness Act of 1984, Congress designated seven islands -- Crull's, Thompson's, R. Thompson's, Courson, King, Baker, and No-name, as Wilderness. Generally, you may camp on any island not otherwise posted. Enjoy a small campfire if you wish, but do not cut any live trees. Burn your paper garbage; take the rest with you. You find no facilities of any kind. Try to leave no trace of your visit.



DON'T  
POLLUTE!



Allegheny River launches include:

- Corps of Engineers ramp at the Kinzua Dam;
- Crescent Park launch near Warren General Hospital;
- Buckaloons (ANF) campground at Irvine, west of Warren (mile 15);
- Cloverleaf Campground, route 62 between Warren and Tidioute, rents canoes, cabins and campsites. Only campers may use launch facilities.(484-3353);
- Bonnie Brae, Fish Commission, at mile 28;
- Fish Commission launch at Tidioute (mile 30);
- West Hickory;
- Indian Valley Trailer Camping Park (camping and canoe rentals)(755-3578);
- Tionesta Island (the upper end of Tionesta Sand and Gravel island (mile 45.9);
- Allegheny Riverview Lodge Campgrounds, offers camping for canoeists near Tionesta (755-3888);
- Tri-Rivers Canoes,(canoe rentals)(755-4577).

### THE LAW

Sailboats, canoes, rowboats, and other manually propelled craft do not have to be registered in Pennsylvania unless equipped with a motor. Reciprocal privileges are granted to motorboats registered in other jurisdictions with numbering systems approved by the U. S. Coast Guard. These privileges are equal to the reciprocal privilege extended by that jurisdiction to boats registered in Pennsylvania, but in no case more than 60 days.

ALL VESSELS MUST CARRY PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES IN GOOD AND SERVICEABLE CONDITION, ONE FOR EACH PERSON ON BOARD. For additional information, get a copy of "Pennsylvania Pleasure Boating Requirements Summary", published by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, P. O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17120.