



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**



The Green & Nolin Rivers Blueway runs inside Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson County & the Nolin River Lake Tailwater of the US Army Corp of Engineers

Objective

Coordinating a bustling regional network of biking, hiking, equestrian, and water trails to connect communities, ultimately classifying the Mammoth Cave and South Central Kentucky region as a tantalizing bucket list destination for both locals and visitors.

Avid promotion for those seeking all levels of outdoor adventures allows for attracting tourists and potential business ventures, resulting in regional economic growth.



Stakeholders



Outdoor Anchors

- Mammoth Cave National Park
- Nolin Lake State Park
- Barren River Lake State Park
- Certified Trail Towns ●
 - Brownsville, Edmonson County
 - Park City, Barren County
 - Cave City, Barren County
 - Horse Cave, Hart County
 - Munfordville, Hart County

offers miles and miles of trails for

mountain biking
hiking
horseback riding
paddling

NWT Partnerships



The Green and Nolin Rivers Blueway is an area partnership that actively supports

- Public access for safe river recreational use
- Promotes stewardship
- Connects communities and visitors to enjoyment and appreciation of the overall health of the river system and surrounding lands

The Blueway cooperative management partners include:

- Mammoth Cave National Park
- United States Army Corps of Engineers Nolin River Lake
- Edmonson County, Kentucky
- Cave Country Trails



NWT How to Get There?



- Application Process – a yearslong effort encompassing:
 - Extensive historical and biodiversity research
 - Assurances of adequate safety measures and public access
 - Detailing of the outdoor recreation offerings in and around the waterway
 - Breakdown of how the waterway impacts the communities it runs through
- Foundation Documents – allowed us a jumpstart to not have to begin at square one
 - Mammoth Cave National Park - UNESCO World Heritage Site and International Biosphere Reserve
 - USACE
 - The Green River Blueways Water Trail Master Plan



Rachelle Wright with THE binder!

“These huge tasks, along with years of research about the rivers, gave us the information needed to effectively articulate their importance – all of the biodiversity, the physical way that the waters connect us all, the economic impact of the visitors that do travel here to paddle them and the communities that rely upon them. Basically, we had to prove the river was worth national designation.”

– Rachelle Wright, Cave Country Trails Project Coordinator

NWT Biodiversity



Paddling along the Blueway will put you in one of the most biodiverse river systems in the nation, hosting over 80 species of fishes, about 350 species of macroinvertebrates, and more than 50 species of freshwater mussels.

For example, mussels serve a variety of purposes to a body of water and their abundance in the Green River helps to stabilize it.

- Serve as a skillful indicator species of what is happening within in the water supply
- Vital to the life cycle of fish; they need fish to reproduce
- Because they have the ability to clean water, to remove impurities and heavy metals, mussels are an asset to economic benefit.

It is this biodiversity and overall river health that makes these rivers significant both nationally and internationally. Conservation and recreation must reside in harmony for a successful and continuous national water trail.



Washboard mussels (*Megaloniaias nervosa*), some more than 50 years old

NWT Achieved



The Green & Nolin Rivers Blueway spans 36 miles with 7 public access sites for input and takeout convenience. A variety of 18 trips are available ranging from 29 miles to 2 miles.

As you float along, enjoy the following:

- Camping sites
- Picnic shelters
- Public restrooms
- Wildlife observation
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Information signage





The Blueway creates possibilities for growth in tourism, as the connectivity of Mammoth Cave National Park and Edmonson County has been stronger solidified with this designation.



People are seeking vacation destinations with a buffet of outdoor recreation, relaxed itineraries, local flavor, and overall serenity.





Paddling the Blueway

