



## Hudson River Valley Greenway

# Hudson River Greenway Water Trail



April 24, 2019

# What is a Water Trail?

A long distance **recreational waterway** between specific points, made up of **access**, **day use**, and **campsites** or other overnight accommodations for the boating public.

Today: 256 miles, 117 Sites,  
National Water Trail



# A Water Trail is viewed as...



- romantic
- non-threatening
- imaginative
- Huck Finn's raft

# 1994: How Do We Do This?



**HUDSON RIVER GREENWAY  
WATER TRAIL**

This site is part of a 256 mile Water Trail stretching from the Adirondack Park and Lake Champlain to Manhattan. For more information scan the code to the right or visit [www.hudsongreenway.ny.gov](http://www.hudsongreenway.ny.gov)

12893-75713 VOSS SIGNS, LLC. MANLIUS, NY 13104-0553 1-800-473-0698 www.vosssigns.com



# Public vs. Private Water Trails

WT Type	User Type	Fees?	Operation	Example
Public Water Trail	Open to the public without restriction	May charge a fee	Usually government	HR Greenway Water Trail
Private Water Trail	Restricted to members	Membership fee normal	Usually non-profits	Lake Champlain Paddlers Trail



# Who are the Different Trail Users & What are Their Needs?

## User Types

- Non-motorized
- Motorized

## Every User Requires

- Launches & takeout points
- Fun & interesting places to visit

## Multi-Day Users Need

- A trail designed for the long distance traveler
- Overnight accommodations

## Day Users Need

- A trail designed for short day trips
- No overnight accommodations



# Planning for Users & around Conditions

- Access points every ten miles or less, both sides of the tidal Hudson
- Campsites every 15 miles or less





4 MAPS

## Hudson River Greenway WATER TRAIL 4-MAP SET

A series of four maps with vital information for all paddlers.

The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail is a 256-mile paddler's dream, extending from the Adirondack Park and Lake Champlain to Battery Park in Manhattan.

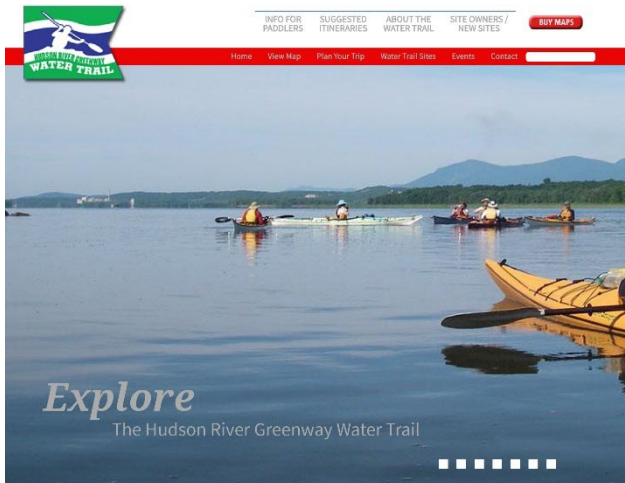


Hudson River Valley Greenway



HudsonRiverGreenwayWaterTrail.org

# Branded Suite of Tools for Boaters



### Welcome to the Hudson River Greenway WATER TRAIL

A 256-mile paddler's dream, extending from northern Saratoga County in the Adirondack Park and northern Washington County at the head of Lake Champlain, to Battery Park in Manhattan.



#### View Water Trail Map

Explore the Water Trail from Adirondack Park to Manhattan's Pier 95



#### Plan Your Trip

Choose begin and end points, plus stops along the way then share your itinerary with friends!



#### Water Trail Sites

Search over 100 Access Sites by name or location



Weather on the Water Trail

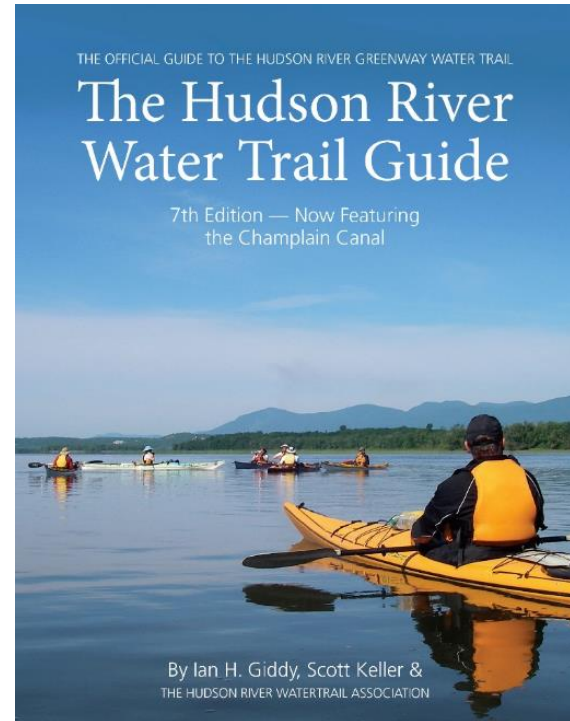
Right now: Albany 35° A few Clouds  
New York 41° Fair



The Hudson River Greenway Water Trail is a National Water Trail and open to recreational paddlers of all experience levels. With more than 100 designated access sites, the Water Trail is easily accessible to local and visiting paddlers.

VISITING THE AREA? NEW TO KAYAKING? Why not rent a kayak or canoe and enjoy an hour or two on the river? There are several businesses that offer boat and equipment rentals, and instruction/guided tours. There may be some local events you would enjoy as well.

Come visit for a day or a week; you'll want to come back for a lifetime! We welcome all paddlers to use the services and information offered on this site, and we hope it helps you enjoy your time on the water.



THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE HUDSON RIVER GREENWAY WATER TRAIL

## The Hudson River Water Trail Guide

7th Edition — Now Featuring the Champlain Canal

By Ian H. Giddy, Scott Keller & THE HUDSON RIVER WATERTRAIL ASSOCIATION



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# Kayak Storage Racks



- Lock up your gear and dine, shop, reprovision

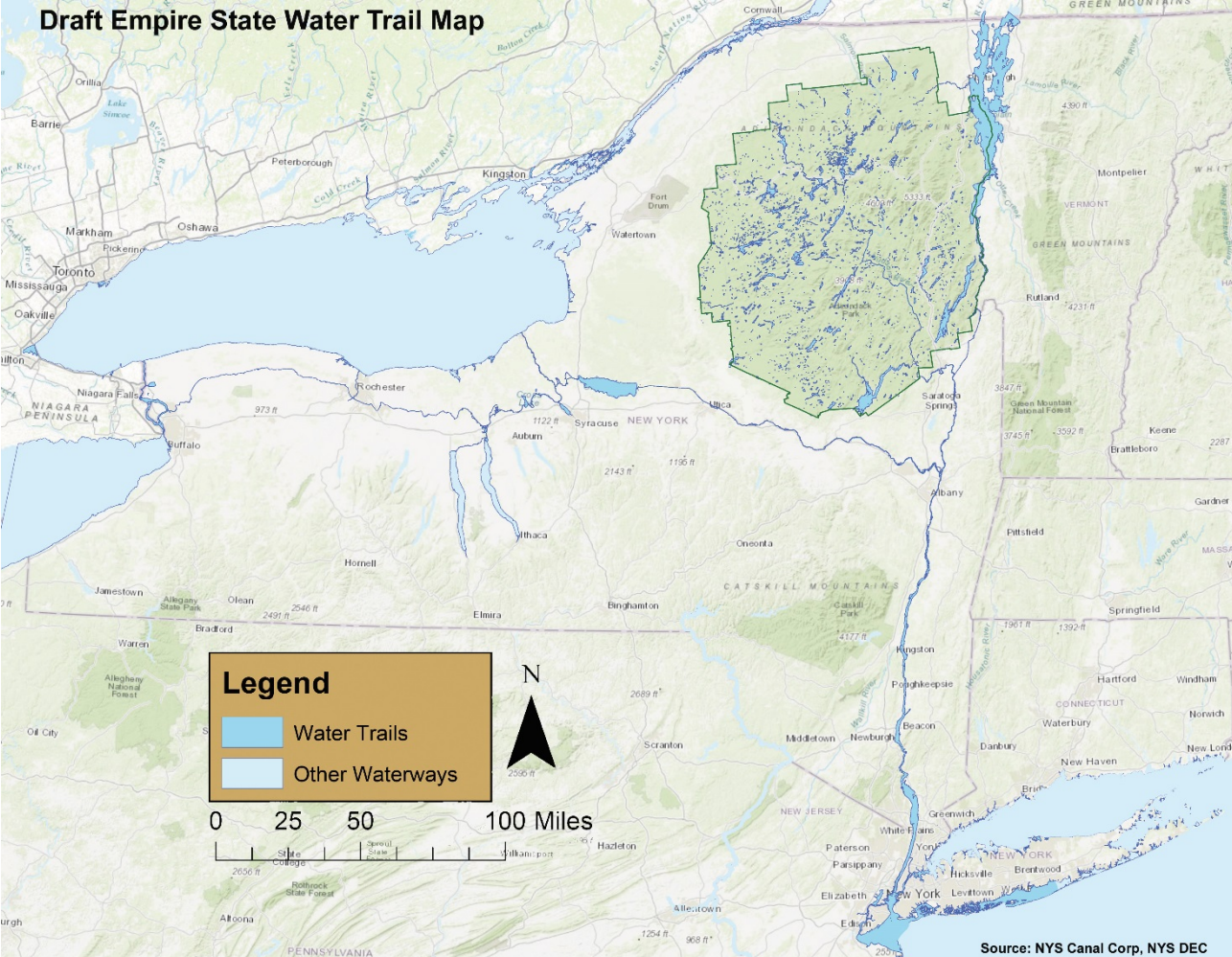
# Empire State Water Trail

## Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's 2019 State of the State

To complement the Governor's Empire State Trail, a sister water trail will be developed, linking over 1,700 miles of navigable State waterways together with consistent branding and website development.



### Draft Empire State Water Trail Map



# Empire State Water Trail



# Empire State Water Trail

- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has been managing New York's first water trail, the **Adirondack Canoe Routes** (600+ miles), since the late 1800's.
- New York currently has, 1,700+ miles of **operational, interconnected** water trails.
- These water trails are operated by a mixture of governmental and non-governmental entities.
- New York is home to two of the first nine National Water Trails designated by the U.S. Department of Interior, the **Hudson River Greenway Water Trail** (256 miles) and the **Bronx River Water Trail** (8 miles).



# NATIONAL WATER TRAILS SYSTEM



A distinctive national network of exemplary water trails which are designated by the Secretary of the Interior. The trails within the National Water Trails System are cooperatively supported and sustained.



## A National Water Trail is:

- Exemplary
- Designated by the Secretary of the Interior (or Secretary of Agriculture)
- Recognized as part of the National Trails System
- Managed by a local management entity
- Currently 21 NWTs
- [nps.gov/watertrails/](https://www.nps.gov/watertrails/)



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# Empire State Water Trail

## New York's Water Trails:

- The Lake Champlain Paddlers' Trail (120 miles) a member supported water trail from Whitehall to the Canadian border in New York and Vermont
- The NYS Canal System (450 miles) consisting of the Erie, Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca Canals
- The New York City Water Trail (160 miles) including the Bronx River Water Trail
- South Shore Blueway on Long Island (18 miles)
- The Bronx River Water Trail (8 miles)
- Hudson River Greenway Water Trail (256 miles) from Whitehall to Manhattan
- The Northern Forest Canoe Trail (147 miles in New York/743 miles total) runs from Old Forge in the Adirondacks through Quebec, Vermont, and New Hampshire, ending in Maine
- The Delaware River Water Trail (75 miles in New York) running from Hancock, NY to Trenton, NJ



# Economic & Health Benefits of Water Trails

- Economic Benefits: Maine Island Trail \$2.1 million/year (2011), eastern North Carolina \$103.9 million/year (2002), in New York City over 285,000 participated in the Downtown Boathouse's free kayaking program (1995-2012).
- Paddler Spending: 2010 Great Hudson River Paddlers spent a minimum of \$135/day/person, not including that spent on hotels/restaurants the night before launch or in communities along the way.
- Business's Supported: On the HRGWT there are at least 13 outfitters making a living as a result of guiding on and/or making retail sales to users of the Hudson River. At least 20 other outdoor recreation based businesses in three states draw customers from human powered boaters on the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail.
- Health Benefits: Weight loss, stress relief, strength gain, improved confidence from learning new skills, injury rehabilitation.





# Water Trail Economic Benefits

- **Studies: Paddlers spent \$27-\$63/ day**
  - From: **Case Studies of Water Trail Impacts on Rural Communities**, Lindsay Johnson, University of Oregon 2002
  - Food, lodging, gas, retail, recreational services
- **Job creation**
  - NFCT: \$12M and 280 jobs (740-mi trail in 5 states)
- **States: A recreation & tourism strategy**
  - Fla, Iowa, NC, Ohio, Ore, Penn, Wisc
- **Economic development tool, not a solution**





# Issue: Safety

- Stress safety in publications and on the web
- Note the natural & manmade local conditions that can be hazardous—wind & waves, lightning, heat, cold, marina and shipping traffic, locally odd currents



# Issue: Climate Change

- Sea Level Rise is Already Occurring
- Facility Design & Placement



# Issue: Accessibility

- How do we design for, & communicate, Accessibility without any standards?

## The Inclusionity Assessment Tool

User Manual



Inclusive Recreation Resource Center  
SUNY Cortland



**Hudson River  
Valley Greenway**

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