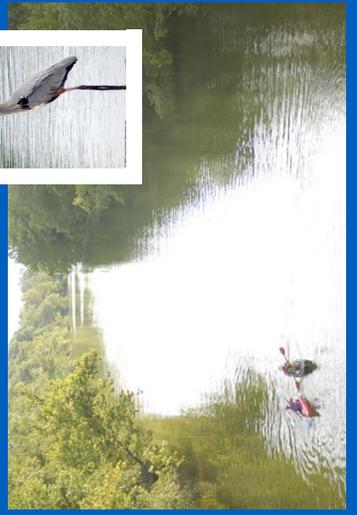


Welcome to the

James River Water Trail



A new kind of trail, featuring Springfield's beautiful river

6 miles long from Crighton Access to Springfield Lake it's happening all over the United States - people are enjoying the rivers and creeks that sustain their way of life. Whether you prefer canoeing with your family or kayaking with your buddies, the beautiful James River in Springfield, Missouri, is a wonderful resource, right in our own backyard! It's great fun to float, serves as important wildlife habitat and is a valuable public water source, vital for drinking and everyday living. We encourage you to experience it for yourself.



Ozark Mountain Paddlers

Join the Club

Founded in 1983, Ozark Mountain Paddlers is a club based in Springfield that promotes canoeing and kayaking. Their motto is "safety, education and conservation." OMP activities include regular meetings, scheduled float trips and several annual paddling clinics for all skill levels. And they're nice people too! Check out their website for info: www.ozarkmtnpaddlers.org

For info about other Springfield trails, go to www.ozarkgreenways.org (417) 864-2015

Thank You Donors & Partners of this Water Trail

- American Canoe Association
- American Whitewater/Clif Bar
- Ozark Natural Resource Foundation
- Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation
- Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
- James River Basin Partnership



Springfield's Water Trail

The beautiful James River, in Springfield, Missouri, is a perfect place to showcase this new type of recreational trail - all on the water. A water trail is a corridor traveled by boat. Whether it's in a canoe for two or a kayak for one, this 6-mile section is a terrific introduction to the Ozarks' riverways - right in town. Once you experience this wonderful river, we're sure you'll want to help protect this natural wonder for everyone to enjoy for generations to come. See ya' on the river...

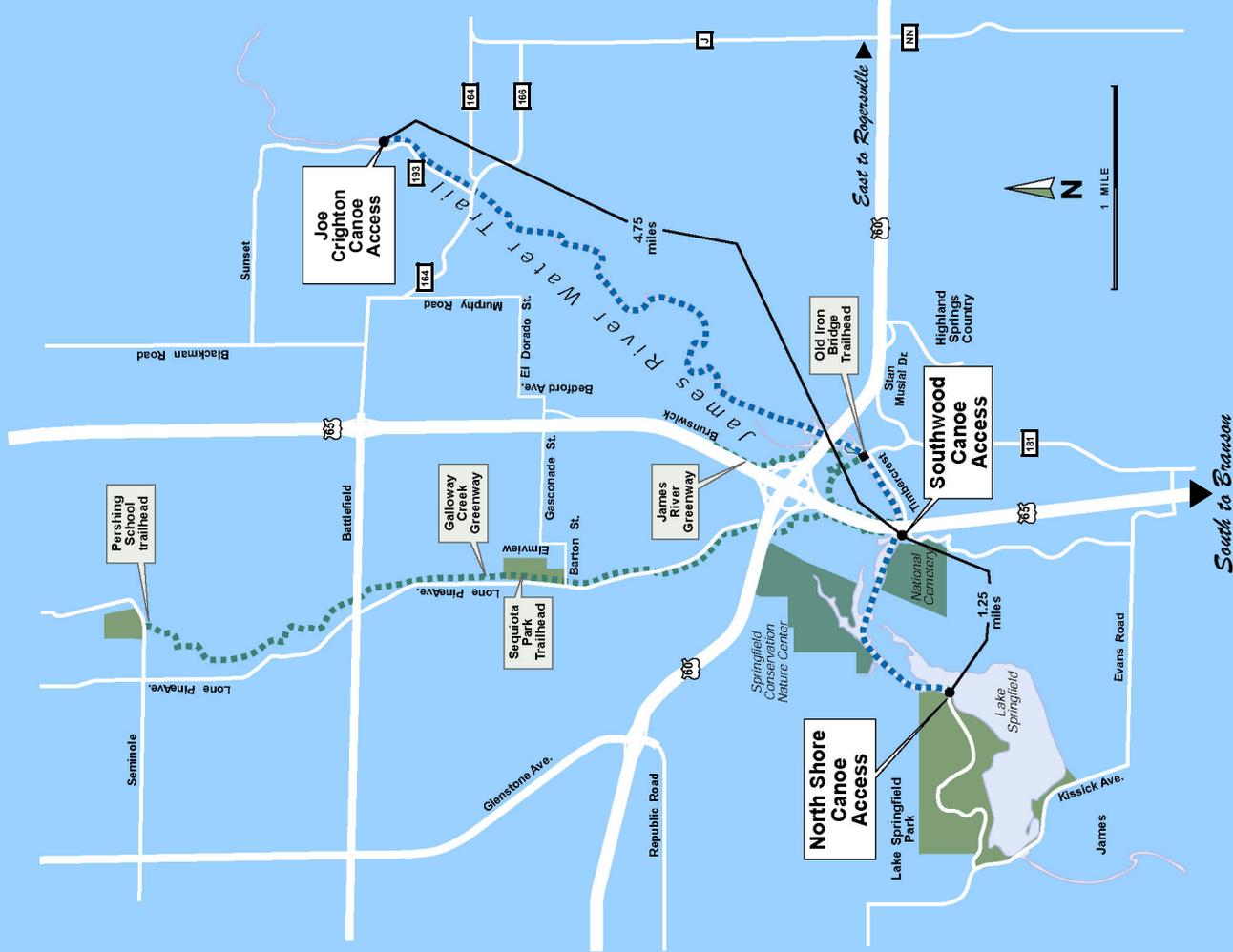
6 miles of river from Joe Crighton Access to Lake Springfield marina

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James River Water Trail



Floating 101

- Wear tennis shoes or river sandals, protect thy feet
- Bring a life vest, and wear it if needed
- Bring plastic containers only, never glass
- Drink water, don't get dehydrated
- Wear sunscreen, protect yourself from the sun
- Carry out everything you bring, use litter bags
- Watch for obstacles, learn techniques to avoid them
- Avoid the river at high water, it can be deadly
- Respect private property, don't trespass
- Respect the river and wildlife, take only memories
- Allow at least 2 hours to float all 6 miles in summer
- Learn the basics at www.ozarkmtnpaddlers.org

Rent a Canoe or Kayak

Canoes and kayaks can be rented spring through fall at Lake Springfield Park Boathouse & Marina, North Shore Access 891-1550. Check out their programs too!

Feeling Adventurous?

If you want an adventure, try combining two types of trails - biking the Galloway Creek Greenway and floating the water trail! One option is to lock up your bike at Southwood Access (where you'll plan to take out), then drive to Crighton Access to begin canoeing or kayaking. When you reach Southwood Access, take out and lock your boat up with your bike chain. Bike back to get your car (use map to the left), then drive back to get your canoe!

To find out about Park Board Outdoor Initiatives programs, including canoe activities, call 833-8647.