

## What Is a Water Trail?



An informal water trail can be anyplace where you can paddle from point A to point B. A formally designated water trail, as defined by the American Canoe Association, is a paddling route that meets the following criteria:

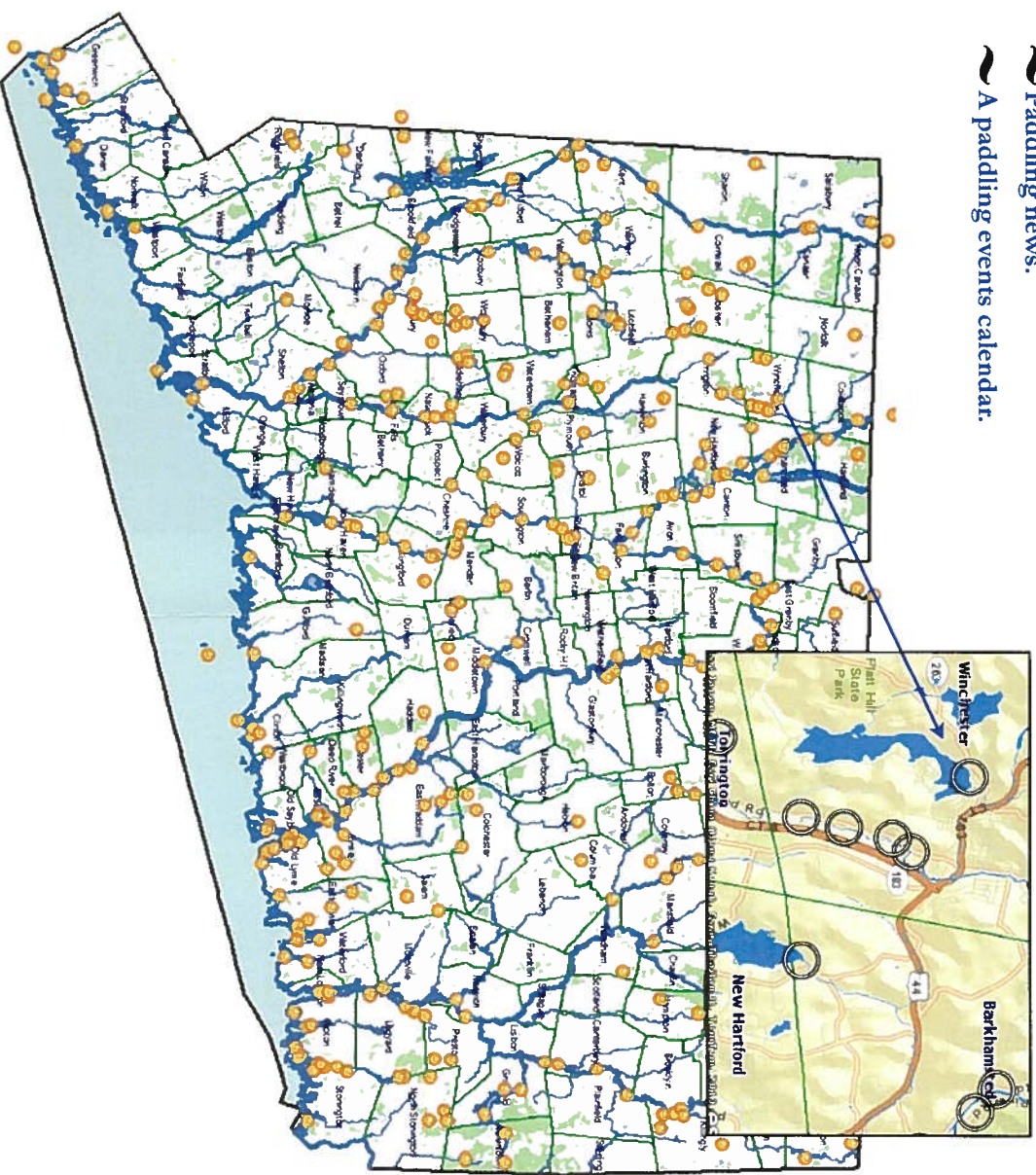
1. The trail must be a contiguous or semi-contiguous waterway or series of waterways that is open to recreational use by paddlers.
2. The trail must have public access points for paddlers.
3. The trail must be covered by a map, guide, signage, or a website that is of reasonable quality and detail and available to the public.
4. Published or printed materials for the trail (for example, a guidebook, map, sign, or website) must communicate low-impact ethics to trail users.
5. The trail must be supported and/or managed by one or more organizations.



## What You Will Find at Cwatertrails.org

Rivers Alliance's Water Trails Program is a website, [cwatertrails.org](http://cwatertrails.org), that connects you to

- ~ A map showing places to paddle in Connecticut. Clicking on any area of the map brings up a more detailed map of the area that identifies paddling access points.
- ~ Paddling tips and information, including safety, etiquette, and links to paddling groups, river gauge information, and water trail resources.
- ~ Paddling news.
- ~ A paddling events calendar.



## Please Help Support Our Water Trails Mission

The mission of [ctwatertrails.org](http://ctwatertrails.org) is to promote the use and appreciation of our state's recreational waterways by collaborating with local and regional paddling groups, publicizing existing water trails, helping in the development of new trails, promoting responsible stewardship of our waterways, fostering connections to communities, and advocating boating safety.

### What You Can Do

- Join Rivers Alliance and encourage your local group or organization to join too.
- Volunteer to be a regional water trails coordinator.
- Encourage your local group or organization to develop a new water trail.
- Volunteer to assist in the development of a new water trail.
- Let us know about new water trails or paddling access locations so we can add them to our website.
- Volunteer at or participate in a local water trails event.

## Visit [ctwatertrails.org](http://ctwatertrails.org).

[ctwatertrails.org](http://ctwatertrails.org) has been made possible with funding from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – Recreational Trails Program, an assistance program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration; the Connecticut Community Foundation; and RFL.

## What is Rivers Alliance of Connecticut?



Rivers Alliance is the only statewide nonprofit dedicated to protecting and enhancing Connecticut's rivers, streams, and watersheds. We promote and support environmentally sound state water policies, assist the state's many watershed and river groups, and educate the public about the importance of water conservation and aquatic habitats. We are a membership-based nonprofit corporation founded in 1992.

### Contact Rivers Alliance of Connecticut

P.O. Box 1797, 7 West St., Litchfield, CT 06759

860-361-9349

[www.riversalliance.org](http://www.riversalliance.org)

[rivers@riversalliance.org](mailto:rivers@riversalliance.org)

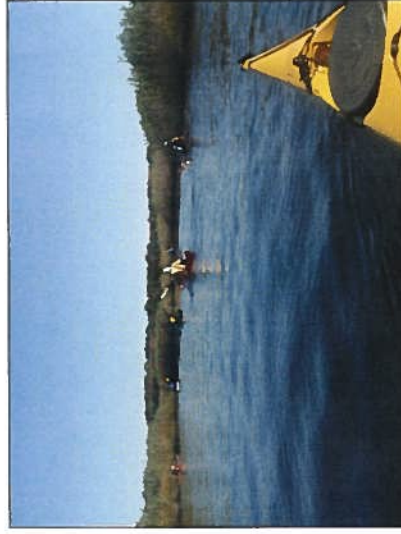
[facebook.com/RiversAllianceOfConnecticut](https://www.facebook.com/RiversAllianceOfConnecticut)

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# [ctwatertrails.org](http://ctwatertrails.org)

The Water Trails Program of  
Rivers Alliance of Connecticut



*“If you paddle it,  
you will protect it.”*