

2015 BOC SUMMER PADDLING SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, May 13th – CT River Setbacks, Hinsdale, NH (Lake Wantastiquet) (CT River Birding Trail, Southern Section). Meet at 10:30am in the Hinsdale, NH, Wal-Mart parking lot (Rte 119). We will drive a few miles east to the put-in, for a peaceful paddle and picnic lunch, off the main river, in the marshes. This often overlooked wildlife area is home to spring birds, big fish and white swans. Be sure to bring something warm to drink, and waterproof to sit on. We were snowed-out in 2002, but it's usually warm and beautiful. The water will still be COLD. (See **BRING** on back page)

SUNDAY, May 17th - Herrick's Cove, CT River, Rockingham, VT (CT River Birding Trail, Southern Section). Herrick's Cove offers a pleasant day of paddling through extraordinary marshes and coves, favorite areas for bird watchers, especially during spring and fall migrations. Expected sightings include muskrat, beaver, kingfisher, osprey, bald eagle, and songbirds filling the alder, dogwood and willow trees. We meet at 9:30am in the Hannaford's parking lot on Putney Rd, in Brattleboro, to car/boat pool. Paddlers coming from the north are welcome to meet us at the Herrick's Cove ramp/picnic area (off Rte 5, near Exit 6, I-91) at 10am. The river water will still be cool; dress accordingly. Bring something warm to drink. (See **BRING** on back page)

WEDNESDAY, June 10th – Nubanusit Lake and Spoonwood Pond, Hancock and Nelson, NH. Spoonwood Pond is about as good as it gets; quiet, secluded, inaccessible by car and off-limits to motorboats. With cool, clear water, and granite slab shoreline, it's a great place to swim, paddle, picnic and camp. The Harris Center, Kings Highway, Hancock, NH 03449 (603) 525-3394 controls the wilderness lands and campsites (in case anyone wants to connect a camping trip to this day paddle trip). We access Spoonwood Pond by launching into Nubanusit Lake, paddling northwest a short distance, to a short easy carry, up to the pond. Motorboat traffic on Nubanusit Lake can be heavy, even during the week, so we'll spend very little time on the lake. Eagle sightings are common on this trip. We'll meet at 9am, in the Hannaford's parking lot, on Putney Rd. Parking is extremely limited at the launch ramp area, so we'll car & boat pool as much as possible. Paddlers coming from NH are welcome to meet us at the boat ramp around 10am. (See **BRING** on the back page)

SATURDAY, June 13th – Deerfield and CT Rivers; Greenfield to Sunderland, MA. This 12-mile (down-river) trip starts on the Deerfield River, at the Greenfield/Deerfield, MA line. We'll meet under the Cheapside Railroad Bridge at the intersection of Routes 5 & 10 (Greenfield Rd and River Rd), in Deerfield, at 9:30am. For GPS users, the nearest address would be 730 Greenfield Rd, Deerfield, MA. Brattleboro area paddlers will meet in the Price Chopper parking lot, on Canal St, near Exit 1, I-91, at 9am. Once we arrive at the launch site, some of us will have a 30 min shuttle to Sunderland, MA, to spot cars at the take-out, before we head on down the Deerfield River. The confluence of the two rivers is about a mile downstream, in Montague, MA. Here we hug the right bank due to some potentially dangerous currents, where the two rivers merge. Once on the CT River, we start our 11-mile journey downstream, past the Sawmill River entrance, to our first landmark,

Third Island. This island is owned by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and is a known bald eagle nesting site. It's not uncommon to see more than one eagle on this trip. Since it'll still be nesting season, we are not allowed to explore the island, but we'll be able to make a brief stop. During the next section we pass several farms, and come upon Second Island. This island is a great place to stop, and swim, and enjoy some 'down' time. Continuing on down river to First Island, we get views of Mt Sugarloaf in the distance. We'll end on the left (East) shore, under the Sunderland Bridge, with Mt Sugarloaf on our right. With luck, we'll recognize some of the cars, and head back to the launch site, in Deerfield. (See **BRING** on the back page)

SUNDAY, June 14th – Somerset Reservoir, Somerset, VT. Late spring all-day paddle trip on one of Vermont's three 'Great' reservoirs (and the largest: 1,597 acres). Somerset is the perfect paddling paradise: secluded, quiet, no development, no high-speed powerboats, plenty of places to stop, picnic, swim and sun. This is the best place to lose yourself in the 'zone' of paddling. Loons and bald eagles are scheduled; have cameras and binoculars handy (but waterproofed). We'll meet at the Coffee Shop, in Wilmington, VT...across from the Flea Market (Jct Rtes 9West and 100South) at 9:30 am. (See **BRING** on the back page)

WEDNESDAY, June 17th – Grafton Pond, Grafton, NH (CT River Birding Trail, Upper Valley Section) Grafton Pond is one of the finest quiet water paddling destinations in New Hampshire. This will be our fifth trip to this quiet, well-protected, remote pond. There are plenty of islands, coves and marshes to explore. Almost the entire 235-acre pond is protected by the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. Since this will be a bit of a trek, we'll meet at 8AM, in Hannaford's parking lot, on Putney Rd, to car and boat pool. Paddlers coming from the north are welcome to join our convoy, as we drive north on I-91, or meet us at the put-in, off Grafton Pond Rd, at the dam. (From Enfield Center, NH, take Rt4A South for 2.2 miles and turn left onto Blue Jay Rd...may now be called Grafton Pond Rd. After 0.9 miles, bear right at the fork, (Grafton Pond Rd) and go another 0.9 miles. Turn right and you'll see the dam in 0.2 miles). NH is not as liberal as VT, so bring swim attire. (See **BRING** on the back page)

SUNDAY, JUNE 21st – First Day of SUMMER, Father's Day, Sunrise Paddle on Lake Whitingham (Harriman Reservoir), Wilmington, VT. This is our signature sunrise 'paddle and nosh' trip. Come enjoy the sunrise, on the FIRST DAY OF SUMMER, as we lay out a potluck breakfast, on a warm, sunny, secluded beach, before the motorboat crowd wakes up. Bring light breakfast snacks to share; OJ will be provided. Also bring something warm to drink, and whatever else makes a picnic breakfast more enjoyable. We'll meet at 5:30AM (sunrise is 5:07) at the Chelsea Royal Diner, West Brattleboro; or 6AM at the Coffee Shop in Wilmington, VT (Jct Rtes 9West and 100South). We'll be off the water in time to be back in Brattleboro for lunch and Father's Day festivities. (See **BRING** on the back page)

FRI/SAT/SUN/MON, September 11, 12, 13, 14 – Green River Reservoir Paddle-Camping trip, Eden and Hyde Park, VT.

A four-day/three-night paddle-camping trip, on another of Vermont's three 'Great' reservoirs (863 acres). This is a 'reservation only' trip, since arrangements have to be made in advance. The core paddle/camping trip will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday; however paddlers are welcome to join the core group at any point, and leave at any point. Each paddler, or paddle group, must be self-sufficient, and able to establish a campsite on their own, unless going with the core group, on Friday, Sept 11th. Weather or darkness could prevent a link-up with the core

group. "Green River Reservoir, located in north-central Vermont, remains the premier paddling destination in VT, and a real treasure for remote-camping enthusiasts.", states the 'Quiet Water' guide. Initially purchased by the Nature Conservancy, GRR is now a VT State Park, with a paddleable, undeveloped shoreline over 19 miles, 14 islands, and many marshes. Motorboats are prohibited. Moose, deer, bear, osprey, eagles and much more; GRR has it all. There are over 5,000 acres of protected land surrounding this pristine body of water. At this time of year, it should be fantastic. There is a small camping fee. More information will be sent to registrants. Registrations must be received by noon, September 4th, at Lmacyak@gmail.com. Priority to BOC members. Membership information is at www.brattleborooutingclub.org/membership

WEDNESDAY, September 16th – Tully Lake and Long Pond, Royalston, MA. These two beautiful bodies of water are connected by a mile and a half long section of the Tully River. The entire area is surrounded by a protected greenway, with hiking and mountain bike trails, waterfalls and vistas. We will paddle the river, both lakes and visit many of the islands in Tully Lake. The Tully Lake Campground will still be open, and available, in the event paddlers would like to take advantage of this option. Contact the Trustees Of Reservations, PO Box 100, Royalston, MA 01368, (978) 249-4957, or: www.tullylakecampground.org We will meet in the Wal-Mart parking lot, on Rte 119, in Hinsdale, NH at 9am. (See **BRING** on the back page)

FYI...SUNDAY, September 20th – 6th Annual CT River Paddle Battle/Canoe & Kayak Race: Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, VT. Benefit for the Bellows Falls Rotary Club Scholarship Fund. For more information go to www.ctrpaddlebattle.com This is NOT a BOC event

FYI...Friday and Saturday, September 25th and 26th – Connecticut River. 19th Annual CT River Source-to-Sea Clean-up. Contact the CT River Watershed Council for more information: (413) 772-2020, or www.ctriver.org. This is NOT a BOC event.

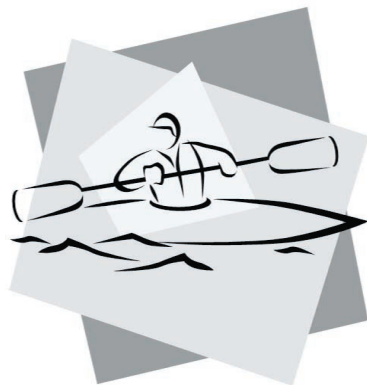
SATURDAY, September 26th- Somerset Reservoir, Somerset, VT. Come for an all-day, fall foliage paddle trip on a wonderful out-of-the-way, protected 'Great' reservoir, at a special time of the year. We almost always see loons, bald eagles and migrating waterfowl; and feel the crisp late season air. Two years ago, a pair of moose put on quite a show, and five years ago it was so warm and beautiful, nobody wanted to end the trip till dark. This could be the last swim of the season. Bring snacks, lunch and something warm to drink. We'll meet at 9am, at the Coffee Shop in Wilmington, VT (Jct of Rtes 9West and 100South). (See **BRING** on the back page)





**BRING - pick and choose from this list; add whatever else you need:
(Use this as a checklist if desired)**

- Canoe or kayak;** paddles, life jackets, sponge/bailer, bow line, whistle, etc.
- Drinking water;** always and plenty (min of 1 liter/person/hour on hot days)
- Hot Drinks;** good idea for sunrise paddle and poor/cool weather
- Bug, Lip & Sun Lotion;** always (and/or long sleeve shirt and long pants)
- Snacks;** always (also lunch for all-day trips)
- Extra clothes;** windbreaker, wind pants, warm hat, etc.
- Foul weather gear;** as needed (NOT a poncho)
- Bathing suit and towel;** optional
- Water shoes;** old sneakers or ???? - always
- Camera &/or binoculars;** in some sort of waterproof case
- Paddling/biking gloves;** optional
- Sunglasses and safety straps;** always
- Hat with long wide bill and neck strap;** always
- Any specialized medications or needs**
- Basic First Aid items;** moleskin, Band-Aids, antiseptic, etc.
- Waterproof bag to hold all of the above (except the boat)**
- Extra warm/dry clothes, towel and water;**
to be left in the car, and make sure you don't lose the key
- Whatever else you need to make paddling and a picnic more fun;**
blanket, folding chair, ground cloth, sketch pad, waterproof musical instrument, book, Frisbee, bubbles, etc. **NO BOOM BOXES**



2015 BOC Paddling Program

The Brattleboro Outing Club (BOC) will host ten (10) paddle (canoe/kayak/SUP) outings from May to September. All trips are **FREE** and **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**, and all are suitable for family canoeing, kayak touring and stand-up paddleboarding. **LIFE JACKETS (PFDs) ARE MANDATORY** ON ALL BOC PADDLE TRIPS (SUPs excepted, but encouraged).

No advance reservations are required, except for overnight camping at the Green River Reservoir, in September. Light, warm summer rain will not stop these trips; however, high winds, electrical storms or cold rain will. If in doubt, or for more information, contact Larry McIntosh (802) 254-3666 or Lmacyak@gmail.com. The club does NOT provide boats or boards. Rentals are available locally through the Vermont Canoe Touring Center, Putney Rd, Brattleboro (802) 257-5008 (discounts to BOC members); or the Green Mountain Flagship Co, Rt9, Wilmington, VT (802) 464-2975. BOC membership information is available at: www.brattleboroutingclub.org/membership.

Many of the paddle trips are described in more detail in the guidebook by Alex Wilson and John Hayes: "Quiet Water, NH & VT", 3rd Ed., published by the Appalachian Mountain Club. Detailed information regarding Connecticut River trips is found in "The CT River Boating Guide, Source to Sea", 3rd Ed., published by The Globe Pequot Press, for the CT River Watershed Council. Both referenced books are available at local book and outdoor stores, as well as most libraries. Brief descriptions of each paddle trip are attached, as well as on the BOC website above.

Several of our paddle trips are of special significance to birders, and are designated sites along the Connecticut River Birding Trail. For information on this unique trail, visit www.birdvermont@valley.net.

NOTE: Our Annual Spring Canoe and Kayak Consignment Sale/ Swap will be held on Saturday, May 16th at NOON, in Brattleboro. Location TBA. Call, email or check the BOC website for location and more information, as the date draws near.