



## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn Daily Itinerary Theme: *I Protect the Schuylkill*

*Morning launch is at 9 a.m. daily; lunch program times are approximate and can change based on river conditions and other factors.*

### **Pre-Sojourn–Friday, June 2, 2017**

#### ***4-8 p.m. Check-in at Schuylkill Haven Island Park, Schuylkill Haven***

Schuylkill Haven Island Park welcomes paddlers to the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn as they begin registering at 4 p.m. Chicken BBQ dinner will be available through Schuylkill Haven Island Park for those who order by May 31 by emailing [bookkeeper@schuylkillhaven.org](mailto:bookkeeper@schuylkillhaven.org). Ice cream will also be available at the pavilion.

### **Day 1–Saturday, June 3, 2017**

#### ***15.5 miles: Schuylkill Haven to Port Clinton***

**Lunch:** Noon at Auburn Dam. Virginia Vassalotti, Senior Schuylkill Action Network (SAN) Specialist, will discuss challenges the Schuylkill River Watershed faces, SAN's current initiatives, and introduce this year's Schuylkill River Sojourn Steward.

**Evening:** The Port Clinton Fire Company serves up a spaghetti dinner at the Fire House as a fundraiser from 4-7 p.m. The Port Clinton Transportation Museum will be open from 5-7, welcoming sojourners to visit their collection. At 7 p.m., a master gardener will discuss gardening and landscaping practices that protect rivers and streams.

### **Day 2–Sunday, June 4, 2017**

#### ***18.5 miles: Port Clinton to Jim Dietrich Park, Muhlenberg Twp.***

**Lunch:** 12:30 at Peter Yarnell Park. Singer/songwriter Haley Sheeler, long popular among sojourners, will perform her original music.

**Evening:** Sojourners camp at Jim Dietrich Park. Richard Horwitz, PhD., Drexel University Professor and Fisheries Section Leader at the Academy of Natural Sciences, will present on fish in the Schuylkill River watershed. Topics will include different species, habitats, and challenges they face in the watershed.

### **Day 3–Monday, June 5, 2017**

#### ***16.3 miles: Jim Dietrich Park to Gibraltar***

***Monday is Crazy Hat Day! Sojourners wear their craziest hats.***

**Lunch:** Noon at Reading Riverfront Park. Sojourners will learn about what happens to everything they put in the recycling bin. J.P. Mascaro & Sons will discuss their state-of-the-art recycling facility in Berks County and why it is important to recycle to protect the environment.

**Evening:** Allegheny Aqueduct Park 7:30 p.m. Sojourners will learn more about how insects and other organisms in the river are key indicators for water quality. Kent Himelright, the watershed coordinator from the Berks County Conservation District, will explain how important these little bugs are to the well-being of the environment.

**Day 4 – Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

**13.9 miles: Gibraltar to Pottstown**

**Tuesday is Bill Trace Day in memory of Bill, a long-time sojourner**

**Lunch:** Noon at Historic Morlatton Village. Alicia Sprow, Sustainability Initiatives Coordinator at Alvernia University, will discuss ways to be environmentally conscious and sustainable in everyday life to continue to protect the Schuylkill River.

**Evening:** Pottstown's Riverfront Park. The band *de Tierra Caliente*, a returning music group, will perform from 7-9pm.

**Day 5–Wednesday, June 7, 2017**

**17.8 miles: Pottstown to Mont Clare Lock 60**

**Lunch:** Noon at Victory Park in Royersford. Ryan Beltz, Executive Director of the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, will explain the mission of the conservancy as well as current projects and past successes that protect the watershed and natural resources.

**Evening:** Always a sojourn highlight for both participants and onlookers, the paddlers will end their day by locking through Lock 60, the Schuylkill Canal's only fully restored, operating lock.

The Otterbein United Methodist Church will serve a spaghetti dinner at 6 p.m. at St. Michael's Park. At 7:00 p.m., sojourners will hear from the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove Assistant Director & Education Manager Carrie Barron, and Steven Saffier, Program Manager of Bird Friendly Communities. Carrie and Steve will bring along some avian friends and discuss bird habitat, species along the river, and how water quality affects them.

**Day 6–Thursday, June 8, 2017**

**14 miles: Mont Clare to West Conshohocken**

**Lunch:** 1:00 p.m. at Valley Forge National Historical Park. Sojourners will learn about Philadelphia Water's Green City Clean Water initiative from a representative of the Philadelphia Water Department.

**Evening:** 7:30 p.m. West Conshohocken. Hear from the Schuylkill Action Network's Sojourn Steward about the water quality data collected along the river during the sojourn, and lessons learned throughout the week.

**Day 7–Friday, June 9, 2017**

**16 miles: West Conshohocken to Philadelphia**

**Lunch:** 12:15 at the Philadelphia Canoe Club. Final remarks and recognition of full-trip sojourners.

**Final take out:** Approximately 3:30 p.m. Lloyd Hall, Boathouse Row