

20th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn Daily Itinerary

Theme: *Celebrating 20 Years*

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 1, 2018

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

Schuylkill Haven Island Park welcomes paddlers to the 20th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn as they begin registering at 4 p.m. Special for the 20th anniversary, the Island Park Committee will host a Rock the Island celebration, featuring live music. Locomotive 113 will once again be on site. Chicken BBQ dinner will be available through Schuylkill Haven Island Park for those who order by May 31 by emailing bookkeeper@schuylkillhaven.org. Ice cream will also be available at the pavilion.

Day 1–Saturday, June 2, 2018

15.5 miles: Schuylkill Haven to Port Clinton

Lunch: Noon at Auburn Dam. We will introduce this year's Schuylkill River Sojourn Steward. Additional presentation TBD.

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., Schuylkill River Sojourn guide Allan Quant will talk about the early days of the Schuylkill River Sojourn, and how the sojourn has evolved over 20 years. Afterwards, long-time sojourners Carl Raring, Jim Showalter and Dave Kohler will host an evening of Sojourn Stories.

Day 2–Sunday, June 3, 2018

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. Sojourner Rob Kuhlman, who is a Schuylkill River Greenways board member and a retired geology professor, will discuss the geology of the Schuylkill River region

Day 3–Monday, June 4, 2018

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 invasive plants from Schuylkill County Conservancy Board Member Sue Reier. Sue will give a workshop on how to identify invasive plants and will also discuss changes over the past 20 years regarding invasives and how we fight them.

Evening: Allegheny Aqueduct Park 7:30 p.m. Albright Professor David Osgood will give a presentation entitled Dams Along the Schuylkill River. He'll discuss the history of Schuylkill River dams, their environmental implications, and possible future changes.

Day 4 – Tuesday, June 5, 2018

13.9 miles: Gibraltar to Pottstown

Lunch: Noon at Historic Morlatton Village. Schuylkill River Greenways Trail Manager Bob Folwell will give an overview of the Schuylkill River Trail, how it has changed over the last 20 years, and what he anticipates the next 20 years will bring.

Evening: Pottstown's Riverfront Park. We will have a special 20-year sojourn celebration, with a delicious dinner by the river followed by live music from 7-9pm.

Day 5–Wednesday, June 6, 2018

17.8 miles: Pottstown to Mont Clare Lock 60

Lunch: Noon at Victory Park in Royersford. Speaker TBD.

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 Jackson of the Stroud Research Center who will speak about the health of the river over the last 20 years, current challenges to river health, and how individuals can help protect the watershed.

Day 6–Thursday, June 7, 2018

14 miles: Mont Clare to West Conshohocken

Lunch: 1:00 p.m. at Valley Forge National Historical Park. Sojourners will hear from Josh Nims of the Schuylkill River Development Corp. He will discuss how Schuylkill Banks in Philadelphia has changed over the past 20 years, and what changes are foreseen over the next 20 years.

Evening: 7:30 p.m. West Conshohocken. Hear from the Schuylkill Action Network's Sojourn Steward about lessons learned throughout the week.

Day 7–Friday, June 8, 2018

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