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We also appreciate the promotional support from the following organizations:
American Rivers - americanrivers.org
Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources - dnr.illinois.gov
National Park Service - nps.gov
River Management Society - river-management.org
River Network - rivernetwork.org

Paddle more. Worry less.

Layout, design & photos of lower Fox River Dells, shot from Ayers Landing in Aug. 2018 - except dog paddlers, by Lynda Wallis, FreelanceIllustrations.com

Conference Hosted by:
Potawatomi Paddlers Association
P.O. Box 503
Kankakee, IL 60901

Promotes & Advocates for all Aspects of Paddling in Illinois
illinoispaddling.info

An Organization in Support of the National Water Trail Designation
kankakeeriverwatertrail.org
Conference Program

9:00 am – Networking, coffee and continental breakfast provided

9:30 am – Introductions and Conference Purpose. Tom Eckels, President, Illinois Paddling Council

9:45 am – Conference Welcome. Here, Where Water Trails Meet, Ralph Schultz, Forest Preserves of Will Co.

10:00 am – What is a Water Trail and the Paddling Environment, Creeks, Rivers, Streams and Lakes Sigrid Pilgrim, Director, Illinois Paddling Council

10:10 – Introduction to Illinois Water Trails
Lake Michigan Water Trail in Illinois - Dave Longo
Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Trails – Brief history and summary - Laura Barghusen
Pecatonica River Water Trail & Friends of the Pecatonica Foundation - Joe Ginger
Lincoln Heritage Water Trail - Scott Hewitt
Kankakee River Water Trail - Hitchcock Design Group
Wisconsin-Illinois Fox River Water Trail Initiative - Karen Miller

Noon - LUNCH BREAK and Networking

1:00 pm – Keynote address: Diane Banta,
The Importance of Water Trails: Close to Home to National Water Trails

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

1:30 pm – How to Establish a Water Trail – from A, B, C and all the way to Z
Topics include: Planning, Access, Navigability Laws, Working with Multiple Stakeholders: State, County, Local, Private Landowners

2:15 pm – Making Your Water Trail Happen – Tips and Tools
Topics include: Finding Funding, Organizing the Organization, Publicity/Publications, Promotion and Outreach

3:00 pm – Break

3:15 pm – The Living Water Trail
Topics Include: Attracting Volunteers, Creating Stewards, Operating Water Trail Basics: Signs, Camp Sites & Cleanup, Planning for Safety & Avoiding Pitfalls, Organizing & Holding Water Trail Events

4:00 pm – Celebrating the 50th Anniversary Wild and Scenic River Program, Carol Hays

4:15 pm – Q & A, Networking / Adjourn

Conference Speakers

Diane Banta, National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm

Laura Barghusen, Aquatic Ecologist, Openlands and author of A Field Guide to Fresh Water Mussels of Chicago Wilderness - openlands.org

Joe Ginger, President, Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation, pecriver.org

Carol Hays, Executive Director, Prairie Rivers Network, prairierivers.org

Scott Hays, Secretary, Upper Sangamon River Conservancy and Commissioner Champaign County Forest Preserve District sangamonriver.org

Scott Hewitt, Vice President, Lincoln Heritage Water Trail Association & VP Director of Education and Safety, Illinois Paddling Council lincolnheritagewatertrail.org

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Scott Hewitt, Vice President, Lincoln Heritage Water Trail Association & VP Director of Education and Safety, Illinois Paddling Council lincolnheritagewatertrail.org

Dave Longo, Regional Greenways & Trails Planner; Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources dnr.illinois.gov

Karen Ann Miller, Executive Planner; Kane County Development Department, Wisconsin-Illinois Fox River Water Trail Initiative foxrvecosystem.org/trail.htm

Hotel Recommendation

Wingate by Wyndham 101 McDonald Avenue, Joliet, IL 60431
Special Water Trails Conference Rate: $95 + taxes.
Call Daniel Jacobsen: 815-216-9964 for this special rate.
If you reserve directly with the hotel, you will pay more.

Registration

Name______________________________________________________________
(Print so someone other than your mother can read it.)

Company/Organization_____________________________________________________

Address_________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip___________________________________________________________

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Registration Fee: $40.00 by mail or online, $50.00 at the door day of event. Registration fee includes: Continental breakfast, box lunch and an afternoon snack. www.illinoispaddling.info/WTC - pay with PayPal - OR SEND your registration and check to: Treasurer, Illinois Paddling Council c/o Don Mueggenborg 9 E Peiffer Drive, Lemont, IL 60439