



HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Free Guided Housatonic River Trips & Presentations

Saturday, May 20 Beginner Paddle Trips

Wahconah Park, Pittsfield

Times: 10am; 11:30am and 1:30pm.

Trip Length: 1+/- miles Level: Beginner

Join HVA for 1 hour guided paddle trips along the West Branch of the Housatonic River. Canoes and equipment provided. Beginners will learn how to safely enter and exit a canoe and try out some basic strokes. Families with children 10+yrs welcome.

Saturday, June 3 Celebrate National Trails Day!

Great Barrington

Time: 9:00am – 1pm

Trip Length: 4.8 miles paddle & 2 mile hike Level: Intermediate

Enjoy a mix of experiences as we paddle from downtown Great Barrington to Kellogg Street and then continue on foot on the Appalachian Trail for a 2 mile hike over June Mountain. Transportation provided back to the Housatonic Riverwalk for free picnic lunch. Register by emailing info@gbtrails.org

Thursday, June 8 – Presentation:

Birding in the Housatonic Watershed*

Time: 6 – 7:30pm

Get ready for birding on the river with this evening slide presentation by Jonathan Pierce, an avid bird watcher. Discover which birds you will likely see along the Housatonic River and hear their songs. We'll even take a look to see which birds are out singing behind the Merwin House.



Saturday, June 10 – Paddle:

Birding on the Housatonic: Stockbridge

Time: 9am – 1pm

Trip Length: 4.5 miles Level: Beginner

Join HVA for a leisurely paddle and bird watching with avid birder Jonathan Pierce. This stretch of river is mostly, slow moving, flat water through Stockbridge. Bring your binoculars – Jonathan will help us see and identify the different birds we encounter along the river. Likely candidates include Baltimore Orioles, spotted sandpiper, bank swallows, tree swallows, eastern kingbird, yellow warblers and many more!

Tuesday, July 18 HVA Beginner's Paddle

Glendale Dam, Stockbridge

Time: 4:30pm – 7pm

Trip Length: 1-2 miles Level: Beginner

Want to paddle, but never been in a canoe? This is your chance! Learn how to safely enter and exit a canoe, the basic strokes, and how to paddle safely. Led by HVA volunteer, Charles Murray, an experienced canoeist and ACA certified instructor.

Wednesday, July 26 – Presentation:

Turtles of the Watershed*

Time: 6 – 7 pm

From the tiny, 3-inch, bog turtle to the large snapping turtles, we have six turtle species residing in our watershed. Learn more about each of the turtles, their different habitats, what is impacting our turtle populations and what we can do to help from our local reptile expert, Tom Tynning. There will be an emphasis on the wood turtle, a species of concern, which Tom has been studying for many years.

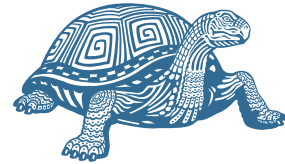
Saturday, July 29 – Paddle:

In Search of Turtles with Tom Tynning

Time: 10am – 1pm

Trip Length: 3-4 miles Level: Beginner

Paddle upstream from Woods Pond and back enjoying the Housatonic River as we search for painted and other turtle species basking along the river's edge and learn about these ancient reptiles that are struggling to maintain their populations.



Wednesday, August 16 – Paddle:

A River Exploration: Lee

Time: 3pm – 6pm

Trip Length: 6 miles Level: Intermediate

Discover the river's ecology as we paddle a beautiful stretch of the Housatonic from Lee to South Lee with views of Beartown Mountain. Some paddling experience preferable. We'll stop along the way to explore the invertebrates, look for signs of wildlife as we learn about the constantly changing 'riverscape.' Led by HVA staff.

Saturday, September 30 – Paddle:

Great Barrington – A Historical Tour

Time: 10am - 3pm

Trip Length: 6.6 miles. Level: Beginner

Learn about the history of the area as we meander our way along the river first through quickwater and riffles then paddling flat-water until we reach the Covered Bridge. Led by HVA staff.

CALL 413-298-7024 TO REGISTER
or EMAIL: PADDLE@HVATODAY.ORG

All events are **FREE!** Registration is required, space is limited. Canoes and equipment provided or register to bring your own boat. Trip information provided upon completion of registration.

*Presentations are held at
Housatonic Valley Association
Merwin House
14 Main Street
Stockbridge MA 01262

In partnership with the
Upper Housatonic Valley
National Heritage Area

