

NETAWATWEES-MUSKINGUM VALLEY HISTORIC WATER TRAIL AWARD

The NETAWATWEES-MUSKINGUM VALLEY HISTORIC WATER TRAIL was conceived to celebrate the rich historic environment along the Muskingum River and its tributaries. The award is meant as a challenge to youth of all ages to take ownership of this history and preserve it for future generations. It is named after Chief Netawatwees of the Delaware tribe. As their Principal Chief he presided over the tribe's largest village at Coshocton. He led his people to an acceptance of Christianity and sought peaceful coexistence with the white settlers moving over the Appalachians into the Ohio Country.

You are able to travel by canoe, canal boat, kayak, raft, sternwheeler, or on foot in the Valley of the Muskingum River along routes used by man since prehistoric times to the present. From the Ohio homeland of the Delaware Indian tribe at Coshocton, to the earliest European settlement in the Ohio country at Marietta; the Muskingum River has been the transportation artery that carried the commercial blood of the Ohio heartland to the World.

The Boy Scouts of America, Historic Trails Award is administered by the Muskingum Valley Council under the Historic Trails Program of the BSA. To earn this award you must plan and participate in a unit historic activity. A unit historic activity requires unit members to:

1. Locate a historic trail or site and study information relating to it.
2. Hike, canoe, kayak, canal boat, sternwheeler, AND/OR camp 2 days and 1 night along or in the vicinity of the site.
3. The preferred activity is to cooperate with an adult group (park service, historical society, reenactment organizers) to plan and stage an historical pageant, ceremony, or other public event related to this trail or site. OR cooperate with an adult group such as an historic society to restore and mark all or part of the trail or site. Be sure to check with the park, wilderness area or state Department of Natural Resources before doing any projects. The project should be large enough to merit coverage in your local newspaper.

Your unit leader must then file the Historic Trails Application with the Muskingum Valley Council, 734 Moorehead Avenue, Zanesville, OH 43701. Telephone: (740)453-0571.

While the Netawatwees-Muskingum Valley Historic Water Trail Award can be earned anywhere within the watershed of the Muskingum River, the central focus of the trail is from the confluence of the Walhonding River and the Tuscararas River at Coshocton, OH to form the Muskingum River. The Muskingum River State Park extends the river's entire length from Coshocton, OH to the Ohio River at Marietta, OH.

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THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRAIL

The Muskingum River is the longest navigable river that lies completely in Ohio. It flows from the confluence of the Walhonding and the Tuscarawas Rivers in Coshocton through Coshocton, Muskingum, Morgan & Washington Counties to the Ohio River at Marietta. Two hundred years ago the river was a pathway, carrying settlers into frontier Ohio and the Northwest Territories. Then it's role changed into a super-highway carrying the produce of Ohio's heartland to the world and bringing tools and finished goods in. The next stage of development is still evident with its 10 hand-operated wooden locks. Developed in the early 1800's, the lock system allowed year round steamboat access to Dresden and the lock system is still in service today. This unique lock and dam system has been designated a National Civil Engineering Landmark, registered on the National Register of Historic Places, and is the nation's first National Historic Navigation District.

At Coshocton the river was joined with the Ohio & Erie Canal system to move people and goods from Lake Erie to the Ohio River and from there to the world. Remnants of the canal system are still functioning today and that era can be visited in the Coshocton area at Roscoe Village and the Monticello III canal boat at Lake Park.

Marietta lies at the other end of the Muskingum River and is where the people of the Muskingum Valley met the world. Founded in 1788 this was the first permanent settlement in the Northwest Territories. Named after the French Queen Marie Antoinette to honor France's contribution to our victory in the Revolutionary War, Marietta quickly became a center of commerce. It played a significant part in the settling of the Ohio Territory. Many museums and historical sites in the area document those formative years.

THINGS TO SEE, DO AND VISIT - NORTH TO SOUTH

1. Monticello III Canal boat -
2. Roscoe Village – camping at Coschocton – Lake Park or nearby at Muskingum Valley Scout Reservation.
3. Zanesville (www.visitzanesville.com)
 - a. Sternwheeler “Lorena” river cruises
 - b. Y-Bridge
 - c. Double Locks
 - d. Turntable Railroad bridge

NETAWATWEES-MUSKINGUM VALLEY HISTORIC WATER TRAIL AWARD

4. Multi-day River Trip – contact the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (www.ohiodnr.com) and Muskingum River State Park (http://www.stateparks.com/muskingum_river_parkway.html) for information regarding service projects & lock fees. They have a CD history of Muskingum River lock by lock. They also have a booklet about the river and the things to see along the way. Camping at the locks is free for thru boaters
5. Marietta
 - a. Campus Martius Museum
 - b. Sternwheeler River trip
 - c. Sternwheeler Festival annually-“the weekend after LABOR DAY”

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES FOR SCOUTING PROGRAMS

Tiger Cubs – Tour museum, boat ride, participate in festival

Cub Scouts – Walking tour of historic town, tour museum, boat ride, service project at festival.

Boy Scouts – Multi-day river trip, go through one or more of the locks, camp at lock-side area, service project/festival participation

Venture Scouts – Multi-day river trip, go through locks & portage around locks, camp at locks and on river bank areas, service project/festival participation

Varsity Scout – Travel length of river camping multiple nights at locks and on river, portage, and go through locks, service project/festival participation

Family – All or part of the above depending on abilities of parents & children

NETAWATWEES-MUSKINGUM VALLEY HISTORIC WATER TRAIL AWARD

EXAMPLES:

Tiger/Cub – Day 1-Roscoe Village Scout Patch Program – Learn about the importance of Ohio's canal system as you experience a fun day at Historic Roscoe Village. With the assistance of costumed interpreters and crafters, history comes alive as you visit our Living History exhibits, catch a glimpse of our craft demonstrations and hear about daily life in the 1800's.

Camp overnight at Coshocton City Park Campground.

Day 2 – Tour the Park District sights and take the Canal Boat ride on the Monticello III. This horse-drawn canal boat replica takes visitors on a 40 minute ride into Ohio's colorful past with a narrated glimpse of a 11 ½ mile restored section of the original Ohio-Erie Canal.

Participate in a flag raising ceremony in the Village or Parade you Pack colors down Whitewoman Street or any of an infinite number of activities you can arrange with the Education Manager.

BOY SCOUT TROOP: A scout troop from upstream (Knox Co.) wanted to see where their river ran. They traced it down to Mohawk Dam at Nellie, OH. The next year they put in there and a week later they took out at the boat ramp in Marietta on the Ohio River. They contacted the State Park and made arrangements for their boat permits (2-canoes&4-kayak); they also proposed a river clean up as their service project. They purchased the CD that gives a lock by lock history of the River and read all the Historic Markers at each of the locks. They camped at the locks each night and purchased food from the local grocery stores as they went through the river towns. When they arrived at Marietta they celebrated by putting on their Class A uniforms and having the lunch buffet at the Lafayette Hotel. 127 mi. paddling challenge that they will never forget.

INTERNET SITES:

www.ohiodnr.com- Ohio Department of Natural Resources, (740)962-6608,-The historic 112 mi. Muskingum River became the state's second water trail. The first being the Kokosing, which is a major western tributary of the Muskingum. These designated water trails provide paddlers with safe and convenient access points to enjoy the state's thousands of miles of rivers and streams.

NETAWATWEES-MUSKINGUM VALLEY HISTORIC WATER TRAIL AWARD

www.roscoevillage.com –Roscoe Village,(740)-622-9310,or1-800-877-1830, 600 North Whitewoman Street, Coshocton, OH 43812, Once a bustling port on the Ohio& Erie Canal, Historic Roscoe Village now mixes the charm and history of the 1800's with plenty of fun and adventure for today! When you call the Education Manager to book your visit to the Village, mention your desire to participate in the Scout Patch Program. Limited grant monies are available for Ohio Scout groups.

www.coshoctonlakepark.com – Coshocton City & County Park District, 23253 State Route 83 North,Coshocton, OH 43812 – (740)622-7528. Camping and a horse-drawn canal boat makes Lake Park at Coshocton the perfect place to live the history of the Canal Era in Ohio. A 40 minute ride into the past on an 11 ½ mile restored section of the original Ohio & Erie Canal. Monticello III is in daily operation from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Group rates are available.

www.visitzanesville.com – Sternwheeler Lorena, Zane's Landing Park, Zanesville, OH 43701, (740) 455- 8282, 1-800-743-2303. The sternwheeler Lorena is moored at Zane's Landing Park at the west end of Market Street in downtown Zanesville and offers excursions on the Muskingum River. This is just upstream of the Canal entrance to the double locks and on the same side of the river. This would be an excellent way for Tigers and Cubs to get on the river and easily remain within the "Guide to Safe Scouting".

www.muskingumriverstatepark

www.mariettaohio.org- Discover our rich heritage through our museums and landmarks celebrating the first permanent organized settlement in the Northwest Territory. Watch skilled craftsmen and women handcraft glass using century-old techniques and see talented artists bring heirloom collectible dolls to life. Leisurely cruise the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers on a sternwheeler, take a narrated trolley tour, and enjoy free concerts in historic downtown Marietta.

www.lafayettehotel.com – The Gun Room (Lafayette Hotel) 101 Front Street, Marietta, OH, 45750, (740) 373-5522. This riverboat décor dining venue makes the perfect topper for any paddling experience. The luncheon buffet is reasonably priced and can't be beat for filling hungry boys up after multiple days of their own riverbank cooking. It is located just a boat ramp away from the Ohio River, immediately upstream from the confluence of the Muskingum & Ohio Rivers.