

21st Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn Daily Itinerary

Theme: *Our Working River*

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, May 31, 2019

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

Schuylkill Haven Island Park welcomes paddlers to the 21st Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn as they begin registration at 4 p.m. The Island Park Committee will host a sojourn kickoff celebration featuring live music from the band CHASE. Locomotive 113 will once again be on site. Chicken BBQ dinners will be available through Schuylkill Haven Island Park for those who order by May 30 by emailing bookkeeper@schuylkillhaven.org. The dinners are \$8.50 each. Ice cream will also be available at the pavilion.

Day 1–Saturday, June 1, 2019

15.5 miles: Schuylkill Haven to Port Clinton

Lunch: Noon at Auburn Dam. We will introduce this year's Schuylkill River Sojourn Steward who will be researching industrial historic sites along the river. Bert Evans of Evans Transportation will give a presentation about the history of the Walkin Shoe Company which was founded in 1887. The building, located in Schuylkill Haven, is now the Walk In Art Center, a nonprofit organization.

Evening: The Port Clinton Fire Company serves up a spaghetti dinner at the Fire House as a fundraiser from 4-7 p.m. At 7 p.m., Sam Herb of the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum will talk about the history of the railroad and how it contributed to industry in the Schuylkill Valley Region. Also giving a presentation is Crystal Arndt of the Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad about the historic railroad company headquartered in Port Clinton, which began operations in 1983.

Day 2–Sunday, June 2, 2019

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

Lunch: 12:30 at Peter Yarnell Park. Singer/songwriter Haley Sheeler, a longtime and popular presence among sojourners, will perform her original music. During a "Batteries and Brooms" presentation, sojourners will learn about Hamburg's Price Battery Factory and two broom factories which claim to have produced more brooms than anywhere else in the world.

Evening: Sojourners camp at Jim Dietrich Park. Sojourners will enjoy Sojourn Game Night with board games, lawn games and more. An all-new Schuylkill River Trivia Challenge will have questions about the working river, the sojourn, and the heritage area. Fantastic prizes will be awarded to the top scorers of the Trivia Challenge.

Day 3–Monday, June 3, 2019

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 Ferdinand Thun and Henry Janssen's contribution to the history of the Schuylkill River Valley Region through their textile business and extraordinary philanthropy. Later that afternoon, there will be a dedication in honor of long-time sojourner Pat Reilly at Pinning Rock.

Evening: Allegheny Aqueduct Park 7:30 p.m. Edie Shean-Hammond, Schuylkill River Greenways board member and former superintendent of the Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site, will give a presentation on regional iron furnaces and their impact on the Industrial Revolution. The talk will be followed by a hands-on activity.

Day 4 – Tuesday, June 4, 2019

13.9 miles: Gibraltar to Pottstown

Lunch: Noon at Historic Morlatton Village. There will be a presentation about the agricultural industry from the Berks Agriculture Resource Network (B.A.R.N.).

Evening: Pottstown's Riverfront Park. Sojourners will have a delicious dinner by the river. David Kerns, president of the Pottstown Historical Society, will give a presentation on the wide variety of industry in the borough over the years. There will be live music 7–9 p.m. from The Whiskeyhickon Boys.

Day 5–Wednesday, June 5, 2019

17.8 miles: Pottstown to Mont Clare Lock 60

Lunch: Noon at Victory Park in Royersford. Barbara Cohen of the Schuylkill River Heritage Center will give a presentation on the history of the Majolica Factory and history in Phoenixville.

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 enjoy a Movie Night at the pavilion with popcorn. The movie will be "Tapped," a documentary about the impact of bottled water on pollution, climate change and our health.

Day 6–Thursday, June 6, 2019

14 miles: Mont Clare to West Conshohocken

Lunch: 1:00 p.m. at Valley Forge National Historical Park. Sojourners will learn about the industrial history of Valley Forge and how it was used to create iron products from David Lawrence of the National Park Service.

Evening: 7:30 p.m. West Conshohocken. The Schuylkill Action Network's Sojourn Steward will give a review of the week about their experience and findings.

Day 7–Friday, June 7, 2019

16 miles: West Conshohocken to Philadelphia

Lunch: 12:15 at the Philadelphia Canoe Club. A presentation by the Philadelphia Water Department will include information about present and future projects of the historic Manayunk Canal which opened in 1819. Final remarks and recognition of full-trip

sojourners.

Final take out: Approximately 3:30 p.m. West Park Access (known as the dragon boat launch).