



# COAL RIVER COUNTRY WATER TRAIL®

## Trips, boat launches and fishing information

### TRAIL SEGMENTS

#### Coal River Trips C1, C2, C3

##### Trip C-1 Length: 6.75 miles

This trip begins at Lions Park in Alum Creek, Lincoln County (Route 8) and continues to Upper Falls, Tornado, Kanawha County (Route 9/1). Public access is at Meadowood Park, Dangler at dam. **Put-in** is at Lions Park, Lincoln County Route 8. **Second put-in** is at Lock 4 Launch - 38° 17' 54" / 81° 48' 36" Take-out at bridge near Meadowood Park - 38° 20' 34" / 81° 50' 26" Portage is now available at dam.

##### Trip C-2 Length: 6 miles

This trip begins at the Public access behind playground at Meadowood, continuing 6 miles to upper shoals of the Lower Falls area on the west side of the Coal River. **Put-in**, Meadowood Park, Tornado. 38° 20' 34" / 81° 50' 26" Take-out, Lower Falls. 38° 22' 45" / 81° 51' 26"

##### Trip C-3 Length: 6 miles

This trip begins at Lower Falls Kanawha County (Route 60/2) and continues to St. Albans. Take out site is near Gateway Shopping Center in St. Albans, in the area adjacent to the Rt. 60 bridge. **Put-in**, Lower Falls. 38° 22' 45" / 81° 51' 26" Take-out, Gateway Shopping Center. 38° 23' 29" / 81° 50' 29"

#### Big Coal River Trips B1, B2, B3, B4, B5

##### Trip B-1 Length: 11 miles

This trip starts at the Whitesville water intake and continues to the Orgas Community Center on WV Route 3. **Put-in**, Whitesville behind funeral home. 37° 58' 18" / 81° 31' 40" Take-out, Orgas, Community Center. 38° 03' 52" / 81° 34' 31"

##### Trip B-2 Length: 13.25 miles or 10.25 miles

This trip begins at Orgas Community Center and continues to John Slack Park, Racine - WV Route 3. 11 mile trip may be shortened to 10.25 miles by put in at Boone County Transfer Station. **Put-in** is at Orgas, JM Protan Community Center. 38° 03' 52" / 81° 34' 31" Alternate put-in Fosterville dog pound - 38° 04' 35" / 81° 35' 59" Take-out is at John Slack Park, Racine. 38° 08' 14" / 81° 39' 02"

##### Trip B-3 Length: 10.5 miles or 7 miles

This trip begins at John Slack Park, Racine, WV Route 3 and continues to Dartmouth Ballpark, Boone County, Route 1/1. The trip may be shortened to 7 miles by a new put-in at Peytona old Route 3 bridge. **Put-in** is at John Slack Park, Racine. 38° 08' 14" / 81° 39' 02" Alternate put-in, Peytona old Rt.3 bridge. 38° 08' 22" / 81° 41' 00" Take-out is at Dartmouth Ballpark, Boone County Rt. 1-1. 38° 11' 48" / 81° 43' 38"

##### Trip B-4 Length: 6.5 miles

This trip begins at Dartmouth Park, Boone County Route 1/1 and continues to Sproul Road Launch. Caution at Briar Creek trestle - left line is dangerous. Portage right.

##### Trip B-5 Length: 4 or 6 miles

This trip begins at the community of Sproul and continues 4 miles to the Lock 4 Launch or 6 miles to Alum Creek Lions Club Park take-out. **Put-in**, Sproul Launch 38° 14' 46" / 81° 46' 44" Take-out, Sproul Launch via Corridor G to County Rt. 18 (Brounland Rd. to Sproul Rd.)

##### Little Coal River Trips L1, L2, L3, L4

##### Trip L-1 Length: 9.5 miles

This trip begins at Madison City Park, WV Route 17 and continues 9.5 miles to Donald R. Kuhn Juvenile Center on Corridor G (U.S. Rt. 119). It may be shortened to 6 miles by putting in at the Danville City Launch. **Put-in** is at Madison City Park - 38° 03' 32" / 81° 49' 28" Alternate put in, Danville City Launch - 38° 05' 11" / 81° 50' 30" Take-out, Donald R. Kuhn Juvenile Center - 38° 08' 09" / 81° 83' 40"

##### Trip L-2 Length: 7 miles

This trip begins at Donald R. Kuhn Juvenile Center and continues to Little Coal River Campground U.S. Route 119 to Boone County Water Park, U.S. Route 119 drift is 5 or 7 miles depending on which side of the Waterways Park you take out. **Put-in** at the Donald Kuhn Juvenile Center - 38° 08' 12" / 81° 50' 12" Take-out at the Boone County Water Park - 38° 10' 52" / 81° 50' 54"

##### Trip L-2-A Hatfield - McCoy Trails Take-out

Begins three miles from Trip L-2 put-in or take-out.

##### Trip L-3 Length: 12 miles

This trip begins at the Boone County Water Park (north access ramp in the campground area) and continues along U.S. Route 119 to underneath Corridor G bridge (unimproved access). It is a 4 to 5 hour float of approximately 15 miles. **Put-in** is at Boone County Water Park north - 38° 10' 52" / 81° 50' 54" Take-out is at Corridor G (U.S. Route 119) - 38° 15' 57" / 81° 49' 16"

##### Trip L-4 Length: 3 miles

This trip begins at Corridor G bridge at U.S. Route 119 and continues to Lions Park, Alum Creek - Lincoln County Route 8. **Put-in** is at Corridor G at U.S. Rt. 119. **Second put-in** is at Lock 4 Launch - 2 miles to Alum Creek put-in - 38° 15' 57" / 81° 49' 16" 1st take-out, Lock 4 - one mile trip. 2nd take-out Lions Club - three miles - 38° 17' 54" / 81° 48' 36"

##### Pond Fork Trail PF1, PF2 and PF3

##### Trip PF-1 Length: 4.5 miles

This trip begins at Jack's Branch (along WV 85 2.75 miles north of Van) and continues to Griffith's Branch just south of Uneeda. **Put-in** is at Jack's Branch - 37° 59' 38" / 81° 44' 17" Take-out is at Griffith's Branch - 38° 01' 34" / 81° 46' 31"

##### Trip PF-2 Length: 4.0 miles

This trip begins at Griffith's Branch, south of Uneeda, and ends at the Madison Recreation Center (Hatfield and McCoy Trail Head office). **Put-in** is at Griffith's Branch - 38° 01' 34" / 81° 46' 31" Take-out is at Madison Recreation Center - 38° 03' 19" / 81° 49' 00"

##### Trip PF-3 Length: .75 miles

This trip begins at the Madison Recreation Center (Hatfield-McCoy Trail Head office) on Old River Road in Madison and ends at Madison City Park (L-1 of Coal River Water Trail) **Put-in** is at Madison Recreation Center - 38° 03' 19" / 81° 49' 00" Take-out is at 38° 03' 32" / 81° 49' 00" (.6 miles Madison City Park)

#### COAL RIVER GROUP, INC.

P.O. Box 363, St. Albans, WV 25177

No cell service is available in Big Coal River and upper Little Coal River areas.

Limited cell service is available in the Alum Creek region.

### River/Environment

The rivers provide an exciting number of easy to negotiate rapids, with the exception of the Coal River's Upper Falls due to the existing dam and dangerous sluice way. The Upper Falls are Class 2 rapids, but can be treacherous for beginners. Take caution at both locations.

The rivers are generally clean and mostly free of dangerous pollutants, but they are rivers and e-coli counts have been high at various times on the lower Coal River. The rivers reach flood stage very quickly after heavy rains and can rise as high as 16 feet above normal levels in just a few hours. Check local weather when planning a trip and look up recommended river depth for trips on the Coal River Group website: [www.coalrivergroup.com](http://www.coalrivergroup.com)

### Communities and Parking

The Coal River Water Trail is new to the communities in the region. Please be respectful of the local residents and their culture and customs. The region is the largest coal producing area in West Virginia and the coal mining business is important to the area. Be careful and watch for large coal trucks on the access roads to the trail. Park only in public parking areas or right-of-ways.

Use caution when leaving a vehicle for long periods of time in isolated areas. Plan ahead for trips and have a pickup car available to return you to your put in site. There are very few access roads between public put-in sites.



### INDEX

- LOCK NUMBER
- MILEAGE
- LAUNCH/PUT-IN
- HIGHWAY
- RIVER
- STREAM/CREEK
- RIVER TRAIL SECTIONS C - L - B
- BEST FISHING
- PUT-IN NAME
- INFORMATION NOTICE - SEE EXAMPLE BELOW



GAME FISH Found in the Coal Rivers and smaller nearby streams



COAL RIVER GROUP  
 P.O. Box 363, St. Albans, WV 25177  
 (304) 722-3055 / www.coalrivergroup.com  
 Facebook/Instagram - Coal River Water Trail  
 www.coalriverwatertrail.org



**COAL RIVER KAYAK RENTALS**

Coal River Kayak offers a wonderful opportunity to spend a day floating down the lazy river in a variety of safe and well-maintained kayaks and canoes. Trips with full livery services, boats and shuttle service are available for paddlers.

Rates: Full Service  
 Single Kayak.....\$70 per day  
 Tandem Kayak.....\$125 per day  
 Paddleboards.....\$75 per day  
 Add \$25 for Shuttle Service  
 Call 304-722-3055 for off-site rental of boats and livery services, guides and food service. Reservations are required. Call or visit our web site at [www.coalriverkayak.com](http://www.coalriverkayak.com) Visit Coal River Kayak Rentals on facebook and search the region on google maps.

# COAL RIVER COUNTRY TRAILS

**JOIN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA'S FLATWATER HEAVEN WATER TRAIL ADVENTURE!**



COAL RIVER GROUP  
 181 PETTIGREW LANE, TORNADO, WEST VIRGINIA 25202  
 304) 722-3055  
 WWW.COALRIVERTRAIL.ORG

CALL OR GO ONLINE FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE TOUR DE COAL EVENT OR KEVIN'S LAZY RIVER ADVENTURE

Take a 10.5 MILE FLOAT TRIP DOWN THE HISTORIC BIG COAL RIVER

Be Considerate of others. Keep noises to a minimum.  
 Minimize campfires.  
 Respect all wildlife. Respect private property.  
 Properly dispose of waste you can't pack out.  
 Pack it in, Pack it out - leave the area clean of waste.  
 Use existing trails that won't suffer damaged by your stay.  
 Plan ahead and prepare for rain or emergencies.  
 PACK IT IN  
 PACK IT OUT  
 No Garbage Collection in this Area



## MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US IN THE BIGGEST FLATWATER KAYAKING EVENT IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY!

Boone County's John Slack Park in Racine offers public boat access, picnic shelters and a public swimming pool. The Little Coal River begins near Madison, home of the historic Boone County Courthouse and Coal Museum. Follow WV Route 85 through the community of Danville to the junction of U.S. Route 119 (Corridor G). The river flows north along the Corridor and passes the Boone County Water Park, the trail head for the Hatfield and McCoy ATV Center and joins the Big Coal River at Alum Creek River, which extends from Alum Creek to the Kanawha River at St. Albans. The river and County Rt. 3 (Coal River Road) pass four sites of the historic 1855 locks and dam. The Little and Big Coal Rivers join to create the Coal River, flowing approximately 18 miles to St. Albans, where it joins the Kanawha River. Prepare to be amazed and exhilarated by mountains, lush forests and natural rock formations throughout the trail. Enjoy visiting areas that few have traveled since the early impact of the region's coal mining industry. The Big Coal River flows north from Whitesville to Peytona, parallel to Route 3. Visit beautiful Draydy Falls and imagine 100-foot long riverboats pushing coal barges through the locks at the Peytona Bridge in 1855.

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**Boats and Safety** The Big and Little Coal Rivers have many shallow rapids, requiring canoe or kayak. Look out for strainers in the many sharp turns of the rivers and for snags in excess of 6 feet, some navigable by motorcraft. Tubes are not recommended. Normal boat safety rules should be followed at all times. A river is a creation of nature and unprotected, so be prepared for encounters with snakes, bears, deer and other wildlife, plus natural and man-made hazards.

**About the Trail** The Trail Guide will inform you on launch locations, trip planning, tips for river safety and equipment requirements. Remember that the Big and Little Coal Rivers flow through extremely remote areas with no roads or cell phone service. The Coal River flows through the largest town in the Coal River watershed. This his-

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For a more detailed view of the Coal River area, see the Trail Map on the other side of this brochure.

## TOUR SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA AND THE COAL RIVERS BY BOAT OR CAR!

## JOIN THE COAL RIVER COUNTRY WATER TRAIL ADVENTURE!

**EIGHTY-EIGHT MILES OF RIVER TO EXPLORE!**

The Coal River (Walhonde) Water Trail is bound to be an adventure regardless of what section you choose to float your kayak, canoe or rental. There are over 88 miles of river to explore and approximately 20 locations with small boat launches available (constructed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources). You and your friends or family can choose any of several boat trip lengths.

The Coal Rivers (the Big and Little Coal Rivers and the larger Coal River) have served the southern West Virginia region as a transportation network, a source of drinking water, a center for recreational swimming, fishing and boating for many a year.

The non-profit Coal River Group was formed in 2004 by concerned local citizens with the goal of "Bringing Life Back to the Coal Rivers". The Coal River Water Trail is a great example of how effective the group has been.

### BRINGING LIFE BACK TO THE COAL RIVERS!

Recreation development, preservation of river history, and regular cleanup programs in three counties have helped establish the Coal River Group as a major factor in improving the future of the entire 850-square mile Coal River watershed.

*Donations are graciously accepted to help with trail maintenance and river restoration programs. To find out more about us or to contact us, go to [www.coalrivergroup.com](http://www.coalrivergroup.com) or [www.coalriverwatertrail.org](http://www.coalriverwatertrail.org)*

Look for Coal River Water Trail in Facebook/Instagram.



## FISHING ADVENTURE!

Thanks to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Fisheries Management Programs, the Coal River watershed offers diverse angling opportunities - spotted and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, striped, walleye and muskie. To obtain a West Virginia fishing license, call the Division of Natural Resources at (304) 558-2758, email [www.wvdnr.org](http://www.wvdnr.org) or write to: WVDNR at Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Room 624, Charleston, WV 25305.

For Guided Fishing, call the Adventure line at 304-722-3055



## TRAVEL GUIDE AND SERVICES

We hope you enjoy visiting the Coal River Water Trail region. Please plan to visit the nearby Coal Museum, State Capitol and the many tourist sites in the area.

For INFO on Guided Fishing and Tours or SHUTTLE services call the Adventure line at 304-722-3055.

**Coal River Kayak & Canoe Rental**  
 Coal River Kayak offers rental boats and livery services, providing shuttles and Grab and Go's. From 9:00am to 4:00pm - Reservations required. Contact: 304-722-3055

**Little Coal River Campground, LLC**  
 Campground and Rentals Phone: (304) 369-1951  
 GPS 38° 11' 00.28" / 81° 51' 00.47"  
 101 Tunnel Road, Julian, WV

**Big Earl's Camping**  
 Adams Road Exit off Corridor G (US 111), 1/2 miles south of Waterways Park (304) 369-1290 [www.bigearlscampground.com](http://www.bigearlscampground.com)

**Mountain Mama Lodging**  
 Looking for a great place to stay when riding the Hatfield McCoy Trails or Coal River kayaking adventure? 1 Camp Creek Road, Julian, WV 25529 Phone: 304 688-4004 [www.mountainmamalodging.com](http://www.mountainmamalodging.com)

**Bituminous Coal Heritage Foundation Museum**  
 347 Main Street, Madison, WV  
 The museum is open Mon/Thur/Fri from 12:00 to 6:00  
 Phone: (304) 369-9118

**Claudia L. Workman Wildlife Education Center**  
 Forks of Coal State Natural Area Foundation  
 50 Rocky Branch Road, Alum Creek, WV 25003  
[www.forkscoalfoundation.com](http://www.forkscoalfoundation.com)



**Hatfields and McCoys Trail** [www.Trailsheaven.com](http://www.Trailsheaven.com)  
 More than 600 miles of off-road trails that will keep you coming back. Rich in history and hospitality. Come see why it's truly known as #trailsheaven! Call (800) 592-2217

**UBB Memorial**  
 Dedicated to twenty-nine miners who lost their lives. "This memorial stands as a reminder of what we lost... to reflect and to never forget." [ubbminersmemorial.com](http://ubbminersmemorial.com)

**Nellis Historic District**  
 Visit the area that was a model for coal communities in Boone County and southern coal fields in the 1920s. Nellis, WV Phone: (304) 886-5379

Download the Coal River WaterTrail mobil app for more businesses and services.  
 Search online for AirBNB and Vrbo

## VISIT THE COAL RIVER GROUP SCIENCE AND EDUCATION CENTER

Learn more about the history of the Coal Rivers and the Water Trail in Meadowood Park, Tornado - touring the facilities, the park, and the Renewable Energy Center. Gift shop features include: Coal River Water Trail t-shirts, books, and paddling supplies.

The Science and Education center is open 7 days a week from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

The building was donated by Appalachian Log Structures and built by volunteers.

Call 304-722-3055 for directions or reservation.

