

# Quinebaug River Water Trail PADDLER'S GUIDE

Draft as of May 14, 2009



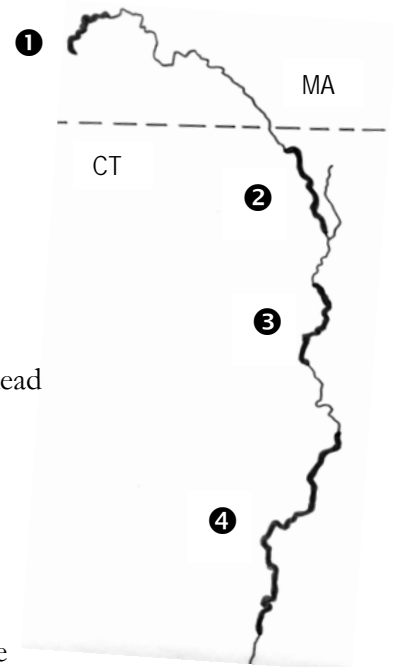
## Welcome to the Quinebaug River Water Trail!

### What is a Water Trail?

It is the combination of a river with paddle routes and segments that are clearly described in maps and guides, with partnerships to expand public shoreline access, and stewardship projects to reduce erosion and protect water quality – the very resources paddlers come here to enjoy.

The first four water trail segments on the Quinebaug provide more than 30 miles of paddling:

- ❶ **Holland Pond (Lake Siog) in Holland MA to East Brimfield Lake in Brimfield MA:** 5½ miles;
- ❷ **Fabyan to West Thompson Lake in Thompson CT:** almost 5 miles;
- ❸ **Simonzi Park in Putnam CT to Route 101 in Pomfret CT:** 5 miles and
- ❹ **Wayne R Lafreniere Canoe Launch in Killingly CT to Robert Manship Park (or Butts Bridge) in Canterbury CT:** 10 (or 15) miles.



You can help as we work to designate additional river segments. Read on to learn more.

### Before You Go, Think Ahead

Before you set out, please prepare for a safe outing. You are in charge of making good decisions for yourself and your group.

- Be sure everyone's paddling skills are up to the demands of the segment you wish to paddle. Paddler's Guides (other side) describe generally what to expect.
- Have everyone wear Coast Guard approved life jackets at all times! See the **Connecticut Boater's Guide** at [www.ct.gov/dep](http://www.ct.gov/dep) for more information. The **Boat Massachusetts** boater's guide is available online at <http://boat-ed.com/ma/handbook/>
- Let friends or family know where you will put in, take out, and when to expect your return. Take a cell phone in a waterproof bag for emergency calls (though you may not always be able to get a signal).
- Check the American Canoe Association at [www.americancanoe.org](http://www.americancanoe.org) for more safety tips.

### Work Together to Care for the River

As people enter and leave the water, launch sites tend to erode. As the footing gets muddy, the erosion gets worse and silt pollutes the river. To break this cycle, local officials and volunteers are lining up funding, materials and more volunteers to stabilize boat launch banks. Call 860 774 3300 to learn more.

### Help to Complete the Trail

Volunteers are preparing improved Paddler's Guides, signs and additional water trail segments. You can help by submitting photos, by paddling and by helping to create new public launches.

**A Steering Committee will convene for the first time on June 24, 2009  
at 7pm in Danielson at the Last Green Valley office: 111 Main Street.  
Call 860 774 3300 for more information.**

### Partners

Towns of Brimfield,  
Brooklyn, Holland,  
Killingly, Plainfield  
& Thompson.

