

2019 Paddling Schedule Cuyahoga River

- Apr 14 East Branch: SR 87 to Russell Park via Sperry Pond** **6.2 miles/4 hrs**
- An enchanting trip on a small, flat-water stream, 15-20 feet wide. We'll paddle upstream from our put-in to visit Sperry Pond, then downstream on a largely channelized river through wetlands and swamp forest. Travel light for lift-overs of trees and beaver dams, and be prepared for mud, although at higher water levels this becomes an easy trip. In mid-April there should still be migratory ducks in the area. Suitable for novice paddlers and families.
- Apr 28 Russell Park to Camp Hi** **9.6 miles, about 5 hrs**
- Another beautiful paddle in the State Scenic River section of the river. We'll see extensive wetlands and swamp forest; spring wildflowers will be out on the shore, and there is always a lot of bird activity on this trip. There is one mild stretch of fast water before we get to Camp Hi. Suitable for novice paddlers and families.
- May 19 Camp Hi to SR 303** **10.7 miles, about 6 hrs**
- Wetlands and swamp forests grace much of this trip, with occasional agricultural, sand and gravel, and residential development. A lively current and strainers in some sections require boat-handling skills. We'll use the relatively new Red Fox take-out below State Route 303. For paddlers who can control a boat in moving water.
- July 14 Cuyahoga St. to Bolanz Rd.** **10.1 miles, about 6.5 hrs**
- This section of the Cuyahoga shows mixed use: wooded parkland with intrusions from agriculture, recreation, and commercial and residential development. Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the RAP (Remedial Action Plan) area start here. Akron's Waste Water Treatment Plant discharges into the river just upstream of a large, active heron rookery. A lively current with some Class I chutes add interest, and in-stream downed trees (strainers) demand caution. Tributaries include the Little Cuyahoga, Sand Run, and Yellow Creek. This is an immensely interesting, contrasting section of the river. For paddlers who can control a boat in moving water.
- Aug 4 Bolanz Rd. to Boston Rd.** **6.8 miles, about 4.5 hrs**
- The River is channelized between steep, muddy banks at the put-in, but soon twists through numerous oxbows, requiring paddlers to negotiate tight turns and downed trees. After a portage in Peninsula we'll enjoy two miles of mild whitewater through a beautiful hardwood forest. Furnace Run is the major tributary in this section. We'll use the new CVNP take-out at Boston Mills. For paddlers who can control a boat in moving water.
- Aug 25 Boston Rd. to Station Rd.** **5.7 miles, about 4.5 hrs**
- After a rocky start in Boston Mills, the river meanders into a maze of braided channels and tree jams on its way to the historic Station Road Bridge. Tributaries include Spring Creek, Columbia Run, Brandywine Creek, and Chippewa Creek. The put-in and take-out use relatively new CVNP river access points. By late August, the canal diversion dam at Station Road should have been removed—a victory for FoCR, and for the health of the river. We'll have a look. For paddlers who can control a boat in moving water.
- Sept 15 Station Rd. to Rockside Rd.**
- Provided the canal diversion dam at Station Road has been removed, a lively current will carry us from our put-in and through the Pinery Narrows, site of a heron rookery and an active eagle nest. We'll pass Sagamore Creek as well as Tinkers Creek, the single largest tributary to the Cuyahoga. A rocky rapid below Stone Road adds excitement before our take-out at Rockside Road. For paddlers who can control a boat in moving water.