

# The Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail



This map is not intended for navigational purposes.



## Blue Trail Etiquette

- Be a good steward of the waterways and shorelines. Obey all parking and boating rules and signs.
- Always respect private property and homes along the waterfront.
- Launch, land, and take breaks only at Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail sites.
- Always give right-of-way to swimmers, sunbathers, beachcombers, divers, and pedestrians.
- Tread lightly on wetlands and take care near environmentally sensitive areas. View wildlife from a distance.
- Obey all warning lights and signals on the waterways.
- Avoid using motorized boat launches. The ramps are heavily used. Users of motorboats have fewer options for launching and landing.

## How to Use the Water Trail

The map above shows the general location of places you can launch and land nonmotorized boats along the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail. There are two Lakes-To-Locks Section Maps, produced by Washington Water Trails Association (WWTA), with detailed trail site information including site address, restrooms, and parking availability. There are many places to go and sights to see on the water.

What if you don't have a boat? Many cities have concessionaires working in local parks who provide boat rentals and guided paddle tours. Both the Internet and the Yellow Pages are good resources for finding recreation equipment stores, boat rental companies, and guide services. You may also want to pick up local city maps for your travels along the water trail.

If you are new to boating or do not own a boat, consider taking a safety class or lessons from a boat rental company. You might also enjoy visiting the Center for Wooden Boats, a hands-on museum seeking to preserve traditional maritime skills and artifacts. For information about water trails and travel in small boats, see the resource section below right, call Washington Water Trails Association at 206.545.9161 or visit the WWTA web page: [www.wwta.org](http://www.wwta.org).

## Community Connections

The White House Millennium Council declared the Lakes-To-Locks Trail a Community Millennium Trail in 2000. Millennium Trails across the country reflect national history and cultural traditions, illuminating the profound connection between people and place. The trail was also named the 2001 Blue Ribbon Trail of the Year by North American Water Trails, in recognition of Washington Water Trails Association's "excellence in the development and management of water trails."



## Stewardship along the Trail

All of us are stewards of the places in which we live. The members of Washington Water Trails Association believe that stewardship of the aquatic environment is an integral part of creating and managing blue trails.

How can you make a difference in your community's waterfront? Volunteer as a Washington Water Trails site steward, take part in an environmental watch program, organize a clean-up or litter patrol, join a city planning committee, participate in public restoration and construction projects, monitor water quality, lead educational paddle tours—or simply design your own stewardship niche. Whatever your skills and interests, Washington Water Trails Association and Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail partners can help you connect with a rewarding stewardship project. Give WWTA a call!

## Boating Safety

Below is a partial list of regulations for small watercraft. For additional safety information, consult the Washington State Boater's Guide (free from Washington State Parks Boating Programs Office).

- All boats must carry a US Coast Guard approved Type I, II, or III life jacket in the proper size and good condition for every person on board.
- Children 12 years and younger must wear US Coast Guard-approved life jackets on boats shorter than 19 feet.
- All boats must carry a US Coast Guard approved signaling device such as a whistle or air horn at all times.
- All boats must be lit in the dark, dusk, or fog. Flashlights are acceptable for this requirement on a rowboat, kayak, or canoe.

## More Resources

- Boater's Guide, Washington State Parks Boating Programs, contact 360.902.8551 or [www.parks.wa.gov/moorage/guide/](http://www.parks.wa.gov/moorage/guide/)
- Seattle's Lakes, Bays & Waterways—Including the Eastside: Afoot & Afloat Series, by Marge & Ted Mueller, The Mountaineers Books, 1998.
- Boatless in Seattle: Getting on the Water in Western Washington Without Owning a Boat, by Sue Muller Hacking, Sasquatch Books, 1999.



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Washington Water Trails Association is a non-profit collaboration of people who love to travel and enjoy the world by small boats. WWTA works to build partnerships with both public and private organizations to create and manage water trails, instill a strong stewardship ethic for the aquatic environment, and encourage the use of local "blueways" for learning more about Washington's special places.