

River Guide

Delaware Water Gap
National Recreation Area

National Park Service
Pennsylvania/New Jersey



River Safety



Your 24-hour toll-free phone number for reporting crimes or emergencies in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
1-800-543-4295
1-800-543-Hawk

- **ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET (PFD) WHILE BOATING!** Each boater must have a life vest which fits properly, is in good shape, and is accessible in an emergency. In Pennsylvania, children less than 12 yrs. old **must wear** a life jacket in a canoe, kayak or boat less than 20 ft. long.
- **YOUR LIFE JACKET CAN'T SAVE YOU IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT ON!** Tie your spare gear into your canoe but *wear* your life vest. *Don't* tie your lifejacket (PFD) into the canoe.
- **Never stand in a canoe.** *Kneel* in the canoe when going through rapids.
- Wear shoes to protect your feet from sharp stones and from glass.
- Protect yourself from the sun: wear sun screen, a hat, light clothing, sunglasses.
- **DRINKING AND BOATING DON'T MIX!** Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the area between Depue Island on the north and Depew Island on the south. This includes: Smithfield Beach PA, Hialeah Picnic Area PA, Worthington State Forest NJ and its campground, and Tocks and Labar Islands NJ.
- **DRINKING AND SWIMMING DON'T MIX! DON'T DRINK-THEN-SWIM.**
- The river has sharp drop-offs and strong currents. Do not try to swim or wade across the river.
- **NEVER SWIM ALONE!**
- Plan to be off the river before dark.
- Bring enough water. Don't drink river water unless it is boiled at least 3 minutes.



If you capsize ... DON'T PANIC!

- If you capsize, **stay with your canoe!** Even a swamped canoe will support you.
- Keep on the **upstream** side of the canoe to avoid being pinned against a rock or obstacle.
- If you lose your canoe, float **on your back, feet first and pointed downstream.**
- Don't stand up in rapids. Your feet and legs can get trapped; the current can pull you under.
- **Save people first!** Retrieve equipment only if it can be done safely.

Renting Canoes

These liveries have permits to drop off and pick up canoes and canoeists within the recreation area. Most liveries also rent tubes, rafts, and kayaks.

PENNSYLVANIA - south end of the park near Interstate 80

Adventure Sports Canoe & Raft Trips Rt. 209, Box 175 Marshalls Creek PA 18335

(570) 223-0505 (800) 487-2628, 487-BOAT www.adventuresport.com

Chamberlain's Canoes River Road Minisink Acres Mall Minisink Hills PA 18341

(570) 421-0180 (800) 422-6631 www.chamberlaincanoes.com

Delaware River Country Rt. 209 at the traffic light Fernwood Resort Bushkill Pa 18324

(877) 570-6700 (*Trips from north end of park to Bushkill Access PA*)

Pack Shack Adventures Box 127, 88 Broad Street Delaware Water Gap PA 18327

(570) 424-8533 (800) 424-0955 www.packshack.com

Shawnee Canoe Trips River Road Shawnee on Delaware PA 18356

(570) 424-4000, (800) 742-9633 (800-SHAWNEE) www.shawneeinn.com/riveradventures.aspx

(*Trips from Bushkill PA to points downstream*)

PENNSYLVANIA - north end of the park near Interstate 84

Indian Head Canoes and Campgrounds 1065 Delaware Drive Matamoras PA 18336

(800) 874-2628 www.indianheadcanoes.com

(Jerry's) 3 River Campground /Canoes Box 7, 1891 Rt. 97 Pond Eddy NY 12770

(845) 557-6078 www.jerrys3rivercampground.com

Kittatinny Canoes & Campgrounds Rt. 739, Dingmans Bridge Dingmans Ferry PA 18328

(570) 828-2338, 828-2700 (800) 356-2852, 1-800-FLOAT-KC www.kittatinny.com

Silver Canoe Rentals 37 South Maple Avenue Port Jervis NY 12771

(914) 856-7055 (800) 724-8342 www.silvercanoe.com

Ten Mile River Enterprises (Lander's River Trips) 1336 Route 97 Narrowsburg NY 12764

(914) 252-3925 (800) 252-3925 www.landerrivertrips.com

NEW JERSEY

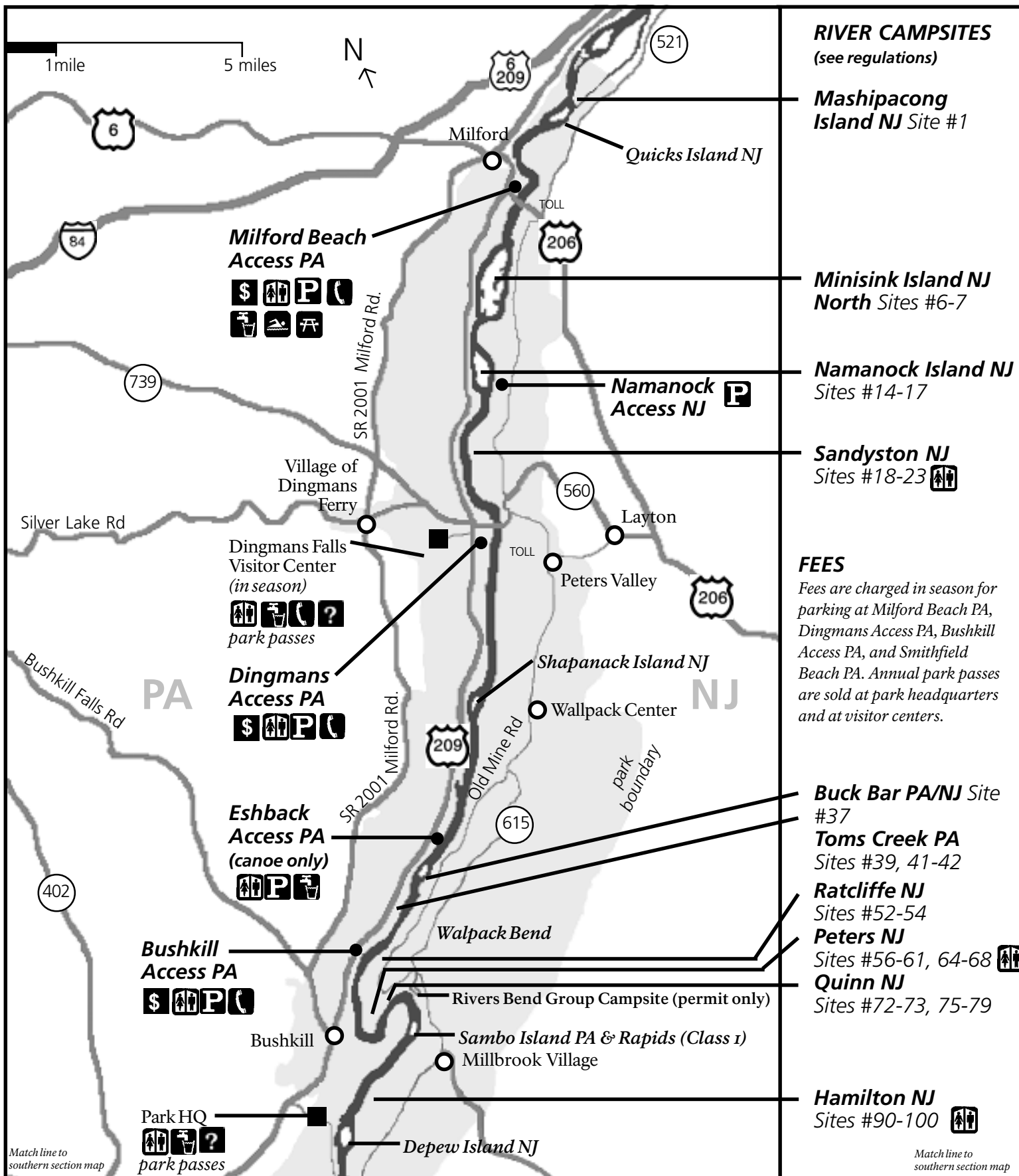
Delaware River Rafting & Canoeing Delaware River Campground Rt. 46, Box 142 Delaware

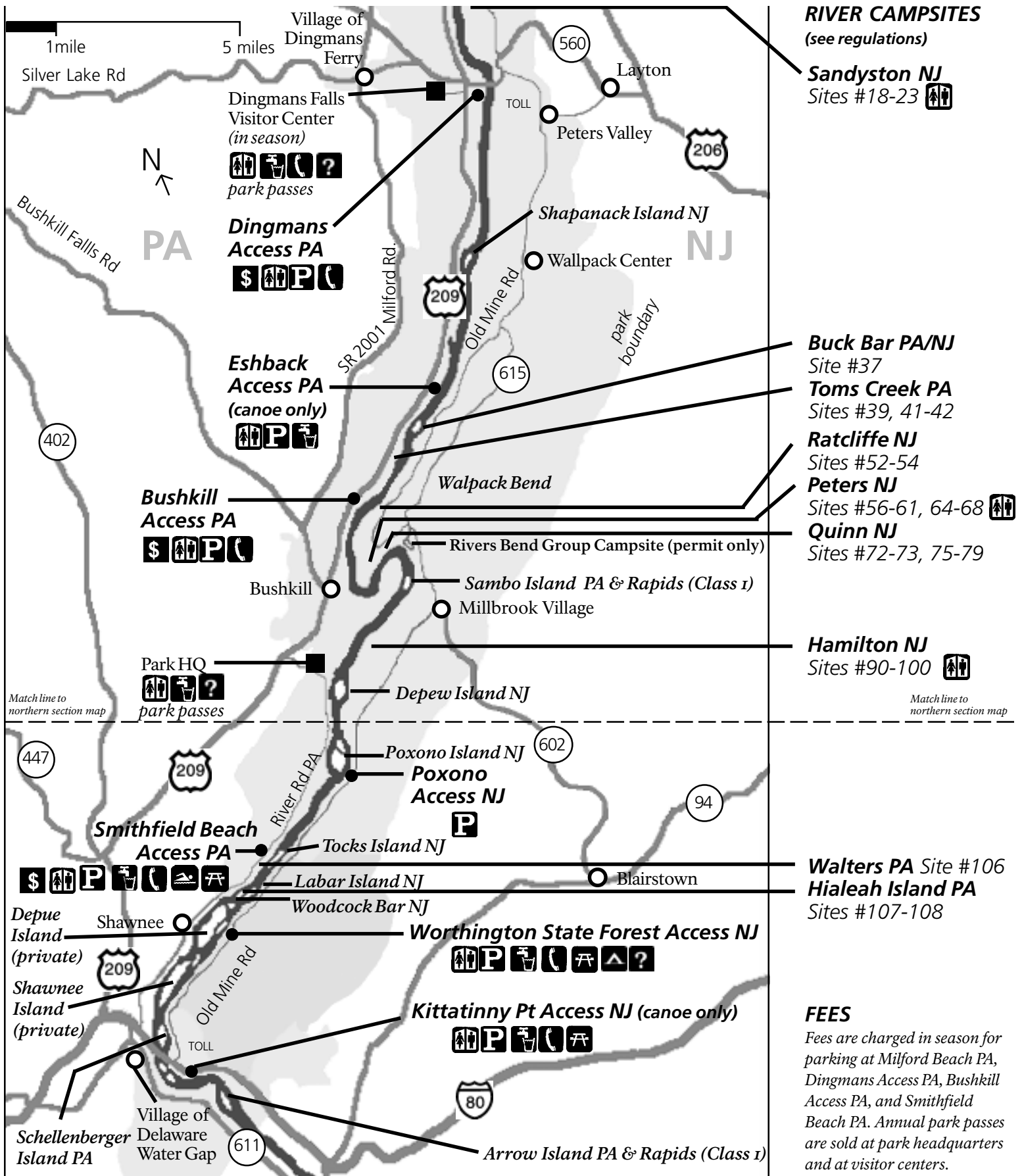
NJ 07833 (908) 475-4517, 475-1006, (800) 543-0271 www.njcamping.com/delaware

NORTH SECTION OF PARK: Milford Beach PA to Walpack Bend

River Campsites and Access Points

Access points are open to both boats and canoes unless otherwise noted.





SOUTH SECTION OF PARK: Dingmans Ferry PA to the Water Gap

River Campsites and Access Points

Access points are open to both boats and canoes unless otherwise noted.

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River Distances

Canoeists average about 2 miles an hour, but their speed can vary greatly with river level, wind, current, and paddling skill.

MILEAGE BETWEEN RIVER ACCESS POINTS <i>(See map)</i>	MILES <i>point to point</i>	CUMULATIVE <i>from Milford Beach</i>
Milford Beach PA (mile 0) to Namanock NJ (mile 4)	4	4
Namanock NJ (mile 4) to Dingmans Ferry PA (mile 8)	4	8
Dingmans PA (mile 8) to Eshback PA (mile 14)	6	14
Eshback PA (mile 14) to Bushkill PA (mile 18) CANOE ONLY	4	18
Bushkill PA (mile 18) to Poxono NJ (mile 26)	8	26
Poxono NJ (mile 26) to Smithfield PA (mile 28)	2	28
Smithfield PA (mile 28) to Worthington SF NJ (mile 30)	2	30
Worthington SF NJ (mile 30) to Kittatinny Pt. NJ (mile 34)	4	34
Kittatinny Point (mile 34) CANOE ONLY		

Overnight on the River

SEE RIVER MAPS on pages 2 & 3 for campsites and access points

Rivers Bend Group Campsite is available by advance permit to non-profit groups only. Call (570) 296-8757.

River campsites are for canoeists on trips where the distance is too great to be travelled in one day.

See below for the required minimum distance you must travel on an overnight trip.

Required minimum distances on Overnight Trips

One-night trips (at least 14 miles)

- Put in at Milford Beach; travel to Eshback Access or farther downstream
- Put in at Dingmans Access OR at Eshback Access; travel to Smithfield Beach Access or Kittatinny Pt Access or farther downstream

Two-night trips (at least 26 miles)

- Put in at Milford Beach Access; travel to Smithfield Beach Access or farther downstream
- Put in at Dingmans Access; travel to Kittatinny Pt Access or farther downstream

Three-night trips (at least 34 miles)

- Put in at Milford Beach Access; travel to Kittatinny Pt Access or farther downstream



Camping is allowed ONLY in areas designated by this sign.

- Camping is limited to **one night** in each location, first come first served. *There are at present no fees and no reservations. (See notice at left for group sites.)*
- Use a campstove rather than a campfire. Fires are permitted in existing fire grates only. Keep fires small. Use **dead & down wood** only. Do not cut standing trees.
- Use soaps sparingly; even biodegradable soaps are pollutants. Soap and food particles should be dumped on well-drained soil away from water sources.
- Respect the river and those who follow you. Do not urinate or defecate within 100 ft. of any river or stream. Fecal material, including pet waste, must be placed in a hole at least 300 ft. away from water. The hole must be at least 6" deep, and be covered with at least 6" of soil.
- Loud audio devices and fireworks are prohibited. Observe quiet hours from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Do not leave food that will attract wildlife. **Carry out leftover food and garbage.**

Equipment List

Store gear in waterproof containers or "dry" bags tied into the canoe. Do NOT tie your lifejacket (PFD) into the canoe.

For a day trip: a spare paddle if you have one, meals for the trip and some extra, trash bags, water bailer, kneeling pads, waterproof bags, raingear, windbreaker, insect repellent, map or guidebook, flashlight, spare car keys

In addition, for an overnight trip: a **change of clothes, extra socks** (wool or high performance synthetic, even in summer), tent & ground cloth, sleeping bags (nights on the river can be cool), portable cook stove

Fishing & Boating

- Within the recreation area, a **fishing license** from either Pennsylvania or New Jersey is required to fish on the Delaware River or from its banks.
- A **10 m.p.h. speed limit** is enforced from April 1 through September 30, except for waterskiing (35 m.p.h.) at Smithfield Pool and Price's Landing Pool.