



**Outdoor Ethics and Boating Safety**

Practice "Leave No Trace":  
 Plan ahead and prepare.  
 Be considerate of others.  
 Leave what you find.  
 Manage your waste.

Wildlife Viewing Ethics:  
 View at an appropriate distance.  
 Do not feed or touch wildlife.  
 Control your pets at all times.

Boating Safety:  
 Wear an approved PFD.  
 Dress appropriately for the weather.  
 Boat with others in case of emergencies.  
 Let someone know of your trip plans.  
 Be cautious of obstacles in the water.  
 Manage loose items in case of capsiz.

**Patterson Creek Paddling Information**

Use the Patterson Creek gage near Headsville operated by USGS. Gage reading of 3.0 feet to 4.0 feet is best for a safe trip. Plan for at least 1 hour for every 1.5 miles of river.

Pay attention to weather; the creek can rise fast after rainfall. Use caution if you see fast water.

Follow all State fishing rules.

All access sites are public. DNR approved sites are marked. Please respect landowner rights and stay off private property. Please use caution around farm animals and watch fence lines.

Disclaimer: Safety is everyone's responsibility. There is risk involved in paddling. It is up to you to learn adequate skills and use good judgement.



Mission:  
 We protect the public's right to clean water in our rivers and streams.  
 We stop pollution to promote safe drinking water, protect healthy rivers, and enhance public use and enjoyment.  
 Visit Us At:  
[www.potomacriverkeeper.org](http://www.potomacriverkeeper.org)

