**Program Details**

**Fees:**
$30 per canoe; max 3 participants per canoe (as weight permits) for a 3 hour program.

Must have 10 or more participants (5 canoes) but no more than 30 in a program (10 canoes).
- You must be ten (10) and older to participate.
- All participants must fill out program waiver, assumption of risk and release of liability and bring it with them. No exceptions.
- All participants must wear the life jacket provided to them at all times.
- Pre-registration and advance payment required.

**When:**
Tuesday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm and Saturday between 10 am and 1 pm. *As conditions permit.*

**More Information:**
- Center has the right to cancel due to inclement weather or low water.
- Cancellations must be made in writing 10 business days prior to your visit date or you will be billed for 50% of your program fee.
- At least 1 adult chaperone per 2 students ages 10 to 13 is required.
- To best enjoy your trip please remember to dress for the weather and wet conditions.

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**To Register**

Call today to set up your field trip or outreach program.
- Contact us with your name, group name, age or ability level, number of paddlers, and requested dates.
- You will receive a follow-up phone call to work out trip details and a confirmation packet with everything you need to know for your trip!

**It's that simple!**

Call: 973.228.8776

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**What can you see here?**

The Essex County Environmental Center is a facility of the Essex County Parks System and is located in West Essex Park. The immediate grounds include approximately 1 mile of trails, a raised boardwalk, and a wooded wetland habitat with access to the Upper Passaic River.

Since our opening in May 2005, we have been documenting the local flora and fauna found on our site. We have found raccoons, painted turtles, clams, crayfish, river otter, deer, turkey, coyote, salamanders, green and wood frogs, garter snakes, screech owls, barred owls, mushrooms, milkweed, spicebush, asters, oaks, maples, cedars, pines, beech, birch and more!
These fun group, family and adult programs offer you the chance to explore the Passaic River, and see a side of New Jersey you may have never seen before.

This is a fantastic way to unwind from the daily hustle and bustle of suburban life or entertain family and friends. Don’t miss this opportunity to experience one of metro New Jersey’s best-kept secrets! Each trip is led by a naturalist and offers a unique introduction to the ecology and history of the Passaic River.

Participants are expected to be an active part of this program.

All paddling trips should be regarded as a serious (and fun) outdoor pursuit.

All trips leave from the Environmental Center.

Canoeing offers residents a great opportunity to sneak up and view wildlife right in Essex County. For many it’s shocking to see painted turtles and snapping turtles basking, great blue herons skipping down the river, deer feeding on the edges, red foxes gazing in surprise and a variety of birds circling overhead.

Old sneakers or secure sandals you don’t mind getting muddy.

Shorts, shirt, sweater, hat, windbreaker, or quick-drying nylon clothing. NO COTTON!

A change of dry clothing and footwear.

Disposable or waterproof camera.

Lunch or snack and water.

Passaic or ‘pahsayèk’ is a Native Lenape American word meaning “valley”.

Native Lenape and Iroquois Americans lived along the river before European settlement.

The first colonial settlement along the Passaic was in 1666 at present day Newark.

The Passaic River is about 80 miles long and flows through forty-five municipalities and seven New Jersey counties.

Everyone lives in a watershed or land that drains into a body of water. The Passaic River is one of 20 state-wide watershed management areas. Refrain from littering or polluting as it all ends up in the water, threatening the health, safety and ecological integrity of our water sources.

Enjoy a leisurely slow-paced paddle on the Passaic River. Learn about the history of the river and Native American lore while quietly enjoying the beauty of our West Essex Park Water Trail. If conditions permit, we may conduct water quality samples and pull over for lunch!