

June 14, 2009  
Delaware & Raritan Canal Trip  
Followed by a pot luck cook out.

The Delaware and Raritan Canal is about 48 miles long including the feeder canal and has a number of access points. Our plan is to meet at a point convenient to I287. We will then drive to the launch site as a group. The canal parallels the Millstone River through rural and light suburban settings.

Our launch point is near the middle of a 3 ½ mile stretch of the canal from 10 mile lock to Amwell Road. A strip of park land and a walking trail runs between the canal and the river. We will be paddling on the calm water of the canal. We will put in and take out at the same location, so this trip will work for folks who would like to introduce kids to paddling. If you need to cut the trip short feel free to turn back at any point.

Allow 1 ¼ hours drive time from Bergenfield  
Jim's Cell is **201-615-9878**

Take the Parkway South to exit 127 to 287 North Or  
Take the Turnpike South to exit 10 to 287 North Or  
Take 80 West to 287 South

Follow 287 to EXIT 12 Weston Canal Road exit

Turn Left onto Weston Canal Road keeping the canal on the right for about 2.7 miles. Just before the intersection with Weston Canal Causeway that turns right across the canal you will find a modest sized parking area on the right that is a section of the old roadway. **We will meet here at 10:00 am.**

To reach our put-in (Colonial Park) continue on Weston Canal Road (actually a left since the road has bent to meet the causeway) make a left and continue for about ½ mile (to the first left on my 1998 map)

Turn left onto Weston Road for about 1 mile (to the first right on my 1998 map)

Turn Right onto Metlars Lane. The first right into Colonial Park has a parking area with rest facilities. We may have a 100 yards carry to the put-in although the Ranger often permits boat drop offs at the launch site dock.

We will paddle out and back. The water is flat and moves very slowly. We may spot turtles, ducks, geese and other birds along with lily pads, frogs, etc. We might need to carry past very low bridges although in the past we have been able to duck low to go under them. Plan on a paddling time of 3 hours or less.

After we paddle we will go across the Weston Canal Causeway and turn left. Our host, Bill Mc Loone is located at 1229 Millstone River Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844-4732. This is on the left a short ways past the Airport and Cemetery that you will pass on your right.

Bring your pot-luck offering of your favorite picnic foods to share. A grill will be available. If you just want to paddle that's ok too.

For more info check out maps <http://www.dandrcanal.com/maps.html>

<http://www.somersetcountyparks.org/maps/ColonialParkMap.pdf>

or History [http://www.dandrcanal.com/gen\\_info.html](http://www.dandrcanal.com/gen_info.html) <http://www.woodrow.org/teachers/esi/1997/43/Hist.htm>

or a trip report <http://www.paddling.net/places/showReport.html?382>

Join the fun! If you plan to come please email me at [kanoer@gmail.com](mailto:kanoer@gmail.com).

I have a trailer that has room for a couple of more boats if you need the space. Please arrange your own car pools. For more information call Jim at 201-387-0226 or send an email.