

Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers 2019 SUCCESS STORY

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2019 Launchapalooza Series

SUMMARY

The Launchapalooza Series successfully celebrated the grand opening of 1 new public launch on Connoquenessing Creek. Unfortunately, the 2nd event series was cancelled due to weather and permitting issues that prevented the development of the second public canoe launch in Ellwood City. Now the projected launch's construction has been rescheduled for May 2020. Despite this current cancellation, the overall goal of increasing public awareness to the new canoe launch in Zelienople and anticipated Ellwood City launch was achieved. These launches have and will continue to encourage and support recreational activity on this beautiful local waterway. This is evident by the continued extensive use of all 7 of our developed public canoe launches on Connoquenessing Creek access.

Float 1: Wild Waterways Canoe Launch to Connoquenessing Creek Park Canoe Launch; 6.5 miles - This event celebrated the grand opening of Connoquenessing Creek Canoe Launch in Zelienople, PA. There were over 55 people pre-registered, however due to heat advisory warnings, only 8 paddlers attended. Despite, the extreme temperature the float was pleasant and tranquil and the paddlers enjoyed floating on the waterway as well jumping in the water to cool off. There were extra precautions taken to ensure the safety of all participants. This event included free shuttle transportation, free canoe & lifejacket rentals, information booths, ribbon cutting ceremony, free food and beverages, door prizes, awards, raffles, and DJ.

Float 2: Allegheny Aquatic Alliance Canoe Launch to Ellwood City Canoe Launch; 8 miles - This event was to celebrate the grand opening of new canoe launch in Ellwood City, PA. Unfortunately, this float was cancelled due to the undevelopment of the projected new access. However, the launch is now rescheduled for development in May 2020 and we still plan on organizing a sojourn and grand opening celebration following the completion of the new launch site.



FUNDING

Grant Award: \$1,000.00

Total Match: \$3,720.00

Total Project Cost: \$4,720.00

