

Enjoy Canoeing, Kayaking and Fishing



On The Shiawassee River From Byron to Parshallburg.

This Guide is provided by "Friends of the Shiawassee River", a Michigan Non-Profit Association committed to Share, Care and Enjoy this exceptional natural resource for its 50-mile course— principally in Shiawassee County.



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The Shiawassee River Valley is a country scenic setting—the river is a Class I stream for *beginners* and rises to *intermediate* during higher flows. There is excellent small mouth bass fishing, sporty riffles in Sections 4 and 7, great birding, and an array of wildflowers.

The guide lays out the most common sections for outings, with an average of 2 to 3 hour trips per section.

The map on the reverse side shows the 8 river sections served by 9 launch sites and detailed car ferrying road routes. See a full river guide, photos and interesting information at our web page.

Section 1: Byron Ball Fields to Walnut Hills Campground- *Car Ferrying Route:* Bath Rd-W; Grand River Rd-N; Reed Rd-N; Lehring Road-E.
Gradient: 1.7'/mile.

The starting launch is on Bath Rd near the bridge and north of HS Ball Fields—50 yards off Bath Rd. End launch is Walnut Hills Camp at Lehring Road Bridge. Services are at each end.

Section 2: Walnut Hills Campground to Geeck Rd County Park- *Car Ferrying Route:* Lehring Rd-E; Reed Rd-N; Cole Rd-W; Geeck Rd-N; Byam Rd-N; Exchange Rd-E.
Gradient: 2.3'/ mile.

Geeck Rd. Park is at the corner of Exchange Rd. and Geeck Rd. The Geeck launch is an indentation of the river bank north of parking area. The Walnut Hills launch includes a \$1.00 parking fee (Camp ph is 989-634-9782). Cheff's Canoe Rental (989-288-7067) is based at Walnut Hills. Park services at each end.

Section 3: Geeck Rd Park to Shiatown Park- *Car Ferrying Route:* Exchange Rd-E; Geeck Rd-N; Newburg Rd-W; Newberry Rd-N.
Gradient: 2.5'/mile.

Shiatown County Park is on both sides of the river and reservoir. The launch and landing are necessarily separate—the dam cannot be run. The landing is on the reservoir's east side safely away from the dam. The launch is below the dam with parking lot on Bennington Road. There is a 175- yard portage for those moving on. Park facilities are at each end. Commercial services are in Bancroft Village.

Section 4: Shiatown Park to Lytle Rd Park- *Car Ferrying Route:* Bennington Rd-W; Bancroft-Parmenter Rds-N; Hibbard Rd-E; Kerby Rd-N; Lytle Rd-E. to Park.
Gradient: 4.6'/mile.

Lytle Rd County Park is on Lytle Road just east of the bridge. This section is a great stretch. An alternate take-out rest/point is in Vernon on the Holly Drain just past the railroad trestle on the right. Park services are at Shiatown Park and Vernon, none at Goebel.

Section 5: Lytle Rd Park to Brady St- *Car ferrying Route:* Lytle Road-E; M-71-E; Shiawassee St-N; Mack St-E; Brady St-N.
Gradient: 2'/mile.

Brady Street Landing is in Corunna on the left before the bend that leads to an impassable dam. This section's landing and next available launch at McCurdy Park requires a ¾-mile car-ferrying portage for those moving on. [Hardier souls paddle on to an unofficial spot next to Shiawassee Street right-of-way on a rocky embankment well above the dam and portage 100 yards to Heritage Park below the dam] Many services are in Corunna. En route there is a tricky section at the brick plant where a causeway requires a left bank maneuver through a narrow bridge opening. The Corunna reservoir starts there-no current.

Section 6: McCurdy Park to Harmon Patridge Park- *Car Ferrying Route:* Norton St-S; M-71-W to M-21; M-21-W; M-52-N; Chippewa Lane-W and North past the wastewater plant.

Gradient: 3.4'/mile.

McCurdy Park is in Corunna at the north end of Norton Street off M-71. Continue north in the park to the launch area and anywhere along the bank near the viewing pavilion. Harmon Patridge Park has a developed launch on Chippewa Lane off M-52. Note there are three dams in Owosso-care is well-advised if running the sluiceways; otherwise portage. Services are in the parks and in Owosso and Corunna.

Section 7: Harmon Patridge City Park to Henderson County Park- *Car Ferrying Route:* Chippewa Trail-E; M-52-N; Henderson Rd-W.
Gradient: 8'/mile

Henderson Park is on Henderson Rd 0.4 miles west of M-52. The launches are either straight back from the east entrance drive or down the hill from the west entrance then north to the river's edge. Commercial services are in Owosso. Park services are at each end.

Section 8: Henderson Park to Parshallburg (unincorporated place)- *Car Ferrying Route:* Henderson Rd-E; M-52-N; Sharon Rd-E; Ditch Rd-E.

Gradient: 1'/mile.

Ditch Rd doglegs south then east to bridge. Launch is on the east side of the bridge. Park services are at each end. Commercial services are in the Village of Oakley. Note dismantled dam in Parshallburg with no clear sluiceway in sight. Many run the dam; some use a landing to the right before the dam.

Disclaimer: This guide is only a guide and offers no assurances for public safety, health and welfare. Paddlers are advised to proceed at their own risk with respect to river conditions, utility of launches, dams, water quality and all boating activities related to the use of the River.