



Goshen WMA
 7690 Maury River Rd.
 lat: 37.948385
 long: -79.459965

VDOT Goshen Wayside
 lat: 37.931129
 long: -79.456197

Beans's Bottom (Rt 631)
 lat: 37.812704
 long: -79.448399
 * Parking Limited

Jordan's Point Park - 20.5 miles
 829 Moses Mill Rd.
 lat: 37.79344
 long: -79.431175

VDOT Ben Salem Wayside
 lat: 37.753602
 long: -79.392614
 * Parking Uphill
 100m from River

Rt. 60 VMI - 13 miles
 85 Stuartsburg Rd.
 lat: 37.746731
 long: -79.372321

Glen Maury Park
 100 Glen Maury Park Rd
 lat: 37.726383
 long: -79.365694

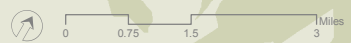
Miller's Dam - River Road
 lat: 37.680779
 long: -79.415127
 Limited Parking

Locher Landing - 0.1 miles
 1 Blue Ridge Rd.
 lat: 37.624993
 long: -79.444488

Maury River Float Guide

Rockbridge County

- Class I rapid
- Class II rapid
- Class II+ rapid
- Dam Locations
- River Miles
- Gauge Station
- Public Access



Maury River Float Trip Information

Goshen WMA to VDOT Wayside

Distance: 2.5 miles -- This trip begins at the DWR access at the “swinging” bridge that crosses the river. There is a gravel parking area and gently sloping bank to access the river. **CAUTION- This reach of river through the Goshen Pass contains multiple Class II-IV whitewater rapids and should only be navigated by experienced whitewater paddlers.** One (100yd) stretch of Class IV rapids is known as the “Devil’s Kitchen”. Take out on river right at the VDOT wayside on Route 39. There is ample parking, picnic tables, a pavilion and portable restrooms at this location. This float offers beautiful scenery of the Goshen Pass Natural Area Preserve. Much of this section of river is stocked with hatchery trout by DWR, October-May.

Bean’s Bottom / Route 631 (Furrs Mill Road) to Jordan Point Park (Lexington)

Distance: 2.5 miles -- Put in on river left on the upstream side of the bridge. You will have to carry your kayak or canoe down a fairly-steep gravel path to get to the river. Parking is limited at this site and vehicles should be parked off the shoulder of Route 631 on the east side of the bridge. The one “obstacle” that paddlers should be aware of on this section is the 3 foot high Lexington Water Department Dam located just downstream of the confluence of Whistle Creek. Take out on river right at Jordan Point Park upstream of the Route 11 Bridge. There is ample parking and restrooms at the park. The park is only open sunrise to sunset.

Jordan Point Park to Ben Salem Wayside

Distance: 6 miles -- This is one of the more popular stretches to paddle on the Maury River. Put in at the north end of the park on river right. There is ample parking and a gentle-sloped bank to launch your boat. Remember the park closes after dark. There are also restrooms located at the entrance to the park. This section of river contains several Class I-II rapids and the remnants of a few old locks and dams leftover from the historic batteau navigation days in the mid 1800’s. At the take out (on river right) you will have to carry your boat up a steep, grassy hill about 100 yards to the road.

Ben Salem Wayside to Route 60 DWR Access

Distance: 1.5 miles -- Put in at the Ben Salem Wayside along Route 60. Park your vehicle in one of two small lots or off the shoulder of Route 60. You will have to carry your boat down a steep, grassy hill about 100 yards to the river. This is a relatively short float, but the last half mile is flatwater created by Moomaw Dam 200 yards downstream of the take out point. Take out is on river left just upstream of the Route 60 Bridge. This is also a trailhead for the Chessie Nature Trail, which runs north from the parking area.

Glen Maury Park (Buena Vista) to Miller’s Dam (River Road)

Distance: 7 miles -- This is a great float with lots of awesome fish habitat. There is ample parking and a grassy bank to launch canoes, kayaks, or rafts just on the upstream side (river right) of the Route 745 Bridge. There is also a handicapped-accessible concrete landing at this site. Paddlers will encounter several Class I-II+ rapids on this reach and the remains of several old dams. These old “broken” dams (Edmondson’s Dam, Goose Neck Dam, Devil’s Step Dam) contain large chunks of concrete and swift currents. Paddlers should scout the areas before running these rapids or “walk” their boats around these hazards. Take out is on river left at the remnants of Miller’s Dam (the take out is immediately upstream of the old lock). This is not an easy place to launch a canoe or kayak as the bank is steep and undeveloped. Parking is adjacent to River Road (SR 663) and limited space can only accommodate 6-8 vehicles. Due to the limited parking at Miller’s Dam, you may want to use this access primarily on weekdays.

Miller’s Dam (River Road) to Locher Landing (Glasgow)

Distance: 5 miles -- This is a very mild and straightforward float. Paddlers will only encounter a few “riffles” and 2-3 Class I rapids in this reach of the lower river. Put in on river left at the remnants of Miller’s Dam (immediately upstream of the old lock). This is not an easy place to launch a canoe or kayak as the bank is steep and undeveloped. Parking is adjacent to River Road (SR 663) and limited space can only accommodate 6-8 vehicles. Take out on river right just downstream of the Route 130 Bridge. There is ample parking and a concrete ramp at Locher Landing. Due to the limited parking at Miller’s Dam, you may want to use this access primarily on weekdays.

Glen Maury Park (Buena Vista) to Locher Landing (Glasgow)

Distance: 12 miles -- This is a long float and could take 6+ hours to complete, depending on the flow of the river. The first half of the trip is where you will find the best fish habitat and paddling challenges. There is ample parking and a grassy bank to launch canoes, kayaks, or rafts just on the upstream side (river right) of the Route 745 Bridge. There is also a handicapped-accessible concrete landing at this site. Paddlers will encounter several Class I-II+ rapids on this reach and the remains of several old dams. These old “broken” dams (Edmondson’s Dam, Goose Neck Dam, Devil’s Step Dam) contain large chunks of concrete and swift currents. Paddlers should scout the areas before running these rapids or “walk” their boats around these hazards. Take out on river right just downstream of the Route 130 Bridge. There is ample parking and a concrete ramp at Locher Landing.

Additional River Access Points / Private Property

Respect Private Property. From the bottom of Goshen Pass near Rockbridge Baths downstream to the confluence with the James River (except for the public access points depicted on this map), both banks of the river are private property, above the average high water mark. Always ask permission from the landowner before traversing across these properties. Obtaining permission from private landowners could provide access to other reaches of the river for paddling or fishing.

Safety / River Conditions

High water can be dangerous. Know your limitations based on your experience level.

Low water - The Maury River becomes difficult to navigate when the stream flow is <2.0 feet at the Buena Vista USGS Gage.

Float time will depend on river flow and/or how much you paddle. At “normal” stream flow, the average paddler floats about 2 miles per hour

Stream flow – Real-time river conditions: Rockbridge Baths-

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/va/nwis/uv/?site_no=02021500&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060,62620,62614

Buena Vista - https://waterdata.usgs.gov/va/nwis/uv/?site_no=02024000&PARAMeter_cd=00065,00060,62620,62614



Always wear a life jacket while boating. The law requires that a personal flotation device (PFD) be in the boat for each person; however, it is recommended that a PFD be worn at all times.

Cold Water Can Kill. Hypothermia can set in even in the summer months under certain weather conditions. Dress for the weather and be prepared to get wet. Bring an extra set of dry clothes for emergency use.

Fishing

The entire Maury River contains excellent habitat and high-density fish populations. The most common sportfish are Smallmouth Bass, Rock Bass, and Redbreast Sunfish. Other warmwater species that anglers might encounter include: Green Sunfish, Fallfish, Bluegill and Largemouth Bass. The river through Goshen Pass is also stocked by DWR with Rainbow and Brown Trout between October and May.



Smallmouth Bass



Rock Bass



Redbreast Sunfish

Fishing Info: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/waterbody/maury-river/>

Fishing License Info: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/licenses/> or <https://gooutdoorsvirginia.com/>

Nearby Outdoor Attractions

Goshen Pass Natural Area Preserve: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/natural-area-preserves/goshen>

Chessie Nature Trail: <https://lexingtonvirginia.com/outdoors/activities/attractions/chessie-trail>

Natural Bridge State Park: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/natural-bridge>

George Washington National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/gwj>

Lake Robertson Recreation Area: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/waterbody/lake-robertson/>

Food / Lodging / Boat Rental

Rockbridge County: <https://www.co.rockbridge.va.us/>

Lexington, Virginia: <https://lexingtonvirginia.com/>

Buena Vista, Virginia: <https://www.buenavistava.org/>