|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| power2 | **P**ennsylvania **O**rganization for **W**atersheds and **R**ivers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_POWR • 175 Main Street • Luzerne, PA • 18709Phone: 570.718.6507 • Fax: 570.718.6508 |

**News for Immediate Release**

**April, 2018**

**POWR announces 2018 Pennsylvania Sojourn Grant Awards**

**Luzerne –** The Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2018 Pennsylvania River Sojourn Grants. These grants are awarded on a competitive basis for single and multi-day paddling events on Pennsylvania Rivers. Grant recipients receive $500 for a single-day sojourn and up to $900 per day for multi-day sojourns.

The Pennsylvania Sojourn Program is administered by POWR in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The PA Sojourn Program is nationally unique, distributing grants across the state to local organizations and their sojourn events. These grants support between 12 and 17 paddling events each year, encompassing over 500 river miles and 50+ on-the-water days, offering more than 100 educational programs, and engaging over 4,000 people.

Sojourns are not only a fun outdoor activity but are also an effective tool for raising awareness about our rivers and the issues affecting them, educating and enhancing community involvement about natural and cultural resources, and promoting and encouraging watershed stewardship. The Sojourn program serves as a bridge to bring our communities to our rivers and streams to educate them, enabling them to become lifelong stewards of these resources. River sojourns offer a different point of view on some of Pennsylvania’s treasured landscapes and historic and cultural assets.

To view a map of sojourns planned statewide this year, click on this link: [2018 Sojourn Map](https://dcnr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=647a4dd10a40467e85b133512fd338e9)

2018 PA Sojourn Mini-Grantees:

[Allegheny Aquatic Alliance](http://www.alleghenyaquaticalliance.com) for the 2nd Annual Connie Q Canoe Trip Celebration on the Connoquenessing Creek, which will take place on June 9 and June 10, 2018

[Allegheny Aquatic Alliance](http://www.alleghenyaquaticalliance.com) for the Launchapalooza Series on the Connoquenessing Creek, which will take place on June 17, July 21 and September 22, 2018

[Armstrong Center for Community Learning](http://www.armstrongcenter.org) for the 21st Annual Allie-Kiski-Connie Canoe Sojourn on the Mahoning and Crooked Creeks and the Conemaugh and Kiskiminetas Rivers, which will take place from May 17 through May 20, 2018

[Conemaugh Valley Conservancy](http://www.conemaughvalleyconservancy.org) for the Stony-Kiski-Conemaugh Rivers Sojourn on the Stony-Kiski-Conemaugh Rivers, which will take place from May 31 through June 3, 2018

[Endless Mountains Heritage Region](http://www.emheritage.org) for the 2018 Youth Heritage Sojourn on the Susquehanna River, which will take place from June 1 through June 3, 2018

[Endless Mountains Heritage Region](http://www.emheritage.org) for the Exploring the Susquehanna’s Great Bend on the Susquehanna North Branch, which will take place from July 28 through July 29, 2018

[First Waves](http://www.firstwaves.org) for the First Waves Sojourn on the Stonycreek, which will take place in July and August of 2018

[French Creek Valley Conservancy](http://www.frenchcreekconservancy.org) for the 2018 French Creek Summer Sojourn on the French Creek and LeBoeuf Creek, which will take place on June 16, 2018

[Independence Seaport Museum](http://www.phillyseaport.org/) for the Walnut2Walnut Challenge on the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers, which will take place on September 30, 2018

[Jacobs Creek Watershed Association](http://www.jacobscreekwatershed.org/) for the Jacobs Creek Lazy River Float Festival on Jacobs Creek, which will take place on June 16, 2018

[Lackawanna River Corridor Association](http://www.lrca.org) for the Riverfest 2018 on the Lackawanna River, which will take place on May 12, 2018

[Loyalhanna Watershed Association, Inc.](http://www.latroberecreation.org/)  for the 5th Annual Loyalhanna Sojourn on the Loyalhanna Creek, which will take place on May 19, 2018

[National Road Heritage Corridor - Mon River Town Program](http://www.nationalroadpa.org) for A Celebration of New Beginnings on the Monongahela River, which will take place on August 25, 2018

[National Road Heritage Corridor - Mon River Town Program](http://www.nationalroadpa.org) for A Park to Park Paddle on the Monongahela River, which will take place on September 1, 2018

[Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy](https://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/perkiomen-creek-sojourn/) for the Perkiomen Creek Sojourn on the Perkiomen Creek, which will take place on June 2, 2018

[Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy](https://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/perkiomen-watershed-conservation-corps) for the Perki-Bay Expedition on the Perkiomen Creek, Schuylkill River and the Delaware River which will take place from June 25 through June 29, 2018

[Schuylkill River Greenway Association](http://www.schuylkillriver.org) for the 20th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn on the Schuylkill River, which will take place from June 2 through June 8, 2018

[Susquehanna Greenway Partnership](http://www.susquehannagreenway.org) for the Island Hopper on the Middle Susquehanna River, which will take place on August 4, 2018

[Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition](http://www.riversojourn.com/) for the 2018 Delaware River Sojourn: Still Wild After All These Years Sojourn on the Delaware River/Tidewaters and the Lackawaxen River, which will take place from June 15 through June 23, 2018

[Wildlands Conservancy](http://www.wildlandspa.org) for the Lehigh River Sojourn on the Lehigh River, which will take place from June 23 through June 25, 2018

**About POWR**

POWR, an affiliate of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, administers the Pennsylvania Sojourn program. POWR has been in place for over a decade and has sponsored trips on many of the Commonwealth’s rivers. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) is the prime sponsor of the program.

**Media contacts**:

Janet Sweeney or Angela Vitkoski, POWR, 570-718-6507

#####