

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - St Lucie River - North Fork

Hawley Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Evans Creek / Hawley Creek is a newly developed paddle trail on the North Fork of the Saint Lucie River. One access is via U.S. 1 just south of the Village Green Intersection. The park closes and a barrier is dropped at dusk. Adequate parking, and ADA accessible boat launch site. Alternatively, you can launch at Veterans Memorial Park Ramp, a full facilities free park, and head north taking the Evans Creek / Hawley Creek loop and returning to Veterans Memorial Park. This is a wonderful protected paddle within the Creek area and an open paddle in the North Fork of the Saint Lucie River Area.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Time: 6.1 Miles/Approximately 3 hours

Launch Site: Veterans Memorial Park Ramp 2200 SE Veterans Memorial Parkway Port St Lucie, Fl

Special Considerations: Expect some power boat traffic and South current after heavy rains.

Skill Level Definitions

Beginner: New to paddling and may need tips and or instructions about paddling strokes, safety procedures, and entering/exiting kayaks. Comfortable on short trips of 1 to 3 miles on protected waters, when wind does not exceed 5 mph.

Novice: Paddlers acquainted with basic paddle strokes and can manage kayak handling independently in winds not exceeding 10 mph on protected waters. Comfortable on trips up to 6 miles.

Intermediate: Paddlers with experience in basic strokes and some experience on different venues, including some open water. Comfortable on trip distances of 6 to 10 miles, winds not exceeding 15 mph.

Advanced: Seasoned paddlers who possess skills and experience to paddle all venues and conditions. Experienced in self-rescues. Should be comfortable paddling more than 10 miles in a day.

NOTE: Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. These maps are for visual reference only, please consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All paddlers should always wear PFDs while on the water, and leave a float plan. There are inherent dangers in any paddle sport. There are special hazards along the Florida coast due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters, and treacherous bottoms with soft mud, rocks, and oyster bars. It is up to each paddler to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain they have the skills to safely paddle in these conditions.