

MST in a Day – 40th Anniversary of the Mountains to Sea Trail

We ask for help with a fun, statewide event we're planning this Fall to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Howard Lee's speech recommending creation of a trail from North Carolina's mountains to the coast. We're calling it "MST in a Day," and our goal is to have the entire trail (1150 miles) walked or paddled on one day by people who each sign up to complete short sections. Most individuals in the hiking sections will cover 3- to 5-mile "legs" although in remote sections, lengths may be longer. The paddling sections on the Neuse range from 6.5 to 25 miles. Each hiker will be asked to walk or paddle their leg sometime on Saturday September 9, 2017, and document their trip by taking photos along the way. The entire route – from Clingmans Dome to Jockey's Ridge – is to be covered, including State Park-designated trail and the alternate routes that people use now to connect those completed sections. We are encouraging paddlers to paddle with a partner for safety reasons and also to help with transportation from launch point to landing. Friends of the MST will be managing the event. Once participants register, they will be provided with trailhead locations and approved parking sites. We are appointing "Segment Leaders," trusted volunteers to serve as the point of contact per segment for our participants and trail partners. These leaders will be fully supported by Friends staff, the MST in a Day committee and our board of directors. Participants in MST in a Day will be paddling in your area which is part of the MST segment that we refer to as Segment 11A-16A <http://mountaintoseatrail.org/segment/11a-16a/>



Segments 11A-16A

mountaintoseatrail.org

Preparing to paddle the Neuse from Kinston | Photo © Lucy Marston
Segments 11A-16A: The Neuse River Paddle Route
Falls Lake Dam to the Neusiok Trail

The MST in a Day Segment Leader for the Neuse River paddle route is Bill Hines
bill.hines@ec.rr.com. - [252-571-0264](tel:252-571-0264).

We are incredibly excited about this hike/paddle, as it will help us honor the sustained effort that has gone into building and maintaining the trail over the last 40 years, while introducing new hikers to the beauty, natural diversity and culture of the MST.

We hope you will join us in making MST in a Day a fun, successful event.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kate Dixon - Executive Director
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