

Paddle Trip Attributes

Water Body: Grand River

Put-in: Lions Park

Take-Out: Maple Grove DNR Access

- Water low in some places might require some wading with boat
- Significant open lake water paddling with possible wind and wave effects
- Combination of river and open lake paddling with some wind and wave effects
- Route includes some slow backwater from a dam
- Tight bends in river or debris in river will require maneuvering skills
- Portage(s) around: dam(s), low bridge(s), and/or fallen trees
- Wide river with more gradual bends
- River current mostly slow
- Some places with fast current
- Some places with class one rapids (very mild)
- Some places with class two rapids (moderate; some chance of capsizing)
- Upstream paddle on half of the trip route
- Route through mostly natural areas
- Route through most developed or urban areas
- Route has combination of natural and developed areas
- Much of route is through wetlands
- Much of trip through wooded areas
- Water will be somewhat cold; bring extra change of clothes in waterproof bag

Comments: All of this paddle is through the eleven mile section of the river which was straightened in the 1930's. to increase the flow rate to more quickly rid downtown of the smelly and highly polluted water of those days. However, this causes more erosion and therefore more tree debris to fall into the river. The higher than normal banks from the dredging, make it impossible for the river to flow around the fallen trees and thus major

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jams develop. GREAT has cut paths through these jams so it can be paddled without portages. Even with man's invasive actions, much this route is a nice paddle through very quiet woods with abundant wild plants and animals to enjoy.