

## Paddle Trip Attributes

Water Body: Kalamazoo River

Put-in: Rieger Park, Erie St. Albion, MI

Take-Out: 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge (west) on B-Drive North or Marshall Pond, Stuarts Landing, Homer Drive

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 a very long 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)

One 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 mostly developed or urban areas

Route has combination of natural and developed areas

Route is through both wooded areas and wetlands

Water will be somewhat cold; bring extra change of clothes in waterproof bag

### Comments:

After putting in at Rieger Park in Albion, you will see some buildings built over part of the river and then reaching downtown Albion you will actually paddle under large old store buildings of Superior St., an unusual treat. The very clear river has a moderate current which will make the paddling easier. Paddlers will enjoy two sets of rapids with the second one being a class two (five point system with five the most challenging), in addition to several areas of fun ripples. The take-out has two options: B-Drive North (2<sup>nd</sup> bridge on drive going west) and Marshall Pond. The latter is another 6 paddling miles with half of that in the backwaters of Marshall Pond, in which paddlers often face a strong west wind.