

Paddle Wekiva



*A National
Wild & Scenic
River*

Lake
Norris

River System Classifications

In October 2000,
the Wekiva River, Wekiwa Springs Run,
Rock Springs Run and Black Water Creek
were designated by the
United States Congress as a
National Wild and Scenic River.



Wild Rivers represent vestiges of primitive America. They have natural shorelines, unpolluted waters and are free flowing.

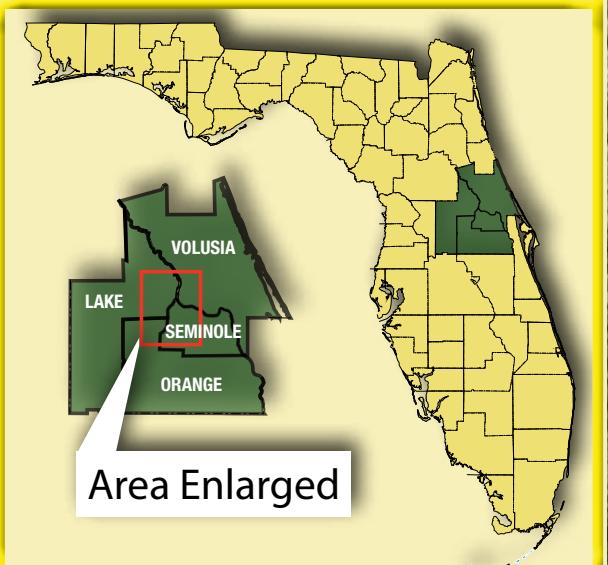
Scenic Rivers are still largely primitive with shorelines mostly undeveloped but accessible in places by roads.

Recreational Rivers are readily accessible by road, may have some development along their shorelines and may have had some barriers in the past.

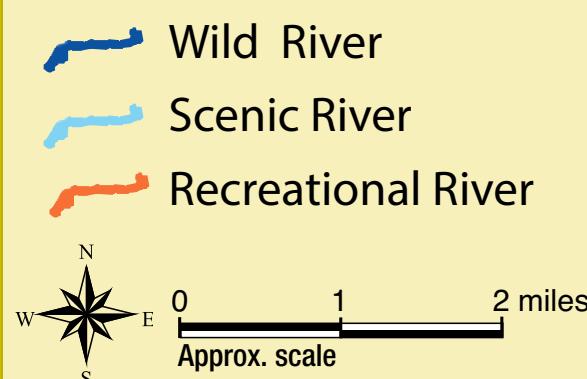
Rock Springs Run
Wekiwa Springs Run
Wekiwa River
Little Wekiva River

Black Water Creek
Wekiwa River

St. Johns River



Area Enlarged



Wekiva Wild & Scenic River

WekivaWildandScenicRiverSystem.com



	GPS COORDINATES		SPRINGS	PRIMITIVE CAMP RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
	A	B		
A	N: 28.7562 W: -81.5016			▲
B	N: 28.7430 W: -81.4744			▲
C	N: 28.7404 W: -81.4668			▲
D	N: 28.7382 W: -81.4643			▲
E	N: 28.7119 W: -81.4604			
F	N: 28.7403 W: -81.4223			▲
G	N: 28.8626 W: -81.3804			
H	N: 28.8575 W: -81.4353			▲
I	N: 28.8522 W: -81.4430			▲
J	N: 28.8319 W: -81.4742			
K	N: 28.9223 W: -81.5488			▲

Paddle Trips & Experiences



The Wekiva River system is a nationally treasured landscape and outstanding scenic resource that offers many opportunities to experience a unique part of natural Florida. The popular Wekiva River system is a Florida treasure with its scenic views and recreational amenities. High urban growth throughout the region has added stress to the river's ecosystem. The challenges include excessive nutrients in the water, proliferation of exotic plants, and the loss of vital habitat. The system, while threatened, still provides a high quality riverine experience.

ROCK SPRINGS RUN - Whether you bring your own boat or rent one, a popular 8-mile, four-to-five hour, downstream paddle begins at **① Kings Landing** and ends at **③ Wekiva Island**. Call ahead for shuttle service days/times. Rock Springs Run winds through sections of a shady canopy of cypress and hardwood trees and sunny flats with floating plants and eelgrass on the sunlit bottom. Shorter upstream paddles from Kings Landing can take from 1-2 hours to reach the Kelly Park boundary where you must turn around.

WEKIWA SPRINGS RUN - **② Wekiwa Springs**, a second magnitude spring, releases more than 40-million gallons of water daily from the Floridan aquifer. Launch a canoe or kayak from downstream of the swimming area. Watch for wildlife in the subtropical shoreline vegetation and vacillating underwater grasses. Less than a mile downstream, Wekiwa Springs Run joins Rock Springs Run to form the Wekiva River. Turn left where the runs merge for a short excursion up Rock Springs Run or continue downstream on the Wekiva River.

PADDLE TIP - For two-way trips, leave ample time for the upstream portion. Paddling against the strong current takes longer and can be difficult.

To Volunteer or Learn More Visit:
WekiwaWildandScenicRiverSystem.com



10% Post Consumer Waste

Paddle Trips & Experiences



UPPER WEKIVA RIVER - **③ Wekiva Island**.

Travel upstream one mile on Wekiwa Springs Run to the swimming area at Wekiwa Springs (entrance fee required). Travel downstream through lush, subtropical vegetation to see turtles resting on logs and some of Florida's distinctive wading birds including the great blue heron, great egret, little blue heron, tricolored heron, limpkin, and wood stork.



③ Wekiva Island to ④ Wekiva Falls (6.3-miles)
⑤ Wilson's Landing (7.5-miles) or **⑥ Katie's Landing** (9-miles) – For these adventures, you must bring your own canoe or kayak and leave a vehicle at the take out, but it is well worth the extra planning. Enjoy the solitude as you paddle along the river with a mix of forested canopy and open waterways. State preserve lands border both sides of the river for most of this reach.

LOWER WEKIVA RIVER - **⑥ Katie's Landing** to the St. Johns River. You must bring your own canoe or kayak and leave a vehicle at the **⑧ Highbanks** launch to experience many twists and turns as the river winds through 8-miles of a remote section of the Wekiva River Aquatic Preserve and the Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park.

BLACK WATER CREEK - Bring your own canoe or kayak. Drive three miles through the state forest to **⑦** the launch site; look for scrub jays along the way. Paddle upstream to see **⑨ Moccasin Springs** and go farther for a view of pristine wilderness conditions. Call ahead for a day pass and gate combination. Stage a vehicle at **⑧ Highbanks** for a full day, one way, downstream excursion.



Enjoy Your Trip & Be Safe!

- Plan your route ahead of time and leave your itinerary with a reliable contact.
- Everyone in the boat must have a whistle/sounding device and a personal flotation device (PFD).
BE SAFE...WEAR IT!
- Bring water, sun-screen and a hat. Secure all food items and supplies in the boat.
- Be prepared for changing weather. Consider bringing a rain poncho.
- Stay in your boat unless you are at an approved boat launch or designated swimming area.
- LEAVE NO TRACE - take a bag for your trash and to help pick up after others.



Paddle Wekiva was funded through
the Partnership Rivers Program.

The National Park Service is tasked with administering the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River Program in partnership with state and local land managers and guidance from the Wekiva Wild and Scenic River Advisory Management Committee.

The Committee partners include:

Friends of Wekiva River, Inc.
Florida Forest Service (Seminole State Forest)
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida Audubon
Lake County Water Authority
St. Johns River Water Management District
Florida Department of Environmental Protection:
Florida Park Service - Wekiwa Springs State Park
Wekiva/Middle St. Johns Aquatic Preserve
City of Altamonte Springs
City of Apopka
City of Longwood
Lake County
Orange County
Seminole County

East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
The Nature Conservancy