

OHIO RIVER BASIN CONFLUENCE

Clean water, river recreation, and thriving communities

Oct. 16-18 | Louisville, KY | Kentucky International Convention Center

FIELD TRIP GUIDE

- All field trips will occur the afternoon of Thursday, October 16 or the afternoon of Saturday, October 18
- Please plan to meet at the Kentucky International Convention Center's South Pre-Function Upper Concourse (221 S. 4th St) at least 15 minutes before your field trip departure time to check in and arrange carpooling
- Addresses of field trips and host contact information will be provided upon check-in at the South Pre-Function Upper Concourse
- Some field trips have a minimum required number of participants; if the minimum registration is not met, your field trip may be canceled
- Thank you to our field trip hosts, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jeffersonville Township Library Foundation, Filson Historical Society, Louisville MSD, Music Fund Cincinnati, Portland Museum, and River City Paddle Sports!

A special joint summit hosted by:



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

1. Tour the McAlpine Lock and Dam with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Departure Time: 1:15 PM

Transportation: Ride Shuttle from KICC

Duration: 1.5 Hours

Description: Hear from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on their work in the areas of navigation and travel, hydroelectric energy generation, research and development, and wildlife conservation while touring the inside of the lock.

2. Learn about Ohio Valley Research and Scholarship with the Filson Historical Society

Departure Time: 1:15 PM

Transportation: Carpool from KICC

Duration: 2 Hours

Description: The Filson Historical Society has been collecting and publishing Ohio Valley history since 1884. Tour its headquarters at the historic Ferguson Mansion in Old Louisville. View samples of manuscript, photo, art, and object collections. Discuss peer-reviewed publications, including Ohio Valley History journal, now in its 25th year of publication.

3. Tour Paddy's Run Flood Pump Station Capacity Upgrade Project with Louisville MSD

Departure Time: 1:15 PM

Transportation: Carpool from KICC, assisted by MSD van for 10

Duration: 1.5 Hours

Description: This tour will give participants the opportunity to learn more about Louisville Metro's Ohio River Flood Protection System—built to keep the river at bay and out of the city. Paddy's Run Flood Pump Station, put into service in 1953, lies at the heart of this system that protects 214,500 people, 70,000 homes, 60 businesses, and 40 neighborhoods. Recognizing the growing risks posed by aging infrastructure and more intense storm events, Louisville MSD championed a transformative Capacity Upgrade Project—not just to restore reliability, but to dramatically expand protection. The upgraded station will more than double its pumping capacity to 1.9 billion gallons per day, equipping it to handle a 10-year, 24-hour storm event. Water quality and public health for Louisville and downstream communities were central drivers of this investment. For over 70 years, this station has played a critical role in safeguarding the public. Participants will get the rare opportunity to see this upgrade under construction and gain insight into how it strengthens the city's defenses – benefiting safe, clean waterways for generations to come.

Accessibility & Safety: This will be a tour of an active construction site, so participants will need closed-toe boots and long pants. MSD can provide other PPE (hard hats, vests, eye protection). Exact route of tour will depend on status at the time, but may involve stairs.

4. "Planting with a Purpose: Rain Gardens that Work" with Louisville MSD

Departure Time: 1:15 PM

Transportation: Walk or carpool from KICC

Duration: 2 Hours

Description: This walking tour will educate participants on how rain gardens can help manage stormwater, reduce pollution, and beautify green spaces. This interactive tour will start with visits to several existing rain gardens and include a presentation on the role of rain gardens, followed by a practical discussion on site selection, soil preparation, plant choices, and maintenance tips.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

1. Explore the Ohio River by Voyageur Canoe with River City Paddle Sports

Departure Time: 12:45 PM

Transportation: Carpool from KICC

Duration: 2 Hours

Description: Experience the Ohio River and Beargrass Creek like never before during a two-hour voyageur canoe tour, part of the Ohio River Way Challenge. Led by River City Paddle Sports, this hands-on field trip features the RESTORE Lab—an innovative floating classroom that engages participants in real-time water quality testing and ecological exploration. Learn how citizen science, recreation, and environmental stewardship intersect on Louisville's urban waterways.

Safety & Accessibility: This trip involves canoeing and some trekking to the launch site. All participants will be required to sign a waiver.

2. Embark on a “Sauntersong” – Walk and Listen to Live Music with Cincinnati Music Fund

Departure Time: 1:00 PM

Transportation: Walk from KICC

Duration: 1.5 Hours

Description: Sauntersong – short guided hike to the Louisville waterfront with a musical performance by a couple artists/groups at a stop along the river. The mission of Sauntersong is to bring together the healing powers of music and nature.

Accessibility & Safety: Walking up to 2 miles

3. Learn about “Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard” with the Portland Museum

Departure Time: 12:45 PM

Transportation: Carpool from KICC

Duration: 1 Hour

Description: Come and visit the neighborhood museum for Louisville's riverside community of Portland. We will lead a tour through our rotating exhibit covering the life of Harlan Hubbard. Hubbard was famous for his simple living approach and resided on the Ohio River in a shantyboat many times throughout his life.