



# FLOWlines



Finger Lakes-Ontario Watershed Paddlers' Club Newsletter  
Rochester NY

Volume 6, Issue 2

February 2001

## February Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 1  
Time: 7:00 P.M.  
Place: Starbucks Coffee, 2150 Ridge Road W.  
Located directly across from the Mall at Greece Ridge, on the North side of Ridge Road.

## February General Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 8  
Time: 7:00 P.M.  
Place: Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave.

Chris Koll, a director of American Whitewater, will present a talk and video program. Koll is best known as a publicist for whitewater sport in the Adirondack region of New York. He has brought national focus to the sport in the region through the annual Black River Fest and Moose Fest. His program will address these topics and illustrate them with some lively video footage.

## Pool Practice Schedule

Once again, FLOW is sponsoring two locations! Please note that the Wheatland-Chili pool practice is on Monday evenings this year.

Admission to pool practice is \$2 for FLOW members and \$7 for the general public. The price increase for the general public is due to ACA insurance coverage.

### All Boats Must Be Clean

Place	Wheatland-Chili High School Corner of North Rd. and 386 Scottsville, NY
Time	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Dates	The Following Monday Evenings: February 26 March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 2, 9

Place	Pittsford Middle School 75 Barker Road Pittsford, NY
Time	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Dates	The following Wednesday evenings: February 7, 14, 28 March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4

## March General Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 8  
Time: 7:00 P.M.  
Place: Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave.


The federal license which controls the Salmon River Dam is the first of its kind in the country which includes a settlement agreement governing recreational dam releases. Boaters and fishermen were represented in the negotiations by AWA, NYRU, and ADK. The cooperative spirit of the negotiations avoided lengthy and expensive court cases.

Jerry Hargrave and Bill Kuipers will present a program on the Salmon River Licensing Process. Some of the topic are:

- What is the history behind the releases?
- How were the five dates selected?
- How were the flow levels selected?
- What is the Salmon River Flow Management Advisory Committee?

Bring your own questions for Jerry and Bill and find out more about one of the local rivers that we paddle!

## Third Annual FLOW Swap Meet Saturday, March 18, 2001 See Details On Page Five



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Come see what your friends will be paddling this year.



## Waterline Is Free!

You're cruising around the nation with your boat on top of your car looking for water. But wait — instead of wasting gas and time, let your fingers do the walking and give Waterline a call.

What is Waterline? Waterline is a national telephone hotline that gives current river stage information for hundreds of river gauge and release sites in the United States. Flow information is available for a number of sites as well. Waterline is totally automated and is the largest single telephone source of river level and flow information in the United States.

Waterline operates 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Most Waterline reports are updated 6 to 24 times per day with satellite data directly from the gauges. Waterline is incredibly fast and simple to use. Just call the 800 report number of your choice, enter the six digit code for the site you want and listen to the report. You can interrupt any report with another site code any time you have heard enough of any report. The site codes and additional information are available on the Web at

[www.h2oline.com](http://www.h2oline.com) or by calling Waterline Customer Service at (800) 945-3376 during normal business hours, Eastern Time.

There are two toll-free waterline numbers. The Waterline Fishing Edition (800) 452-1742 includes locations and sponsors of interest to anglers, and the Waterline Boater's Edition (800) 452-1737 includes locations and sponsors of interest to the paddlers and floaters.

Up until several months ago Waterline used a fee for service model. Now, however, they are providing the service to the public for free, and are in the process of finding sponsors to offset the cost. Since they began offering the service for free, they have seen a dramatic increase in usage. During last year's boating season, they received over 30,000 calls from 9 states for the Salmon River (NY) alone! If you or your business decide to sponsor a river, listeners will hear a brief message from you at the beginning of each call. For more information, contact Waterline sales at (800) 747-1667.

FLOW  
member price  
**\$55<sup>00</sup>**  
per hammock\*  
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## “Pick Up Your Toys When You’re Done Playing”

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Shown above: Free-standing frame with one horizontal and two slanted hammocks.  
\*Slanted hammock, reg. \$85.00 Boats courtesy of Bay Creek Paddling Center

## Liability Laws And Recreational Use Statutes In Easy Access Format

Jason Robertson, Access Director, American Whitewater, [access@amwhitewater.org](mailto:access@amwhitewater.org)

If you've spent much time playing outside, you've probably asked a landowner at least once or twice for permission to access a favorite trail, river, climbing wall, hunting area, or fishing hole on their property. Most of these encounters start with variations on a familiar script:

"Hi, I'm looking for the owner of this beautiful piece of God's green earth."

"Well, that's me, it's been in my family since the '30s."

"Wow, that's great. Hey, would you mind if I park over by the woods and do a little exploring?"

This is when the script can break down and the landowner either answers, "Sure, no problem. Just be careful, wouldn't want you to get hurt," or "I'm not sure. What if you get hurt? My lawyer's warned me about letting folks on the property."

If you were lucky, you got the first response and spent the day burning calories. If you weren't as lucky, you got the latter response, which was less of a question and more of a statement leading to "No, go away." If you got the soft shoulder, you could have responded with, "I plan on being careful, don't worry about me," or "Okay, guess I'll head up the road and try somewhere else." Regardless, your options were limited since there seemed to be more reasons for landowners to deny recreational access than to support it.

In fact, the fear of lawsuits has often been enough to prevent landowners from opening their land to recreation — even when they had no personal aversion to sharing their land with the public. That's why all 50 states have now developed Recreational Use Statutes. These statutes are intended to promote recreation on private lands by reducing landowner liability concerns. The effect has been increased recreational access for canoers, kayakers, mountain bikers, hikers, climbers, skiers, horseback riders, hunters, fishermen, and others.

Now, with assistance from the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) and the American Association of Horsemanship Safety (AAHS), American Whitewater has made it even easier for recreationists and landowners to work out access arrangements.

American Whitewater has surveyed and compiled the recreational use statutes for all 50 states with side-by-side comparisons of these laws in an easy

to read table at [www.americanwhitewater/access/](http://www.americanwhitewater/access/).

The table at this link answers the most common questions for each of the 50 states:

- Is the owner responsible if someone gets hurt on their land?
- Can the owner be sued?
- Does the owner have to guarantee that their property is safe, or does the owner have a duty to warn if there is a known hazard?
- Is the owner's liability protection lost if the owner charges recreational visitors an access fee?

In addition to answering these common questions, our site collects all 50 state recreational use statutes, provides links to additional sources of information, and contrasts differences between the states.

By providing tools and helping to educate recreationists and landowners about their legal rights and protections American Whitewater hopes to encourage more landowners to say those magic words, "Sure it's fine to visit. Take care of yourself and have a great time!"

Additional Contact Information:

International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA)  
[www.imba.com](http://www.imba.com)

American Association of Horsemanship Safety(AAHS)

[www.law.utexas.edu/dawson/recreate/recreate.htm](http://www.law.utexas.edu/dawson/recreate/recreate.htm)

American Whitewater

[www.americanwhitewater.org](http://www.americanwhitewater.org)

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## Classified Ads

**Wave Sport Kinetic**, New in Sept. 99, Great beginner kayak for a small paddler, \$400. **Rhode Gear Super Shuttle** Trunk Mount Bicycle rack. Holds 2 bikes very securely, \$55. Call Doug (716) 734-9026 or droode@ulbi.com

**Perception Spark** Whitewater Kayak \$400. Rail—mount **Yakima rack** with kayak loop \$60. Call Lee 586-5677 (home) or 781-5428 (work)

**Perception Mr. Clean** play boat and **RIOT KIX** creek boat 450.00 each contact Jim at (716) 436-9902 or 370-9585 cell.

Purple and white **New Wave Cruise Control** for \$300. Contact Simon at 899-6803 or Simon.Barnett@usa.xerox.com.

Do you have extra gear sitting in your basement, garage, or under you deck? Someone may want it and just think what you can do with the extra cash! Send your ads to the newsletter editors. See page 2 for contact information.

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**Next newsletter deadline is Feb 15.**

**FLOW Paddlers Club**  
43 Whelehan Drive  
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