

**For Immediate Release**

Contact:  
Elizabeth McKinney  
Development Manager  
[emckinney@wildlandspa.org](mailto:emckinney@wildlandspa.org)  
610-965-4397 ext. 26

Christopher M. Kocher  
President  
[ckocher@wildlandspa.org](mailto:ckocher@wildlandspa.org)  
610-965-4397, ext. 23



**Lehigh River Sojourn - An Affordable Educational Summer Vacation**

**Right in Your Backyard!**

(Emmaus, Pa., March 27, 2009) – You don't need to travel far this summer for your summer vacation! Have fun, relax or try something new right here in the Lehigh Valley on Wildlands Conservancy's Lehigh River Sojourn (Friday, June 26 – Wednesday, July 1, 2009). Join the five-day educational whitewater rafting, canoeing or kayaking trip down the Lehigh River and experience all of the treasures of nature – amazing recreational opportunities, scenic views, visits from resident wildlife, and a shared appreciation for preserving the environment through educational programs.

The all-inclusive trip, perfect for family fun, corporate team-building and group outings, stretches from the rapids of the Lehigh Gorge and will end at Hugh Moore Park, Easton. Fees include camp site, shuttle service, three catered meals, education program and entertainment for each day registered. Participants have the option of registering for one or multiple days. Corporate sponsorships are available. Proceeds benefit Wildlands Conservancy.

Registration costs for the trip: Day 1 - \$95, Days 2 & 3 - \$65/day, Day 4 & 5 - \$60/day. Register online at [www.wildlandspa.org](http://www.wildlandspa.org). Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is Friday, June 19, 2009.

Canoe, paddles and Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) are available for rent through Wildlands Conservancy for \$12 per person/per day. Sojourners provide their own camping equipment.

The Lehigh River Sojourn's Safety Crew is supervised by Northeast PA Kayaking School and is comprised of members from the Lehigh Valley Canoe Club and National Canoe Safety Patrol. Rafts and safety guides are provided by Pocono Whitewater Adventures on Day 1 of the trip.

### **2009 Lehigh River Sojourn Itinerary**

Pre-Sojourn: Friday, June 26, Camping at Mauch Chunk Lake Park

Day 1: Saturday, June 27, Drakes Creek to Glen Onoko, Whitewater Raft, 12 Miles  
Camping at Mauch Chunk Lake Park

Day 2: Sunday, June 28, Jim Thorpe to Walnutport, Canoe/Kayak, 11 Miles  
Camping at Walnutport Canal Park

Day 3: Monday, June 29, Walnutport to Northampton, Canoe/Kayak, 11 Miles  
Camping at Northampton

Day 4: Tuesday, June 30, Northampton to Bethlehem, Canoe/Kayak, 11 Miles  
Camping at Sand Island, Bethlehem

Day 5: Wednesday, July 1, Bethlehem to Easton, Canoe/Kayak, 12 Miles  
No Camping, End at Hugh Moore Park

For more information, contact Elizabeth McKinney, development manager, at 610-965-4397 ext. 26 or email [emckinney@wildlandspa.org](mailto:emckinney@wildlandspa.org).

### **About Wildlands Conservancy**

Wildlands Conservancy is dedicated to saving the natural treasures of the Lehigh Valley and the Lehigh River valley for current residents and future generations. Its mission is to preserve, protect, restore and enhance the land, water, ecological and recreational resources of the Lehigh Valley and the Lehigh River valley. Established in 1973, the Conservancy collaborates with partnerships throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to achieve its goals. As a non-profit, donor-supported organization, the Conservancy has protected more than 46,000 acres of critical farmland and wildlands in 18 counties of eastern Pennsylvania. For more information, please visit [www.wildlandspa.org](http://www.wildlandspa.org).

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