

Hackensack RIVERKEEPER Open Eco-Cruise Program

PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION BEFORE YOUR TRIP

BE SURE TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO YOUR SCHEDULED DEPARTURE!

If you are lost or running late, ***don't call our office***. Call your captain directly:

Captain Bill Sheehan @ 201-755-6466

Captain Hugh Carola @ 201-403-1992

You can also call the captains' mobile numbers *at any time* on weekends.

Be sure to bring:

1. **YOUR CELLPHONE.** Make sure it's switched ON, so we can contact you in case of weather cancellation or if you're running late.
2. **A JACKET.** Temperatures are often 5-10 degrees cooler on the water, especially on windy and/or cloudy days in spring and fall.
3. **INSECT REPELLENT.** We rarely see mosquitoes, but gnats can be annoying in spring & summer. FYI there's generally no need to apply it on breezy days or in fall.
4. **WATER, REFRESHMENTS.** You are welcome to bring some. Food that doesn't require utensils works best. Beer & wine are permitted in moderation*. Smoking is prohibited.
5. **SUNSCREEN.** If you forget it, we'll have some onboard for your use.

Four important points to note:

1. **USE OUR DIRECTIONS.** They are verified, ground-truthed and accurate.
2. **DO NOT RELY ON GPS TECHNOLOGY.** If you must use GPS, be sure to program it for: **Laurel Hill County Park, Secaucus, NJ 07094**. Once inside the park, turn into the first parking lot on the RIGHT (just past the dog run). That's where we are.
3. **NO NEED FOR MOTION-SICKNESS MEDS.** Our 30-foot pontoon cruisers are very stable and we travel on relatively calm waterways.
4. **CHILDREN AND ECO-CRUISES.** Children as young as 4 are welcome aboard. Please note that they must be able to remain more or less in one place for 2.5 hours.

Regarding weather and cancellations:

1. We DO NOT conduct Eco-Cruises in the rain, in other dangerous conditions like high winds or heat emergencies, nor in the face of credible threats of bad weather.
2. We monitor multiple marine weather forecasts and Doppler radar & wait until two hours prior to your scheduled start time before canceling (unless the day's a total wash-out).
3. We will try to provide plenty of advance notice – and do our best to avoid canceling prematurely.
4. If *you* need to cancel, please let us know as soon as possible (on **eventbrite** *and* by phone if you would) so we can free up your seat(s) for those on standby.

Two last points:

1. * There are no restroom facilities aboard our 30-foot open boats.
2. Due to low bridges and tidal conditions on the lower Hackensack River we are rarely able to deploy the Bimini tops for shade.

Enjoy your trip & be sure to tell your friends about Hackensack Riverkeeper!

Hackensack RIVERKEEPER®

ECO-CRUISE PROGRAM • DIRECTIONS TO LAUREL HILL PARK, SECAUCUS, NJ

FROM NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE EASTERN SPUR: (the most *direct* Turnpike route): Exit the Turnpike at **Exit 15-X** (for Secaucus Junction). After the tolls, follow the I-o-n-g ramp (which becomes Seaview Ave.) around the train station to the traffic light at NEW COUNTY RD. (A.K.A. PAUL AMICO WAY). Turn **LEFT** onto New County / Paul Amico, proceed over the bridge and drive straight into Laurel Hill Park.

➔ **Once inside the park, turn into the *first* parking lot on the **RIGHT**.** That's where we are.

FYI: BE SURE to take the **Eastern Spur** when the Turnpike divides: Follow signs for Exits 15E, **15X**, 16E & 18E if traveling north; or for the Lincoln Tunnel / Exit 17 and Exit **15X** if traveling south. If you get on the Western Spur by mistake, don't panic. Take Exit 16W to Route 3 Eastbound and follow the directions below. **You can't get to Exit 15X from the Western Spur.**

OR, FROM ROUTE 3 EASTBOUND AND POINTS WEST: As you pass the Meadowlands Sports Complex, get into the right lane. As you come over the bridge, take the MEADOWLANDS PARKWAY Exit. At the bottom of the ramp, turn **LEFT** at the light onto Meadowlands Pkwy. *Take Meadowlands Pkwy through several sets of traffic lights, **over** a bridge and **straight past** the Harmon Cove Towers. A short way past the Towers, Meadowlands Parkway **becomes** CASTLE ROAD as it bends sharply to the left. Take Castle Rd. until it ends at PAUL AMICO WAY. Turn **RIGHT** onto P.A.W., proceed over a bridge and drive straight into Laurel Hill Park.
➔ **Once inside the park, turn into the *first* parking lot on the **RIGHT**.** That's where we are.

OR, FROM NYC / LINCOLN TUNNEL / ROUTE 3 WESTBOUND: Proceed westbound on I-495. Stay to the right at the bottom of the North Bergen Viaduct and bear **RIGHT** onto Route 3 West. Stay in the right lane on Route 3 and take the exit for MEADOWLANDS PARKWAY. Follow the exit ramp under Route 3 and stay to the right as you approach the second traffic light. You are now **on** Meadowlands Pkwy. Proceed as directed (*) above.

OR, FROM JERSEY CITY VIA COUNTY ROAD: From Routes 1 & 9 (Tonnelles Avenue), take County Road towards Secaucus. After passing under the NJ Turnpike, follow signs for Secaucus Junction and merge onto New County Road (AKA Paul Amico Way). Follow New County Rd. / P.A.W. for about ½ mile to Laurel Hill Park. Proceed as directed (➔) above.

OR, VIA NJ TRANSIT TRAIN TO SECAUCUS JUNCTION: Trains running on six different lines make stops at Secaucus Junction throughout the day. From the Concourse, take the Elevator to Street located **LEFT** of the gates for the Northeast Corridor Line (Tracks 1-2). After exiting the elevator, exit the station through the door to your **RIGHT**. Once outside, walk to your **RIGHT** and follow the walkway toward the elevator/stair tower at New County Rd. ● From the top of the tower turn **LEFT** and walk about ⅓ mile into Laurel Hill Park. **Be sure of your return train!**

OR, VIA NJ TRANSIT BUS TO SECAUCUS JUNCTION: Numbers 2, 78, 124, 129 & 772 buses stop at the Junction. From the bus stop, walk towards the station entrance but **DO NOT ENTER**. At the base of the stairs, turn **RIGHT** and follow the walkway toward the elevator/stair tower at New County Rd. Then follow the directions (●) above. **Be sure of your return bus**

Captain Bill's cellphone: 201-755-6466 ~~~~~ **Captain Hugh's cellphone:** 201-403-1992

Paddling Center cellphone: 201-920-4746 (Onsite at Laurel Hill Park – WEEKENDS ONLY)