Enjoy the River Safely and Responsibly
Follow these regulations and safety tips.

Boating and Paddling
- Wear your life jacket! Approved life jackets for each person are required on your vessel. (3.7)
- Children under 13 are required to wear a life jacket. (3.7)
- Check river conditions before launching www.nps.gov/sacn/ planyourvisit/current-conditions.
- Know your paddling ability. Not all stretches of the Riverway are suitable for beginners.
- Slow-no wake, which is operation of a motorboat at the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, is in effect within 100 feet of:
  - A downed water skier;
  - A person swimming, wading, fishing from shore or floating with the aid of a flotation device;
  - A designated launch site; or
  - A manually propelled, anchored or drifting vessel. (3.8b)(4)
- Use of personal watercraft is prohibited. (Defined in 1.4)

Camping (2.10):
- Camping is only allowed at designated sites on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Camping stay limit is 3 consecutive nights at a campsite.
- Individual campsites accommodate a maximum of 8 people and 3 tents. Group sites accommodate a maximum of 16 people and 6 tents.*
- Tents must be occupied on the first night of stay. Equipment left unattended to hold a site will be treated as abandoned.
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Campsites & Firewood
- Open campfires are allowed only in metal campfire rings.
- Dead and down wood may be collected for campfires from shoreline areas but not from islands. (2.1(a)(4))
- The cutting of live vegetation is strictly prohibited.
- To prevent the spread of emerald ash borer, only use firewood that is kiln dried or collected within 25 miles of where it will be used. (2.1(a)(4))
- Campfires must be out and cold before you leave the area.

Fishing
- Dumping or release of live bait is prohibited. (2.3d2)
- Use of live crayfish as bait is prohibited. (2.3d2)
- Help prevent the introduction of invasive species. Never release bait, bait water, or water from live bait wells into the river.

Sanitation and Refuse
- Where a pit toilet is not available, human waste and pet waste must be removed from the park or be buried at least 6 inches underground and a minimum of 100 feet from any water source, high water mark, trail, or facility. (2.14b; 2.15a5)
- Carry out all trash. (2.14a2)
- Littering is not allowed. (2.14a5)
- Please do not put trash in toilets.

General
- Collecting live or dead mussels, empty mussel shells, historical artifacts, or wildflowers is prohibited. (2.1 c; ARPA)
- Do not jump or dive from cliffs, trees, swing rope, or bridges. (3.16)
- Avoid trees that have fallen into the river. They can catch and overturn your vessel.
- Wear sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat to prevent sunburn.
- Use alcohol responsibly.
- Do not bring glass containers to the Riverway. Broken glass cuts bare feet.
- Protect your feet with river shoes or sandals.
- Bring your own drinking water. The water is not safe to drink unless purified.
- Check for ticks.
- Watch for poison ivy.
- Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Pet waste must be removed from the park or buried. (See Refuse Section; 2.15a1)
- Possession or shooting of fireworks is prohibited.
- Quiet hours are from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am. (2.10b4)

* For more information and updates due to COVID-19, please see www.nps.gov/sacn.


St. Croix River Map 6: Sand Creek Landing to Highway 70

common merganser

Hundreds of baby mergansers are raised on the river every summer. Look for babysitter females with lots of babies following along.

In This Stretch
- Rapids begin downstream of Nelsons Landing.
- Stay to the left if you want to be in the deeper main channel at the place where the river splits around large islands.
- To paddle the Kettle River Slough, take the right channel at the split and then go right again near the first big island. Near the Kettle River confluence with the St. Croix there is a ledge and a series of fast and steep rapids that are regularly Class II. You will miss Fox Landing when taking this route.
- Wide, shallow and easy rapids characterize the St. Croix after the Kettle River joins it.
- The Sandrock Cliffs channel is two miles past Soderbeck Landing on the left. It can dry up in low water.

National Park Service
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway

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