



Mississippi National River
and Recreation Area
Big River Journey Program
since 1996

EXPLORE
HISTORY!

Journey to the Falls Minneapolis

Spring 2009

Mississippi River field trips
for grades 4-6

Coordinated by
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area
(National Park Service)
In cooperation with
Minneapolis Queen Riverboat

Program partners
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Minneapolis Queen Riverboat
Minnesota Center for Book Arts
Minnesota Historical Society
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area
Mississippi River Fund
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

www.nps.gov/miss



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St. Paul, MN 55101-1256

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JOURNEY TO THE FALLS RESERVATIONS – SPRING 2009

TO RESERVE A JOURNEY TO THE FALLS TRIP:

1) Contact Brian Goodspeed at 651-290-3030, ext. 297 for a trip/date reservation.

Reservations are *first-come, first-served*, in accordance with limits (i.e. 65 student maximum/trip; 130 max./school) and guidelines outlined in this flyer.

2) Then send or fax this form to National Park Service at address below. We must receive a complete form to reserve your trip, and you must attend a Journey to the Falls workshop.

Trip Date (as provided by Brian Goodspeed) _____ Grade(s) (circle): 4 5 6

Trip arrival time (circle): 9:30 (at Boom Island, Minneapolis) 10:00 (at Stone Arch Bridge West, Minneapolis)

School _____ Number of students (limits: 65/trip, 130/school) _____

Contact Person _____ Contact email _____

School address _____ City, state, zip code _____

Summer address _____ City, state, zip code _____

School phone # _____ Summer phone # _____ School fax # _____

Teachers from my school who will attend the March 7 workshop (attendance required for field trip participation):

I am requesting a scholarship (see eligibility requirements): YES NO

Fax or send this form (or a copy) to:

Journey to the Falls Reservations
Mississippi National River & Recreation Area
111 E. Kellogg Blvd., Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55101-1256
Fax: 651-290-3815

For further information: Call Brian Goodspeed at 651-290-3030, ext. 297, or visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/miss> or www.nps.gov/miss/forteachers/

Journey to the Falls—Spring 2009

Educational field trips on the Mississippi River!



What is “Journey to the Falls?”

Among the most significant historical and cultural landmarks in Minnesota is Saint Anthony Falls, the Mississippi River’s only major waterfall, responsible for the early growth of the City of Minneapolis.

Journey to the Falls (JTF) is an integration of river and classroom experiences featuring *history and literacy* activities. JTF connects students with Saint Anthony Falls and the Mississippi River in the Minneapolis area. The program culminates with a riverboat excursion on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis that includes hands-on learning stations, journaling and visual literacy activities, and passage through a lock.

Teachers who sign up for Journey to the Falls incorporate river-themed activities into their classroom. Pre- and post-trip activities are selected by each teacher from among many activity options presented in an advance teacher workshop. Journey to the Falls addresses Minnesota Academic Standards and district learning objectives.

Field trip description

Journey to the Falls field trips feature staffed learning stations and activities:

- Locks & Dams
- River Explorers
- Journaling
- Mapping Change on the Mississippi
- Mill Ruins Archaeology *
- Falls History Hike *

* land-based experiences

Each trip is designed for approximately 65 students (or two classrooms), grades 4-6.

Field trip location

Journey to the Falls takes place on and along the Mississippi River in **Minneapolis**. The riverboat portion of the trip (aboard the **Minneapolis Queen**) begins and ends at **Boom Island Park**, approximately one mile upstream from St. Anthony Falls near the Plymouth Ave Bridge. The land based portion of the trip begins and ends near the west end of the **Stone Arch Bridge**, downtown Minneapolis. Students must be bused between the two locations using your school’s buses.

Field trip dates

May 26-29 and June 1-3, 2009

Field Trip times

Trip 1- Students arrive at 9:30 at Boom Island Park. The riverboat departs at 9:45 for a 1¼ hour trip followed by a brown bag lunch. Students board field trip buses at 12:15 for transport to the Stone Arch Bridge for the 45 minute land portion of the field trip. Field trip ends at 1:15.

OR

Trip 2- Students arrive at 10:00 at the west end of the **Stone Arch Bridge** for a 45 minute land based activity followed by transport to Boom Island Park for a brown bag lunch. Students board boat at 11:55 and depart at noon on a 1¼ hour boat trip. Trip ends at 1:45.

Participation requirements

Attendance at the Journey to the Falls **Teacher Workshop**, preparation of students through classroom activities, and evaluation, are **required of all teachers**. See workshop details at right.

Field trip fee

Cost is **\$8.50** per student. Field trip payments are handled by the **Minneapolis Queen Riverboat (MQR)** which will contact you for billing if your school is scheduled for a trip. MQR provides 1 comp fare per 15 students.

Scholarships

Scholarships to reduce field trip cost (provided by the Mississippi River Fund) are available for qualifying schools. Schools with at least 50% participation in the free-and-reduced lunch program and/or at least 50% students of color qualify. The field trip fee for approved scholarship schools will be **\$3.50/student**. Scholarship eligibility must be verified in writing by your principal; written confirmation will be sent. Schools arrange and pay for their own buses. To request a scholarship **contact Brian Goodspeed** at 651-290-3030, ext. 297.

Trip Reservations

Send your completed reservation request form to Brian Goodspeed at the return address shown on this flyer.

Teacher Workshop

Attendance at the Journey to the Falls Teacher Workshop is **required of all teachers** participating in the field trips.

Workshop Location: Mill City Museum
ADM Conf. Rm., 6th floor
710 S. Second Street, Minneapolis

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2009, 8:30-12:30

Registration: Confirm your attendance for the workshop at the same time you select your trip date. If you have questions, you may contact Brian Goodspeed at 651-290-3030, ext. 297 for assistance.

Cost: A donation of \$15/teacher or \$25/school is requested. Make check payable to “Mississippi National River & Recreation Area” and write “workshop donation” on memo line.

Workshop Content:

At the required Journey to the Falls workshop teachers will:

- Learn to conduct classroom activities that will help prepare students for the field trip, while supporting academic standards
- Learn about follow-up activities such as writing and art to extend the field trip learning experience
- Get oriented to Journey to the Falls field trip logistics
- Receive Teacher’s Guide of thematic Mississippi River activities and resource materials
- Become introduced to other river-related learning opportunities
- Receive Continuing Education certificate

Further information

www.nps.gov/miss/forteachers/