

Scenic and Destination Paddling Waterways Adirondack Park

Rollins Pond Loop

Put in and take out: Floodwood Road

Paddling time: 4-5 hours

Portages: Three



From the NY DEC website: *Rollins Pond should be at the top of your list if you like canoes, rowboats, paddle boats or kayaks. All are available for rent at the boat launch livery site, and this long narrow body of water provides the ideal setting for days of fun as you take turns on all of them. Adventurers can canoe the waterway leading to Fish Creek, or just try their luck fishing in Whey Pond, located adjacent to the livery area, and "stocked" annually with trout.¹*

The Fish Creek Ponds area is a paddler's dream come true. Loons, beavers, a large variety of waterfowl and an abundance of marsh, deciduous and coniferous flora complement this region's fauna as you paddle through a dozen separate ponds, all connected by creeks or short carries.

You can stay and launch from the popular Fish Creek Campground, or choose to put in at the Floodwood Pond access which this document describes below.

This round trip circuit includes five smaller lakes/ponds with three portages that are easy and wheelable. The loop can be done in either direction, although in the summer, a clockwise trip is recommended to go with the prevailing winds on Rollins Pond (the largest).

Once on the water, paddle to the southeast corner of Floodwood Pond and follow the outlet known as Fish Creek through Little Square Pond. Look for a small lazy stream coming in from the west for the outlet to Copperas Pond.

Your portage to Whey Pond is from the west end of Copperas Pond, take the right hand or more northerly trail. Whey Pond has a small beach that's good for a lunch spot.

From the western end of Whey Pond, a short portage leads to Rollins Pond and the public campground road. There are islands toward the north end that make for nice picnic spots.

At the north end of the pond, head east into the outlet bay. This outlet may be paddled in high water into Floodwood Pond – scout out before trying, there are rocks.

Directions: Floodwood Road leads west off State Route 30 at the paved crossroads 3.5 miles north of the main entrance to Fish Creek Ponds Public Campground and 5.5 miles west of Lake Clear Junction (junction of Rts 30 & 186). Travel is 4.1 miles; the access point is on the left just before the railroad tracks. When the public lot is full, park along the north side of the road.

¹ <u>http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/24494.html</u>

Additional information compiled from Canoeing & Kayaking New York, Kevin Stiegelmaier, 2009 and Adirondack Paddler's Guide, Dave Cilley, 2nd Edition.

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Be a Safe and Respectful Paddler

New York State Law requires all boats and canoes must carry a US Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device (PFD) for each person. State law also requires that children must be wearing a PFD, and highly recommend that all occupants wear a PFD.

DEC Emergency Dispatch number for the Adirondack Park: 518-891-0235 General Emergencies: dial 911 Remember, cell phone coverage is not reliable in the Adirondack Park.

- Insect repellent is a must from May to August.
- Plan ahead and prepare.
- Let someone know where you will be going and when you expect to return.
- Pack gear, clothing and supplies in waterproof containers. Bring a map and compass.
- Carry water and high-energy foods.
- Pack in, pack out.
- Use outhouses where available, otherwise dig a 6-8 inch hole 150 feet from water, trail or road.
- Protect your food. Protect the wildlife.
- Leave rocks, plants, natural objects as you find them.

- Fallen trees (sweepers), debris, beaver dams, other obstructions can suck you down and hold you under water.
- Water is typically 25° colder in the Adirondacks than downstate.
- Drinking water should be treated by filtering, boiling or chemical method.
- Allow four times the time for a portage, that you would allow for walking that given distance.

Visit the American Canoe Association at <u>http://www.americancanoe.org</u> for information on safety resources, preparation and responsibility while paddling.

Enjoy the diverse beauty of our region.

Thanks for using <u>www.ADKtrailmap.com</u>, enjoy your canoe or kayak adventure!