

The Murphy River Walk takes you through many natural environments that just happen to immediately surround the historic town center. From Konehete Park, you'll follow the beautiful Valley River to its meeting with the Hiwassee River and lake backwaters, passing through open meadowland, marshy wetland, hardwood forest, and around rock cliffs. Then, walk along the Hiwassee River all the way in to the Old L&N Depot trail head in town. Constructed with respect to the natural environment, and its host of native plant and wild life, the approximate

4 miles of walking trails are a joy to experience." The Canoe Trails follow along the banks of the Valley and Hiwassee Rivers. In the summer months when Lake Hiwassee is full, it backs up into these rivers and surrounding low lands. These shallow waters provide unique opportunities for the paddlers to meander along the rivers, inlets, and among the trees to observe birds, wildlife and fish species not otherwise seen from the walking trail.

## Murphy River Walk & Canoe Trails



### About the River Walk

Every day is a great day on the Murphy River Walk & Canoe Trail, and we thank you for keeping the trails clean, litter free and eco-friendly. Certain parts of these trails will be seasonal. When the lake and river waters rise during the summer months, the canoe trails are extended by a series of inlets. As the waters recede, the Confluence Loop, which includes part of the old Tennessee Street road surface, can be fully enjoyed by walkers.



Everyday Wildlife

### The Legend of the Great Leech

Cherokee legend reveals the story of the Great Leech, living in a deep hole below the old rock ledge crossing in the Valley River. Known among the Cherokees as Tianusi'yi, The Leech Place can be seen from the River Walk bridge overlook. The legendary giant leech, with its red and white striped



Relaxing Paths



Legends with views

into the deep hole of the river below. Watch carefully, as some would say the Great Leech is still there...



Rays of the River Walk



Train's A'Coming

Photography courtesy of Debra Wendeftan and a host of appreciated walkers.