

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 markings, would cause the water to boil up into a white foam. Then, a great wave would rise up and sweep people on the rock ledge off their feet and into the deep hole of the river below. Watch carefully, as some would say the Great Leech is still there...



Since it began as a concept in 2002, the River Walk has seen the successful completion of all phases of the basic trail construction between Konehete Park and the Old L&N Depot, and now

includes the Confluence Loop and Canoe trails. The volunteer project team has undertaken a host of ongoing and future maintenance, landscaping, interpretive and directional signage, and school class projects on the trail.

The River Walk is supported by private donations, public contributions, and grants. Recent grant awards include those from The Cherokee Preservation Foundation, The Dub & Murray Martin Cherokee and Clay County Trust, and The OEO Growing Opportunities Small Grants & Awards Program. Every contribution helps, and your tax deductible donation can be made to:

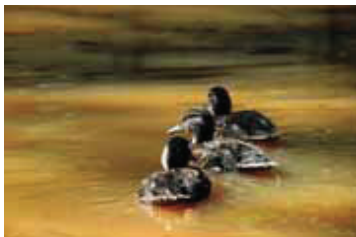
River Walk
c/o Barbara Vicknair
16 Boulevard Street
Murphy NC 28906.

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.



P.O. Box 1152
Murphy, NC 28906

Visit the River Walk
www.HeritagePartners.org

The Murphy River Walk is proudly sponsored by Heritage Partners, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, nonprofit organization working to benefit the community by strengthening its sense of place, and by attracting a sustainable base of heritage, ecological and agricultural tourism. Second Edition, printed July 2011. ©2009 ~ 2011 Heritage Partners.

Murphy River Walk & Canoe Trail



This beautiful greenway follows the Valley River and the Hiwassee River surrounding the historic town center of Murphy, North Carolina. The 2-mile walking trail includes a center loop at the confluence of these two rivers on the backwaters of Lake Hiwassee. Whether you take the trail on foot or put in for an easy paddle along the canoe trails, you'll enjoy the ecology and cultural heritage along the way.

