

Hudson River Greenway Water Trail

Kayak Storage Racks

Instructions for Use

Background and Intended Uses

As part of efforts to develop and promote a 256 mile Hudson River Greenway Water Trail (HRGWT) from Whitehall to Manhattan, the Hudson River Valley Greenway has deployed 65 kayak storage racks at 33 sites in the Hudson Valley, see Figure 1. Each rack has the capacity to store two boats and up to 12 cubic feet of gear. Both the boats and gear may be secured with kayaker provided locks and cables. The racks are intended for short term, non-overnight storage only.

The purpose of this document is to demonstrate one method of securing a boat to the racks. The method shown is for boats without a locking ring on them. The Greenway makes no guarantee that securing your boat and gear to these racks will prevent theft. It is our belief that it will make it safer to leave your boat and gear to explore a community or hike on a segment of the Greenway Trail.

Instructions for Use

In order to properly secure your boat and gear you will need:

- Two bicycle cables with padlock loops in the end, at least 7 feet long each, depending upon the length and width of your boat.
- Two padlocks.

Step 1) Place your boat onto the racks either right side up or upside down; balanced between the supports. Note: the supports are 60 inches apart. See Figure 2



Figure 2 HRGWT Kayak Rack with a 19 foot Current Designs Expedition.

Step 2) Take the bicycle cables and form a slip knot loop by tucking one end of the cable through the padlock loop at the other end and slip the resulting loop over the bow or stern of your kayak. Repeat at for the other end cable and place it on the other end of kayak. See Figures 3 & 4.



Figure 1 Two kayak racks in standard back-to-back configuration. Photo courtesy Scott Wells.



Figures 3 & 4 Make a loop and slip it over the end of the boat. Avoid being too close to the end or near the widest part of the boat.

Step 3) Move each loop far enough toward the center of the boat to prevent anyone from being able to slip it off the end of the kayak (fig 4) and keeping it away from the widest part of the boat. (If the loop is around the widest part of the boat then the boat could be slipped out of the cable.)

Step 4) Take up the slack in the cable and wrap the free end around the uprights on the racks. Keep the padlock loop close to the back. See figures 5, 6 & 7.



Left to right, Figures 5, 6 & 7. Cables wrapped around the racks upright and padlocked together (fig 5). Padlock loop correctly toward back of boat (yellow cable bumper) nearest the rack upright (fig 6) and padlock loop incorrectly near center of boat (orange cable bumper).

Step 5) Place gear from boat into storage bins, close right hand door first, then left. Rotate handle to line up padlock holes and lock into place. See Figures 8 & 9.



Figures 8 & 9. Gear storage compartment open and closed.

Step 6) Enjoy a visit to your favorite restaurant or go for a hike on the Greenway Trail System!