



## Upper Monongahela River Association, Inc.

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Monongalia County Commission  
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The Upper Monongahela River Association (UMRA) is happy to have an opportunity to express its support for Commission plans to restore the brownfield Quality Glass Company plant site in Van Voorhis.

We would like to suggest the following concepts be included in preparing detailed plans for public use:

- The primary use should be a paved parking lot for trail users. The term “trail users” would include users of both the Rail-Trail and the Upper Monongahela River Water Trail.
- Pedestrian access to the water is an essential element. This would accommodate carry-in launching of small boats and canoes, and bank fishing.
- The facilities should be of the “carry-in/carry-out” type,” that is no trash receptacles should be provided.
- No lighting should be provided since lighting in remote locations often becomes associated with undesirable uses.
- A bicycle rack should be provided to assist in car shuttles by canoe/kayak users launching at other sites.
- Shade, picnic facilities, and a toilet are desirable.

Construction of a “boat ramp” should not be a primary focus on the Quality Glass site for several reasons. These include:

- A designated boat ramp is expected to provide specialized parking and traffic flow which would consume the entire site and would be expensive.
- Planning by the DNR for a major boat ramp almost directly across the river is now in advanced stage.
- The end of the Van Voorhis Road is an old ferry ramp. This should be improved to accommodate the launching of small boats (under 16 feet, 1000 gross loaded trailer weight) from trailers.

Sincerely yours,

Wallace Venable  
Technical Coordinator, UMRA