Downtown direction. The truth is that rivers flow in just one direction always—and that is
northward direction. The Contoocook River is one of only a few rivers in New Hampshire that primarily flow in a
Cremery, and 25 acres of the Houston family’s private land farm fields in Contoocook Village.
reverse direction, including over 400 acres at Bohanan Farm, the home of Contoocook
Length of Paddle: 9 miles total
**This is a ONE-WAY
paddle, and involves reserving a shuttle from CRCC (fee). Alternative out and back paddle 7.4 miles total.
Approximate Time: 4-5 hours for either alternative
Difficulty: Flat water, but moderate difficulty due to
length of paddle; 7.4 miles total.
Notes: Paddle to Paddle.
What to bring: PFD/lifejacket, water, lunch, water shoes, sunscreen and hat (high sun exposure), binoculars,
sandals.

What you’ll see:
This paddle offers scenic views of protected forests and farmland, and plenty of great
opportunities for watching wildlife. The shoreline is mostly forested with sandy beaches here and there.
If you enjoy fishing from your canoe or kayak, smallmouth bass and pickerel are common in this section of the
Contoocook River.

location: Contoocook Riverway Park (CRCC)
CRCC Conservation Council
address: 7652 Main St, Hopkinton, NH

What you need to know:

1. Paddlers not wanting to use the shuttle service. Alternative, there is an out-and-back option for
Altematively, there is an out-and-back option for
River Canoe Company (CRCC) for a fee of $25 per
River Canoe Company (CRCC) for a fee of $25 per.

2. No paddlers alike. This is a one-way paddle
ending in Concord is a novice for experienced
and
paddling route beginning in
the Merrimack. This paddling route begins
River that flows northward from Lake Contoocook in
NH to Penacook, NH, where it empties into
River.

The Contoocook River is a tributary of the Merrimack.
Suggested Route

- If you would like to rent kayaks or take advantage of a shuttle option (with rented or personal boats), contact the Contoocook River Canoe Company. For a fee, they will shuttle you and your boats to the launch point in Contoocook Village. Shuttle reservations are required, call 603-753-9804. More information at www.contoocookcanoe.com.

- If you choose to do the out-and-back option, start in Contoocook Village and launch at Contoocook Riverway Park. Paddle downstream along the Contoocook River for 3.7 miles until you reach the mouth of the Blackwater River on your left (this is the second sizeable river confluence, the first will be the Warner River, also on your left. Turn around at the confluence with the Blackwater River and paddle upstream back to the launch point.

- Daisy Beach, a small sandy beach at Lehtinen Park (~7 miles from launch point), makes a nice destination for a rest or picnic before the final stretch to CRCC for those choosing the one-way, shuttle option.