

Creekin' options abound when it rains in the Adirondacks

At the 2003 Moose Fest when torrential rain drove the level of the Moose up to over 5'--the Bottom Moose looked a little, well, beefy for the vast majority of participants.

Fortunately, when it's wet in the Adirondacks, there is always a plethora of options. And boaters fanned out to experience dozens of other nearby runs.

The class 4-5 Independence River is just 10 miles north of the Moose. It's a short run with most of its drops packed into the final miles where the river tumbles 200 feet. The Indy's

little brother--class 4 Otter Creek--virtually shares the same takeout just a mile away.

Roaring Brook, a wild class 5 creek with steep slides is situated five miles northwest of the Indy off of Route 12. And another five miles north in Lowville, the class 5 Mill Creek tumbles off the Tug Hill in a similar series of steep slides.

Ninety minutes north of Old Forge is the Oswegatchie system with class 4-5 runs on the West, Middle and East Branches of the river. The Middle Branch is a particularly im-

pressive wilderness run featuring spectacular waterfalls.

The Grass River is located close to the Oswegatchie and features two waterfall-studded sections: the Twin Falls and Lampson Falls runs. Twin Falls is the more challenging and includes the 50-foot Twin Falls and the 20-foot Rainbow Falls along with numerous other class 4-5 rapids.

To the east, the Cedar River shares common drainage with the headwaters of the Moose and is a prime option when the

Moose is too high. The Cedar features four class 4-5 drops along with many other rapids as the river drops toward the Hudson through beautiful, narrow gorges.

Northeast of the Cedar is a trio of rivers that should be hit when there's a lot of water. The Branch features five miles of huge drops followed by burly run-outs while the Boquet and Johns Brook are two of the finest steep creeks in the East.

Of course--if class 4-5 is a little more than you bargained for, there's also a pair of classic playboat riv-

ers in close proximity to Old Forge: the class 3-4 Fish Creek with its miles of glassy 4'-5' surf waves and play hydraulics and the class 3-4 Hudson River Gorge.

And that's not to mention the dozens of other alternatives available if you're lucky enough to hit favorable fall water conditions...like the Raquette, Bog, Ausable, Sacandaga, and Saranac...

So pray for rain. If you're fortunate, you might not even see the Moose during your trips to the Adirondacks.



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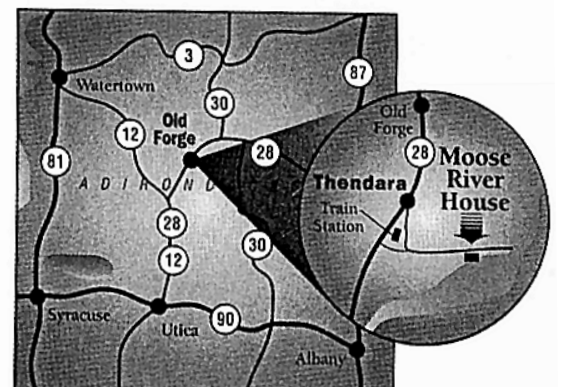


MOOSE RIVER HOUSE
Bed & Breakfast
on Fawn Landing

The Moose River House. A bed and breakfast with a little history.

Built for Julia Lyon by her husband William Scott de Camp ("Who Was Who In America") around 1882, the Moose River House was originally a small hotel accessible only by boat. People were brought to the inn by Julia's tiny sidewheeler steamboat named *Fawn* which docked at the Moose River House landing. Her steamboat traveled up and down the Moose River at a time when the river also served as a tributary to the historic New York State Erie Canal.

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