



Training Future River Professionals 2014-2015 Webinars

This series of webinars is being offered by the River Management Society for members, colleagues and friends interested in workshops and training sessions offered at past training events. They are free of charge and

Webinars will follow a familiar timing and format:

<i>Day of week</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>
<i>Time of day</i>	<i>1:00 pm Eastern Standard Time</i>
<i>Duration</i>	<i>One hour, except as noted</i>

January 21, 2015

Safety-Related Success of In-River Whitewater Park Design

The whitewater river park at Confluence Park was constructed in 1974 - becoming the nation's first designed park constructed in an active river. The whitewater course was totally re-designed by the author and rebuilt in 1995. Located within a very urbanized area and regulated floodplain, the structures making up the features act to form a diversion and stabilize this formerly degrading river channel. While the park is one of the most heavily utilized - particularly by novices - there have been no known drownings or serious injuries within this steep-gradient whitewater park. The various features of the park employ a number of design techniques and philosophies that have proven successful over the past almost 40 years. The safety related aspects of the park will be discussed and questions and discussion will be encouraged.

Rick McLaughlin, P.E., McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group

Rick is an engineer at the McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group - a Division of Merrick & Company. He has been the design engineer on a number of whitewater and multi-purpose recreational projects since the early 1980s. Some of these include the current configuration of Confluence Park, the 1996 Olympic Whitewater Venue, a large river restoration, diversion, and whitewater project on the American River, a very large scale river restoration and whitewater project in Columbus Georgia and a fish passage and whitewater course in Delta Colorado.