

water

FISHING

Call up your old pal Huck Finn, take off your shoes and hang that sign in the window, because you've gone fishin'! There are several companies that charter fishing expeditions on the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers, but that's not nearly as quaint as finding your own fishing hole in an out of the way spot. Dorena Lake in Cottage Grove has a number of such locations, as do the rivers that flow through town. Make sure to check for specific licensure rules before fishing, and if the fish doesn't look edible, throw it back.

HOT SPRINGS

Get ready for romantic and organic revelry, ancient European style at Terwilliger Hot Springs. Located near Cougar Reservoir, the hot springs are just an hour east on Highway 126. After a brief hike through the woods, you'll find a series of three bubbling pools, each progressively warmer than the last. It's like a natural, sulfur-scented hot tub, complete with rock

formations that have developed into comfortable little underwater seats. It's technically illegal to be there after dark, so make sure to get out of there on time or bring a flashlight and money for fines.

RAFTING

The nearby McKenzie River offers Class II and Class III rapids for those who delight in the heart pounding thrill of whitewater rafting. You can go it on your own if you have the experience and background to raft the rapids, or this area also offers plenty of guided river trip options. For more information, try visiting www.AdventureRiverCenter.com.

CANOEOING

If the rough-and-tumble river-spray-in-your-face mania of whitewater rafting sounds a little too high energy for your taste, maybe an easy glide in a canoe or kayak would suit you better. From the Mill Race at the UO, to the Alton Baker Canal, to Fern Ridge Reservoir, you can choose from many local spots for a leisurely canoeing afternoon. If you don't have equipment of your own, Eugene offers plenty of river sports shops to help you with renting or purchasing what you need.

PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

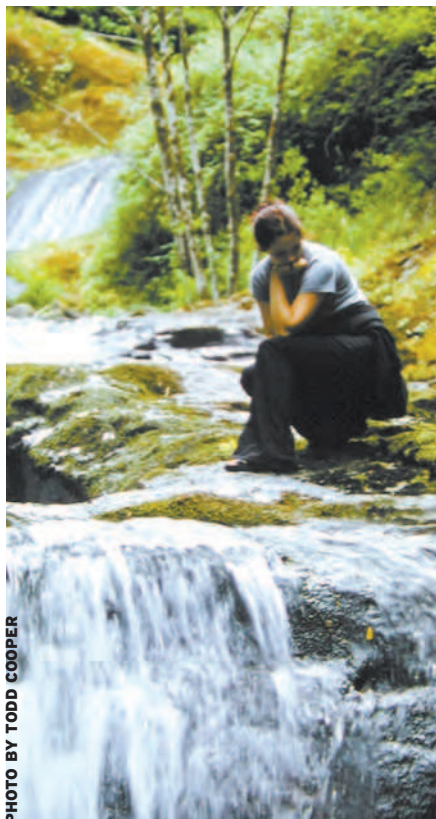


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LEFT: SWEET CREEK (NEAR MAPLETON, OR) • RIGHT: MCKENZIE RIVER FROM WATERFALLS TRAIL

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