Restroom Facilities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Starting Elevation</th>
<th>Ending Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mile 0</td>
<td>137 feet Lat: 31.3094°N Lon: 84.3353°W</td>
<td>121 feet Lat: 31.1592°N Lon: 84.4779°W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Points of Interest:

**Winding Shoals & River “Improvements”**—It is hard to fathom the lengths to which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers went in order to render the Flint navigable from Bainbridge to Albany, but the evidence can been seen on nearly every stretch of river. Any where you see narrow rock islands that constrict the flow of the river into a narrow channel you are seeing the fingerprints of the Corps. This is especially true at “Winding Shoals.” During the 1800s, from this spot downstream for nearly a mile, the Corps worked to remedy this troublesome obstacle for steamboats. At the time the goal was to create a 100 foot channel that was three feet deep at ordinary low water from the mouth of the river to Albany. Here at Winding Shoals, in 1887, the Corps built 390 linear feet of rock dams, removed three snags, blasted ten times and removed 450 cubic yards of rock. The Corps’ work along the river here continued into the 1910s. Today a row of riverfront houses on the east bank overlooks the blasted shoals and rock islands.

**Mile 2.4—Crawford’s Point**—A narrow rock island here marks the location of more handiwork by the Corps. In an 1877 report to Congress, the Corps boasted that the channel at Crawford’s Point had been transformed from a depth of 0 feet to a depth of four feet while the width of the channel had been expanded from 70 to 100 feet. They accomplished this by removing a “dry ledge” to widen the channel and by making 254 blasts of dynamite that enabled them to remove 1,196 cubic yards of rock, or approximately 4.8 million pounds of rock. That’s enough rock to fill a line of modern dump trucks that stretches for 1.4 miles!

**Mile 4—Cow Access**—For the next two miles on river right, there are multiple locations where cattle have access to the river, creating denuded river banks pocked with manure that flows into the river with every rain event. Scenes like this are bad news for our rivers and the critters that live (and play) in them. Bacteria levels downstream increase, as do nutrient levels that can lead to oxygen-depleting algal blooms. The mud that spills into the river can also affect fish spawning and the survival of young fish. The impacts are also felt on the farm. When cattle congregate along river banks, their manure becomes concentrated rather than being spread over a large pasture area, reducing the benefits of this natural fertilizer. Cattle can also perish when they become stuck in riverside mud or swept away in high water. No Georgia laws prohibit cattle access to streams, but the state encourages farmers to fence their cattle, and there are numerous federal programs that aid farmers in erecting fence and developing alternative water sources.

**Mile 5.5—Bovine Spring**—Perhaps the biggest and most obvious spring that you’ll encounter on this seven-day journey, this spring spills out on river right, forming a large circular spring pool in the bank of the river. While this spring is obvious, cave diver and Paddle Georgia participant Paul DeLoach reports that he has identified numerous springs by making use of infrared aerial photographs. During the first, the Flint springs show up equally, as they flow as at a constant 68 degrees Fahrenheit. During the heat of summer, they offer a chilling respite.

**Mile 6—Needle Eye Shoal**—At this approximate location during the early 1900s, the Corps of Engineers worked on a obstacle they dubbed “Needle Eye Shoal.” They must have done a bang up job; there is little left to suggest its previous existence.

**Mile 6.3—Feral Hogs & Barbecue**—During pre-Paddle Georgia scouting trips, a group of feral hogs was spotted on the east bank of the river here. Prior to the arrival of the first New World explorers, there were no pigs in North America. Hernando De Soto brought a herd of the animals, and today wild hogs are part of the lore of Georgia’s swamps and woodlands while barbecued pork is perhaps the most iconic of Southern foods. The Georgia General Assembly kicks off each of its sessions with a “Wild Hog Supper”—a tradition that dates back to 1662. The first documented pig feast in North America occurred during De Soto’s journey,... It was nothing like our legislators’ annual feast. One soldier wrote: “We ate it boiled in water without salt or anything else.”

**Paddle Georgia 2013**

**Limestone’s Last Gasp**—Here you’ll find some rock islands that signify the virtual end to the Flint’s course. The evidence can been seen on nearly every stretch of river. Any where you see narrow rock islands that constrict the flow of the river into a narrow channel you are seeing the fingerprints of the Corps. This is especially true at “Winding Shoals.” During the 1800s, from this spot downstream for nearly a mile, the Corps worked to remedy this troublesome obstacle for steamboats. At the time the goal was to create a 100 foot channel that was three feet deep at ordinary low water from the mouth of the river to Albany. Here at Winding Shoals, in 1887, the Corps built 390 linear feet of rock dams, removed three snags, blasted ten times and removed 450 cubic yards of rock. The Corps’ work along the river here continued into the 1910s. Today a row of riverfront houses on the east bank overlooks the blasted shoals and rock islands.

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