

Paddle Safe, Paddle Fun

The Dayton Canoe Club and Five Rivers MetroParks will host the sixth annual “Paddle Safe, Paddle Fun” (PSPF) free event at Eastwood MetroPark Lake, 1401 Harshman Road, on Sunday June 5, this will include kayak and canoe instruction and demo boats. We expect over 100 students and another 200 people trying demo boats.

PSPF offers three hour, quickstart clinics for tandem canoe, solo canoe and kayak aimed at the novice canoeist and kayaker which promotes safety, skill acquisition, and enjoyment. This event will not only promote safe boating, but also introduces new people to paddling. These clinics are taught by American Canoe Association (ACA) certified instructors.

Each student is given a packet which contains safety information on PFS’s (personal flotation devices, life jackets), hypothermia, and other paddling and safe boating issues. This event also offers the public the opportunity to test kayaks in a safe environment. The Whitewater Warehouse and GS Outfitters will have factory reps and demo boats on hand. This event is sanctioned by the American Canoe Association and additionally sponsored by the ODNR Division of Watercraft and the National Safe Boating Council.

Canoe and Kayak clinics are at 9 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m., registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Kayak demo boats will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

No paddling experience necessary, all equipment is supplied. Participants must be 14 years old or older, under 18 accompanied by an adult.

For additional information call 602-6180 or 275-PARK.

Non-discriminatory Essential Eligibility Criteria

Clinic Participants must:

- 1. Be 18 years or older, or accompanied by an adult.*
- 2. Be able to manage all personal care and mobility independently or with the assistance of a companion who accompanies the participant.*
- 3. Be able to get in and out of a kayak independently or with the assistance of a companion, following instruction.*
- 4. Be comfortable in the water including: floating on back independently with a properly fitted PFD, turning from face down to face up independently while wearing a properly fitted PFD, and holding breath while under water.*
- 5. Be able to maintain a balanced, upright position when seated in a kayak, with adaptations if needed. **NOTE** No adaptations providing head or neck support will be accepted.*