

GREAT Trip Procedures

1. Please wear your Personal Flotation Device (PFD) as snug as possible at all times while in the boat. If you refuse or remove it, you will not be considered to be a part of GREAT's trip.
2. A lead boat and a sweep boat will be designated. Please do not depart ahead of the lead boat and on the route do not pass the lead boat or get behind the sweep boat. There also could be a designated mid boat to assist with any problems.
3. The lead, mid, and sweep boats will have cell phones. One of these will have the GREAT cell phone. If you have a cell phone, please take it along with a GREAT business card which has GREAT's cell phone number. If there is an emergency or you need assistance please call this number.
4. If you are using one of GREAT's boats, at the take out location, please use the provided sponge to clean the boat as much as possible and assist with placing the boat on the proper GREAT trailer.
5. Avoid having loose items in the boat. Try to secure them as much as possible.
6. Use sun screen on exposed body parts. Water can magnify the effects of sun rays on your body.

paddling Tips

Canoe (Tandem):

1. The paddler in the stern is responsible for steering the boat. The paddler in the front provides more power and should only switch the paddling side of boat at the direction or permission of the paddler in the stern.
2. Keep your body low and feet spread when getting in and out of the boat.

Kayak:

1. Use your paddle as a horizontal brace when getting in or out of the boat.
2. Bring your paddle high out of the water and use your upper arm and shoulder to push rather than pull with your elbow and lower arm.

Boat Maneuvering:

1. To have proper water depth on river bends, steer the boat to the outside of the river bend as that is where most of the water and deepest part of the river is.
2. Look for a "V" pattern in the water to direct your boat through when approaching any rapids or ripples. Pick up your speed to make the boat go faster through the rapids or ripples than the river flow so you can determine the path boat will take, instead of the river.
3. Avoid any surface water patterns that resemble a "C" or a "U" as there is a rock or another obstruction just below the surface.
4. With cold spring or fall water, do not paddle in the middle of a lake, but stay near the shore on the side of the lake where water surface patterns show the least amount of wind effect.