

Slave River Paddlefest

July 29-August 1, 2011



NEW this year!
INTRODUCTION TO
AWESOME!

Schedule of Events

Friday, July 29

Canoe Race, flotilla, community feast, Dene games, handgames tournament at Fitz

- 8:30 am Paddlers drop their boats off at starting point and drive back to Fitz
- 9:15 am Shuttle bus for paddlers leaves Fitz
- 10 am Flotilla leaves Hay Camp and Halfway
- 11 am Voyageur canoe race begins
- 2:30 pm Racers start arriving in Fitz
- 3 pm Guided interpretive hike to Cassette rapids
- 5:30 pm Opening blessing
- 6 pm Community feast at Fitz, Dene Games
- 7 pm Handgames – traditional men's tournament. Register by 6 pm. \$50/person. Teams of 8. Cash prizes. Info 872-4950.

Flotilla paddler information

This year there are two options – a 45 km route, and a more leisurely half-distance paddle. Paddlers **MUST** pre-register for Friday's flotilla and race at the Visitor Centre, 149 McDougal, on Weds or Thur, 9 am – 8 pm. \$5.

Whitewater paddler information

Register online for whole fest. \$60 includes whitewater events, t-shirt, some meals. For details about the **Edge King Big Air Competition** on July 26/27, phone John (867) 872-8149. To find out about pre-fest river trips, meet at 39 McDougal every morning at 10 am.

Spectator information

Join us on the rocks to watch the events and roast a hot dog. Bring your bathing suit! Kids must wear a lifejacket when close to swiftwater. We have some available, but please bring your own if possible. Don't forget: water, sunscreen and bug spray! Please no dogs. **EVENTS FREE FOR SPECTATORS UNLESS NOTED.**

Saturday, July 30

Spectator events at Mountain Portage Rapids

- 10 am - 12 pm Youth kayak games on calm water. No experience necessary. Kids under 14 must have a parent present.
- 12 pm - 5 pm Fun kayak, canoe and raft competitions all afternoon
- 1 pm "World Kayak Throwdown"
Come watch kayakers do crazy tricks in the waves.

Sunday, July 31

Spectator events at Mountain Portage Rapids

- 12 am - 5 pm Territorial Championship Wildwater (downriver) race
These are speed races through whitewater.
Fun kayak and canoe competitions all afternoon
- 2 pm - 5 pm Introduction to Awesome!
For \$15 you can ride through the world-class Slave River rapids in the front of a two-person kayak.
Waiver required. 200 lb weight limit.
All profits go to the Food Bank.

Monday, August 1

- 9 am - 12 pm Join us for a pancake breakfast at Northern Life Museum. \$7/plate.

Paddlefest "Meet the River" hikes

Guided by Visitor Centre staff. Please bring water, a snack, and bug, sun and rain protection. No dogs. Unless otherwise noted, meet at the Visitor Centre, 149 McDougal Rd. Info: 872-7950

- Tuesday, July 26, 1 pm Mountain Portage Hike
- Thursday, July 28, 1 pm Pelican Rapids Hike
- Friday, July 29, 3pm Cassette Rapids Hike (meet at the Band Hall in Fitz)
- Saturday, July 30, 1 pm Mountain Portage Hike (meet at Paddlefest)
- Sunday, July 31, 1 pm Pelican Rapids Hike
- Monday, Aug 1, 1 pm Cassette Rapids Hike

For more information: Check out our website: www.fskayak.webs.com or phone Kirsten (867) 872-2847

This event is presented by the Fort Smith Paddling Club, Wood Buffalo National Park, and Smith's Landing First Nation. We would like to thank Mountain Equipment Co-op and Industry, Tourism and Investment, GNWT and the Town of Fort Smith for their generous support!