



The
Haw River
Canoe & Kayak Co.

Reconnect with nature, have fun paddling.

THE HAW RIVER PADDLER

September 2009

"The rivers are our brothers. They quench our thirst. The rivers carry our canoes and feed our children. If we will you our land, you must remember, and teach your children, that the rivers are our brothers, and you must henceforth give the rivers the kindness you would give any brother."

Unknown

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The Jordan Lake Rules Are Finally Law

After many years of meetings, hearings, presentations and lobbying efforts, the Jordan Lake rules are now law. Bottom-line, municipalities and counties will have to do a better job of cleaning up water that enters into the Haw River and developers will be held to higher standards.

Who are the winners? Anyone that recreates in and on Jordan Lake and the Haw River and anyone who drinks treated water from these two water bodies. Better water quality means better habitat for fish and wildlife and a healthier environment for humans.

Who do we have to thank? There were several conservation groups who were involved from day one in developing the new Jordan Lake rules. The Haw River Assembly was simply relentless and outstanding in its pursuit of the best rules possible. We owe the organization a lot of thanks and support. The Chatham County Commissioners made a very big, positive difference.

Autumn Is a Wonderful Time to Paddle

Although it still feels like summer, the cool, crisp days of autumn are right around the corner. To many, this time of the year is the best for getting outdoors. The color change is beautiful to both photograph or just to appreciate. Animals are generally easy to observe either due to their mating activity or because they are busily preparing for the winter. Somehow, exercise is more enjoyable in the lower humidity and temperatures.

So, get out there this autumn and enjoy yourself. The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company has some wonderful events planned or you can go it alone with a rental. Come paddle with us before you hibernate for the winter.

Schedule of Courses & Trips – September & October

If you are interested in a paddle course or a guided trip, you can find a schedule of activities on our website www.hawrivercanoe.com on both the Instruction and Guided Trips pages. **Don't forget, you can rent a canoe or kayak and do a self-guided trip.** A brief listing of activities for September & October follows:

September

- 5 Harvest Paddle
- 5 Full Moon Paddle
- 6 Picnic & Paddle
- 11 Sunset Paddle
- 19 Canoe & Kayak Classes
- 19 Stargazing Float
- 26 Paddle Dinner – Benjamin Vineyards & Winery
- 26&27 Spirit Island Campout

October

- 3 Full Moon Paddle
- 4 Picnic & Paddle
- 9 Sunset Paddle
- 10 Owl Prowl
- 11 River Clean Up
- 17 Canoe & Kayak Classes
- 17 Stargazing Float
- 24&25 Spirit Island Campout
- 31 Pumpkin Paddle

Classes include Quick Start for Canoe & Kayak (3 hrs.), Introduction to Canoeing & Kayaking (8 hrs.), Basic Whitewater Canoeing (16 hrs.) and Sea Kayaking Fundamentals (16 hrs.).

The Haw River Is the Second Most Popular for Paddlers

The Haw River was identified as the second most popular river for paddlers in a study just released by the State of North Carolina's Trails Program. The Neuse River was identified as the most popular. What this tells us is that most of the people responding to the study questionnaire probably came from the Triangle area since there are many popular western rivers like the Nantahala, New and French Broad. Of course, we feel that those responding to the study questionnaire showed good judgment in placing the Haw River so high on their list of places to paddle.

One particularly interesting piece of information from the study validates what has been said for a very long time to county officials; i.e., river re-creation is an economic generator. What is good for conservation is good for business. Apparently, paddlers spend on average about \$650 each year in their pursuit of a river experience and are willing to drive up to an hour to do so.

How About Some Feedback? How Are We Doing

We would really like to hear from you about how we are doing? Are we meeting your needs? Are we staying true to our environmental values? What can we do better? What aren't we doing that you would like to see us offer? Is it easy to use our services? Do we make you feel welcome and show our appreciation for your business?

Would you please respond to this electronic newsletter, send us an e-mail or give us a call and let us know what you think? Some time this winter, we will randomly call some of our past guests and ask questions with the intention of improving our business. If we call you and you wish to provide us with feedback, we will be grateful.

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