



August 2007

Sept. 8-9 Sandy Point Paddle and Workday

Sept. 18 Board meeting



Past president Brad Davis and Lew Phillips crafted the Duck Blind raft, winner of the Slowest Raft in the competition.



Let us hear from you. It's your organization.

Do you have an idea for a winter speaker program? Want to host a rent party? Would you like to get some folks together for a paddle? Is there a river issue that needs attention?

Check out the blog area on the website at www.mpra.org and start some discussion or send an email to staff@mpra.org and the volunteers who act as "staff" will send out a message to members to let them know.

Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers Association newsletter

Wacky Waft Wace was a weally good time

Four "official" rafts and two last-minute spirit crafts competed in the first Wacky Walkerton Waft Wace on Aug. 2. MPRA sponsored the event to benefit the Mattaponi Water Rescue and Dive Team. Eastern Virginia Bank EVB was a corporate sponsor for the event.

At 2 PM the race began. Quickly the Pearl, crewed by the Paddling Ladies of Walkerton and MPRA members Audrey Mitchell, Lindsay Davis and Dawn Shank, skimmed ahead of the pack leaving three creatively built rafts in their wake to win the title of *Fastest Raft*. Robin Davis, sporting her arm in a waterproof cast floated in a chair to win the title of *Raft Only a Mother Could Love* and Jamie Mitchell and his friend won *Community Pride* honors as they shoved their paddle boat off the dock and joined in the fun.

The race was so much fun that we plan to do it again next year during Walkerton Day the first Saturday in August. Mark your calendar and start planning your raft now.



MPRA President was a serious competitor. His surf board/water skiis outrigger won Most Creative raft.



As the Pearl makes its way back to the finish line, it is attacked by Best Built and Rowdiest Raft title winners, Billy Moore and his son Jacob.

Sandy Point Paddle

Walkerton to Sandy Point – 12 Noon Walkerton

On Saturday, Sept. 8, MPRA is sponsoring an overnight paddling trip from Walkerton to Sandy Point, the newest kiosk site for the water trail. Due to tides and other factors, the board decided to move the fall sojourn originally planned for the Pamunkey River to the Mattaponi to coincide with a workday at Sandy Point. The trip will begin at the Walkerton Bridge on the Mattaponi River and journey downstream to Sandy Point State Forest. In the evening, we'll share dinner, enjoy some entertainment and camp overnight. Breakfast will be provided Sunday morning, followed by a devotional service.

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Sandy Point Paddle, continued

The cost is \$15 per person and covers dinner, breakfast, shuttle service and porta potty. For those participating in the workday or wish to join the group for dinner only, the cost is \$10 for dinner, \$5 for children under 12. The gate will be open for diners from 5:30 until 6:15.

Registration, waiver and health forms may be downloaded from the MPRA website and must be signed by all participants. Also, a Virginia Department of Forestry volunteer form must be signed by workday volunteers. Contact Dawn Shank at dshank51@msn.com or MPRA, P.O. Box 157, Walkerton, VA 23177 by Sept. 4 so we know how much food to prepare. We will have tea and water. Bring other beverages and snacks if you would like.

For canoe rentals, contact Garrie Rouse at Mattaponi Canoe and Kayak at 769-1449, (www.grouse@mattaponi.com).

Logistics Details

Because the gate at Sandy Point is down the road from the beach area and has to be opened and closed by our group, it is important that we know who is coming and that you are there at appointed times. For paddlers spending the night at Sandy Point, meet at 10:30 AM on Saturday at Sandy Point to unload camping equipment. Cars will be left at Sandy Point and boats and paddlers will be shuttled to Walkerton. The shuttle will leave at 11:30 AM from Sandy Point. It is important to be on time, as the gate at Sandy Point will only be open to admit sojourners at appointed times and to catch the outgoing tide at Walkerton. Participants should bring their lunch, water and snacks for the trip. The group will put boats in the water at

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Walkerton around noon. Water, dinner and breakfast will be provided at Sandy Point. A sojourn "to bring" list can be found on the website. Please note on your health form any dietary restrictions or vegetarian requests.

Sandy Point Workday & Dinner - Sept. 8 beginning at 9:30 AM

MPRA has recently entered an agreement with the Dept. of Forestry to help maintain some of the recreational facilities at Sandy Point as part of the York River (Algonquin Trace) water trail. On the same day as the sojourn, volunteers will help repair the dock, picnic shelter, fire pit and kiosk at Sandy Point beach. Meet at the Sandy Point gate at 9:30 AM. The gate will also be open for paddlers from 10:15 - 11:30 AM. If you plan to arrive for the workday at another time, let Chris Henicheck know.

Work volunteers will be joined by paddlers and a horse riding group for dinner and entertainment. Those wishing to camp overnight are welcome. Dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

Reminder: The gate will be open for diners from 5:30 until 6:15. If you miss the appointed times for the gate openings, you may contact Chris by cell phone, but... See the photo on the front of the newsletter for Chris' reaction if we have to come by 4-wheeler to let too many folks in! For more information about the workday, contact Chris Henicheck on his cell phone at 804-399-5347.

Invite a friend to join. MPRA - \$15 year for individual or family, \$50 Business/organization

Make checks to: Mattaponi & Pamunkey Rivers Assoc. Mail to: MPRA, Box 157, Walkerton, VA 23177.

Include your name, address, phone, email address and special interest in the river.

The Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers Association is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 charitable non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and stewardship of the resources of the Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers.

MPRA

P.O. Box 157

Walkerton, VA 23177



MPRA website: www.mpra.org

MPRA Officers

President: Chris Henicheck

Vice-President: Phil Rose

Sec./Treas/newsletter.: Dawn Shank

Past President: Brad Davis

Website: Bob Gray