



Membership Information Guide

Huntsville Canoe Club • Post Office Box 52 • Huntsville, Alabama 35804

Rev. 14 January 1999

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HUNTSVILLE CANOE CLUB

Welcome to the Huntsville Canoe Club (HCC). The Club was formed in 1980 to further the enjoyment of canoeing, to promote organized activities for its members, to educate the club members generally regarding canoeing, and to promote safety in canoeing and water sports in general. The club membership consists of persons who paddle all forms of water craft, including canoes, kayaks, rafts, and other similar craft.

CLUB OPERATIONS

Officers

The club has six elected officers; President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Lake-Class I, Class II-III and Class IV Cruisemasters. The non-elected offices at this time are: Newsletter Editor, Publicity, Membership, Safety and Conservation.

Float Trips

The trips that are published in the newsletter are referred to as 'Scheduled Trips' or 'Official Trips'. In addition to scheduled trips, club members go on what are called 'Pickup Trips'. The Official Trips have a trip organizer to coordinate the activities related to the trip. Pickup Trips are analogous to the "Surfs Up" cry you see in the beach movies, therefore these Pickup Trips usually occur after heavy rains.

To sign up for a trip, call the trip organizer who's name is published with the trip in the newsletter. The trip organizer will provide the details of the trip, travel plans, camping/lodging arrangements, skills needed, river conditions and information as they may apply. If you want to paddle and there are no scheduled trips in the newsletter, call the Cruisemaster to see if anyone has announced a Pickup Trip that is within your capability. You may announce your own trip with the Cruisemaster and have other paddlers join you as they call in looking for a trip.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO CANOEING

Here is a brief description of the different types of water craft most common to our activities.

- OPEN CANOES** Referred to as 'OC-1' (Open Canoe - One Person), OC-2 (Two Persons), etc. Open canoes are larger and more stable than decked canoes or kayaks. They have room to carry gear and can be outfitted with comfortable seating. In whitewater canoes, the seats are replaced with pedestals and knee pads and are paddled from a kneeling position in the bottom of the boat. Canoeists use a single blade paddle.
- KAYAKS** 'K-1' (Kayak - One Person), 'K-2' (Kayak - Two Person), etc. Kayaks are smaller and more maneuverable than open canoes. They are also less stable, but with practice and good technique can be rolled upright with the "Eskimo Roll". In a kayak you sit flat on your bottom with your feet and legs extended straight out in front of you. Kayakers use a double bladed paddle.
- DECKED BOATS** 'C-1' (Decked Canoe - One Person), etc. The decked canoe looks a lot alike a kayak, but the paddler kneels in the boat and uses a single blade paddle. The decked canoe, or C-1, combines the maneuverability, light weight and easy rolling of a kayak with the better visibility of an open canoe. Some paddlers have found the decked canoe to be the best of paddling worlds (others have found it to be the worst).

THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES

1. Never boat alone.
2. Use proper equipment.
3. Have appropriate skills.
4. Always wear a PFD (Personal Floatation Device).
5. Know the river.

The Huntsville Canoe Club is an associate member of The American Whitewater Affiliation and the American Canoe Association. Both national organizations provide information and access help to our nations rivers and streams.



SAFETY CODE OF THE AMERICAN WHITEWATER AFFILIATION

I. International Scale of River Difficulty

This is the American version of a rating system used to compare river difficulty throughout the world. This system is not exact; rivers do not always fit easily into one category, and regional or individual interpretations may cause misunderstandings. It is no substitute for a guidebook or accurate first-hand descriptions of a run.

Paddlers attempting difficult runs in an unfamiliar area should act cautiously until they get a feel for the way the scale is interpreted locally. River difficulty may change each year due to fluctuations in water level, downed trees, geological disturbances, or bad weather. Stay alert for unexpected problems!

As river difficulty increases, the danger to swimming paddlers becomes more severe. As rapids become longer and more continuous, the challenge increases. There is a difference between running an occasional Class IV rapid and dealing with an entire river of this category. Allow an extra margin of safety between skills and river ratings when the water is cold or if the river itself is remote and inaccessible.

The Six Difficulty Classes:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Class I: Easy | Fast moving water with riffles and small waves. Few obstructions, all obvious and easily missed with little training. Risk to swimmers is slight; self-rescue is easy. |
| Class II: Novice | Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels which are evident without scouting. Occasional maneuvering may be required, but rocks and medium sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers. Swimmers are seldom injured and group assistance, while helpful, is seldom needed. |
| Class III: Intermediate | Rapids with moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid and which can swamp and open canoe. Complex maneuvers in fast current and good boat control in tight passages or around ledges are often required; large waves or strainer may be present but are easily avoided. Strong eddies and powerful current effects can be found, particularly on large-volume rivers. Scouting is advisable for inexperienced parties. Injuries while swimming are rare; self-rescue is usually easy but group assistance may be required to avoid long swims. |
| Class IV: Advanced | Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise boat handling in turbulent water. Depending on the character of the river, it may feature large, unavoidable waves and holes or constricted passages demanding fast maneuvers under pressure. A fast, reliable eddy turn may be needed to initiate maneuvers, scout rapids, or rest. Rapids may require “must” moves above dangerous hazards. Scouting is necessary the first time down. Risk of injury to swimmers is moderate to high, and water conditions may make self-rescue difficult. Group assistance for rescue is often essential but requires practiced skills. A strong Eskimo roll is highly recommended. |
| Class V: Expert | Extremely long, obstructed, or very violent rapids which expose a paddler to above average endangerment. Drops may contain large, unavoidable waves and holes or steep, congested chutes with complex, demanding routes. Rapids may continue for long distances between pools, demanding a high level of fitness. What eddies exist may be small, turbulent, or difficult to reach. At the high end of the scale, several of these factors may be combined. Scouting is mandatory but often difficult. Swims are dangerous, and rescue is difficult even for experts. A very reliable Eskimo roll, proper equipment, extensive experience, and practiced rescue skills are essential for survival. |
| Class VI: Extreme | One grade more difficult than Class V. These runs often exemplify the extremes of difficulty, unpredictability and danger. The consequences of errors are very severe and rescue may be impossible. For teams of experts only, at favorable water levels, after close personal inspection and taking all precautions. This class does not represent drops thought to be unrunnable, but may include rapids which are only occasionally run. |

II. PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. Be a competent swimmer, with the ability to handle yourself underwater.
2. Wear a PFD. A snugly-fitting vest-type personal flotation device offers back and shoulder protection as well as the flotation needed to swim safely in whitewater.
3. Wear a solid, correctly-fitted helmet when upsets are likely. This is essential in kayaks or covered canoes, and recommended for open canoeists using thigh straps and rafters running steep drops.
4. Do not boat out of control. Your skills should be sufficient to stop or reach shore before reaching danger. Do not enter a rapid unless you are reasonably sure that you can run it safely or swim it without injury.
5. Whitewater rivers contain many hazards which are not always easily recognized. The following are the most frequent killers:
 - A. **HIGH WATER.** The river's speed and power increase tremendously as the flow increases, raising the difficulty of most rapids. Rescue becomes progressively harder as the water rises, adding to the danger. Floating debris and strainers make even an easy rapid quite hazardous. It is often misleading to judge the river level at the put in, since a small rise in a wide, shallow place will be multiplied many times where the river narrows. Use reliable gauge information whenever possible, and be aware that sun on snowpack, hard rain, and upstream dam releases may greatly increase the flow.
 - B. **COLD.** Cold drains your strength, and robs you of the ability to make sound decisions on matters affecting your survival. Cold water immersion, because of the initial shock and the rapid heat loss which follows, is especially dangerous. Dress appropriately for bad weather or sudden immersion in the water. When the water temperature is less than 50°F, a wetsuit or drysuit is essential for protection if you swim. Next best is wool or pile clothing under a waterproof shell. In this case, you should also carry waterproof matches and a change of clothing in a waterproof bag. If, after prolonged exposure, a person experiences uncontrollable shaking, loss of coordination, or difficulty speaking, he or she is hypothermic and needs your assistance.
 - C. **STRAINERS.** Brush, fallen trees, bridge pilings, undercut rocks or anything else which allows river current to sweep through can pin boats and boaters against the obstacle. Water pressure on anything trapped this way can be overwhelming. Rescue is often extremely difficult. Pinning may occur in fast current, with little or no whitewater to warn of the danger.
 - D. **DAMS, WEIRS, LEDGES, REVERSALS, HOLES, AND HYDRAULICS.** When water drops over an obstacle, it curls back on itself, forming a strong upstream current which may be capable of holding a boat or a swimmer. Some holes make for excellent sport; others are proven killers. Paddlers who cannot recognize the differences should avoid all but the smallest holes. Hydraulics around man-made dams must be treated with utmost respect regardless of their height or the level of the river. Despite their seemingly benign appearance, they can create an almost escape-proof trap. The swimmer's only exit from the "drowning machine" is to dive below the surface where the downstream current is flowing beneath the reversal.
 - E. **BROACHING.** When a boat is pushed sideways against a rock by strong current, it may collapse and wrap. This is especially dangerous to kayak and decked canoe paddlers; these boats will collapse and the combination of indestructible hulls and thigh outfitting may create a deadly trap. Even without entrapment, releasing pinned boats can be extremely time-consuming and dangerous. To avoid pinning, throw your weight downstream towards the rock. This allows the current to slide harmlessly underneath the hull.
6. Boating alone is discouraged. The minimum party is three people to two craft.
7. Have a frank knowledge of your boating ability, and do not attempt rivers or rapids which lie beyond that ability.
 - A. Develop the paddling skills and teamwork required to match the river you plan to boat. Most good paddlers develop skills gradually, and attempts to advance too quickly will compromise your safety and enjoyment.
 - B. Be in good physical and mental condition, consistent with the difficulties which may be expected. Make adjustments for loss of skills due to age, health, fitness. Any health limitations must be explained to your fellow paddlers prior to starting the trip.
8. Be practiced in self rescue, including escape from an overturned craft. The Eskimo Roll is strongly recommended for decked boaters who run rapids of Class IV or greater, or who paddle in cold environmental conditions.
9. Be trained in rescue skills, CPR, and first aid with special emphasis on recognizing and treating hypothermia. It may save your friend's life.
10. Carry equipment needed for unexpected emergencies, including foot wear which will protect your feet when walking out, a throw rope, knife, whistle, and waterproof matches. If you wear eyeglasses, tie them on and carry a spare pair on long trips. Bring cloth repair tape on short runs, and a full repair kit on isolated rivers. Do not wear bulky jackets, ponchos, heavy boots, or anything else which could reduce your ability to survive a swim.
11. Despite the mutually supportive group structure described in this code, individual paddlers are ultimately responsible for their own safety, and must assume sole responsibility for the following decisions:
 - A. The decision to participate on any trip. This includes an evaluation of the expected difficulty of the rapids under the conditions existing at the time of the put-in.
 - B. The selection of appropriate equipment, including a boat design suited to their skills and the appropriate rescue and survival gear.
 - C. The decision to scout any rapid, and to run or portage according to their best judgment. Other members of the group may offer advice, but paddlers should resist pressure from anyone to paddle beyond their skills. It is also their responsibility to decide whether to pass up any walk-out or take-out opportunity.
 - D. All trip participants should consistently evaluate their own and their group's safety, voicing their concerns when appropriate and following what they believe to be the best course of action. Paddlers are encouraged to speak with anyone whose actions on the water are dangerous, whether they are a part of your group or not.

III. BOAT AND EQUIPMENT PREPAREDNESS

1. Test new and different equipment under familiar conditions before relying on it for difficult runs. This is especially true when adopting a new boat design or outfitting system. Low volume craft may present additional hazards to inexperienced or poorly conditioned paddlers.
2. Be sure your boat and gear are in good repair before starting a trip. The more isolated and difficult the run, the more rigorous this inspection should be.
3. Install flotation bags in non-inflatable craft, securely fixed in each end, designed to displace as much water as possible. Inflatable boats should have multiple air chambers and be test inflated before launching.
4. Have strong, properly sized paddles or oars for controlling your craft. Carry sufficient spares for the length and difficulty of the trip.
5. Outfit your boat safely. The ability to exit your boat quickly is an essential component of safety in rapids. It is your responsibility to see that there is absolutely nothing to cause entrapment when coming free of an upset craft. This includes:
 - A. Spray covers which won't release reliably or which release prematurely.
 - B. Boat outfitting too tight to allow a fast exit, especially in low volume kayaks or decked canoes. This includes low hung thwarts in canoes lacking adequate clearance for your feet and kayak footbraces which fail or allow your feet to become wedged under them.
 - C. Inadequately supported decks which collapse on a paddlers legs when a decked boat is pinned by water pressure. Inadequate clearance with the deck because of your size or build.
 - D. Loose ropes which cause entanglement. Beware of any length of loose line attached to a whitewater boat. All items must be tied tightly and excess line eliminated; painters, throw lines, and safety rope systems must be completely and effectively stored. Do not knot the end of a rope, as it can get caught in cracks between rocks.
6. Provide ropes which permit you to hold on to your craft so that it may be rescued. The following methods are recommended:
 - A. Kayaks and covered canoes should have grab loops of 1/4" + rope or equivalent webbing sized to admit a normal sized hand. Stern painters are permissible if properly secured.
 - B. Open canoes should have securely anchored bow and stern painters consisting of 8 - 10 feet of 1/4" + line. These must be secured in such a way that they are readily accessible, but cannot come loose accidentally. Grab loops are acceptable, but are more difficult to reach after an upset.
 - C. Rafts and dories may have taut perimeter lines threaded through the loops provided. Footholds should be designed so that a paddlers feet cannot be forced through them, causing entrapment. Flip lines should be carefully and reliably stowed.
7. Know your craft's carrying capacity, and how added loads affect boat handling in whitewater. Most rafts have a minimum crew size which can be added to on day trips or in easy rapids. Carrying more than two paddlers in an open canoe when running rapids is not recommended.
8. Car top racks must be strong and attach positively to the vehicle. Lash your boat to each crossbar, then tie the ends of the boats directly to the bumpers for added security. This arrangement should survive all but the most violent vehicle accident.

IV. GROUP PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSIBILITY

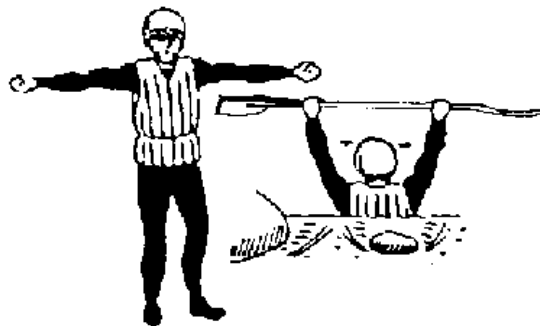
1. Organization. A river trip should be regarded as a common adventure by all participants, except on instructional or commercially guided trips as defined below. Participants share the responsibility for the conduct of the trip, and each participant is individually responsible for judging his or her own capabilities and for his or her own safety as the trip progresses. Participants are encouraged (but are not obligated) to offer advice and guidance for the independent consideration and judgment of others.
2. River Conditions. The group should have a reasonable knowledge of the difficulty of the run. Participants should evaluate this information and adjust their plans accordingly. If the run is exploratory or no one is familiar with the river, maps and guidebooks, if available, should be examined. The group should secure accurate flow information; the more difficult the run, the more important this will be. Be aware of possible changes in river level and how this will affect the difficulty of the run. If the trip involves tidal stretches, secure appropriate information on tides.
3. Group equipment should be suited to the difficulty of the river. The group should always have a throw line available, and one line per boat is recommended on difficult runs. The list may include: carbiners, prussick loops, first aid kit, flashlight, folding saw, fire starter, guidebooks, maps, food, extra clothing, and any other rescue or survival items suggested by conditions. Each item is not required on every run, and this list is not meant to be a substitute for good judgment.
4. Keep the group compact, but maintain sufficient spacing to avoid collisions. If the group is large, consider dividing into smaller groups or using the "Buddy System" as an additional safeguard. Space yourselves closely enough to permit good communication, but not so close as to interfere with one another in rapids.
 - A. The lead paddler sets the pace. When in front, do not get in over your head. Never run drops when you cannot see a clear route to the bottom or, for advanced paddlers, a sure route to the next eddy. When in doubt, stop and scout.
 - B. Keep track of all group members. Each boat keeps the one behind it in sight, stopping if necessary. Know how many people are in your group and take head counts regularly. No one should paddle ahead or walk out without first informing the group. Weak paddlers should stay at the center of a group, and not allow themselves to lag behind. If the group is large and contains a wide range of abilities, a designated "Sweep Boat" should bring up the rear.
 - C. Courtesy. On heavily used rivers, do not cut in front of a boater running a drop. Always look upstream before leaving eddies to run or play. Never enter a crowded drop or eddy when no room for you exists. Passing other groups in a rapid may be hazardous: it's often safer to wait upstream until the group ahead has passed.

5. Float plan. If the trip is into a wilderness area or for an extended period, plans should be filed with a responsible person who will contact the authorities if you are overdue. It may be wise to establish checkpoints along the way where civilization could be contacted if necessary. Knowing the location of possible help and preplanning escape routes can speed rescue.
6. Drugs. The use of alcohol or mind altering drugs before or during river trips is not recommended. It dulls reflexes, reduces decision making ability, and may interfere with important survival reflexes.
7. Instructional or Commercially Guided Trips. In contrast to the common adventure trip format, in these trip formats, a boating instructor or commercial guide assumes some of the responsibilities normally exercised by the group as a whole, as appropriate under the circumstances. These formats recognize that instructional or commercially guided trips may involve participants who lack significant experience in whitewater. However, as a participant acquires experience in whitewater, he or she takes on increasing responsibility for his or her own safety, in accordance with what he or she knows or should know as a result of that increased experience. Also, as in all trip formats, every participant must realize and assume the risks associated with the serious hazards of whitewater rivers. It is advisable for instructors and commercial guides to acquire trip or personal liability insurance:
 - A. An "instructional trip" is characterized by a clear teacher/pupil relationship, where the primary purpose of the trip is to teach boating skills, and which is conducted for a fee.
 - B. A "commercially guided trip" is characterized by a licensed, professional guide conducting trips for a fee.

V. GUIDELINES FOR RIVER RESCUE

1. Recover from an upset with an Eskimo roll whenever possible. Evacuate your boat immediately if there is imminent danger of being trapped against rocks, brush, or any other kind of strainer.
2. If you swim, hold on to your boat. It has much flotation and is easy for rescuers to spot. Get to the upstream end so that you cannot be crushed between a rock and your boat by the force of the current. Persons with good balance may be able to climb on top of a swamped kayak or flipped raft and paddle to shore.
3. Release your craft if this will improve your chances, especially if the water is cold or dangerous rapids lie ahead. Actively attempt self-rescue whenever possible by swimming for safety. Be prepared to assist others who may come to your aid.
 - A. When swimming in shallow or obstructed rapids, lie on your back with feet held high and pointed downstream. Do not attempt to stand in fast moving water; if your foot wedges on the bottom, fast water will push you under and keep you there. Get to slow or very shallow water before attempting to stand or walk. Look ahead! Avoid possible pinning situations including undercut rocks, strainers, downed trees, holes, and other dangers by swimming away from them.
 - B. If the rapids are deep and powerful, roll over onto your stomach and swim aggressively for shore. Watch for eddies and slackwater and use them to get out of the current. Strong swimmers can effect a powerful upstream ferry and get to shore fast. If the shores are obstructed with strainers or under cut rocks, however, it is safer to "ride the rapid out" until a safer escape can be found.
4. If others spill and swim, go after the boaters first. Rescue boats and equipment only if this can be done safely. While participants are encouraged (but not obligated) to assist one another to the best of their ability, they should do so only if they can, in their judgment, do so safely. The first duty of a rescuer is not to compound the problem by becoming another victim.
5. The use of rescue lines requires training; uninformed use may cause injury. Never tie yourself into either end of a line without a reliable quick-release system. Have a knife handy to deal with unexpected entanglement. Learn to place set lines effectively, to throw accurately, to belay effectively, and to properly handle a rope thrown to you.
6. When reviving a drowning victim, be aware that cold water may greatly extend survival time underwater. Victims of hypothermia may have depressed vital signs so they look and feel dead. Don't give up; continue CPR for as long as possible without compromising safety.

VI. UNIVERSAL RIVER SIGNALS



STOP: Potential hazard ahead. Wait for "all clear" signal before proceeding, or scout ahead. Form a horizontal bar with your outstretched arms. Those seeing the signal should pass it back to others in the party.



HELP/EMERGENCY: Assist the signaller as quickly as possible. Give three long blasts on a police whistle while waving a paddle, helmet or life vest over your head. If a whistle is not available, use the visual signal alone. A whistle is best carried on a lanyard attached to your life vest.



1. **ALL CLEAR:** Come ahead (in the absence of other directions proceed down the center). Form a vertical bar with your paddle or one arm held high above your head. Paddle blade should be turned flat for maximum visibility. To signal direction or a preferred course through a rapid around obstruction, lower the previously vertical "all clear" by 45 degrees toward the side of the river with the preferred route. Never point toward the obstacle you wish to avoid.

RIVER PADDLERS CODE OF ETHICS

by: Thomas S. Foster

We will support the cause of conservation locally, nationally and internationally; battling to protect our diminishing clean whitewater rivers.

We will help to build a positive reputation for river crafters, so that we will be welcome wherever rivers are navigable.

We will recognize that with increased skill comes increased pleasure ... as well as increased obligation and responsibilities.

We will teach others how to use Nature's wonders properly and will inform our fellow paddlers of safe river practices.

We will respect private property and leave our eating sites and campsites cleaner than we found them.

We will be considerate toward and friendly with all other recreationists we meet.

We will select rivers which are within the ability of the least skilled paddlers in our group and let each paddler make a personal decision about running a rapid.

Finally, we will adhere to the standards of safety and strive to increase river and paddling skills for ourselves and others.

ETIQUETTE ON THE RIVER

What does etiquette have to do with an individualistic, wilderness sport like river running? Nothing, if you do it all on your own. If you want true “freedom of the hills”, go run obscure rivers alone, or with one or two other like-minded souls. But if, like many boaters, you have joined a group - because you needed support, shuttle, guidance, etc. - then cooperate with the other people in it. For instance:

- Before the trip, if you are the leader then make a rough plan for the trip and state it, so participants know what they are committing to. Don't assure people they can handle the rapids - just compare the river to other rivers they have run and let them decide themselves.
- Conversely, if you are joining a trip, make sure you understand the leader's plan, and don't join unless you agree with it. It is bad river etiquette indeed to expect or demand any sort of services from volunteer trip leaders: you should take as much responsibility for your own welfare as you can; river running is not a sport for people who tend to depend on others. Do your part in trip preparation and logistics - the trip leader's only responsibility is to establish the general plan and coordinate the overall trip.
- If you will be going to the river in someone else's car, at least pay them for all the gas involved. If you ride to the river in one car and back in another do not neglect to pay the owner of the first car.
- When running the river, in general let the trip leader and the most-capable boaters proceed in front, with the less-capable behind, except for a more capable “sweep” person at the very end of larger parties. Do not pass the trip leaders, and if they go to shore, go with them. It is gauche indeed to float on downstream while trip leaders have pulled to shore, because there is nothing worse for a trip leader than to pull to shore and discover a place where the party should camp, but then be forced to continue on because one boat in the party has already floated down around the corner.
- Do not get way behind the leaders or make a long unannounced stops. If you want to stop for a bit while others go on to camp, agree in advance and officially split the party into two or more temporary sub-groups, making clear who is in which sub-group so you do not meet at the end of the day and realize somebody has drowned unnoticed because each sub-group thought he was with the other. Be especially sure to agree on such arrangements when mixing kayaks, rafts, and canoes on the same trip, since they tend to travel at different paces.
- When running rapids, give space to other boaters, A Washington state boater spent a week in the hospital because he was stuck in a hole and another kayaker came into the hole and speared his pancreas. (So much for boating together for safety!) Keep your distance, but not so distant that you cannot come to help someone if they need it.
- Do not pull into an eddy and ram another boat - the first boaters into an eddy should stay at the top of it and the later arrivals should pull in downstream. Look upstream before coming out of an eddy, and yield to others coming towards the eddy.
- When with a party that stops to surf waves, do not be a wave hog - give others their turn. Be alert to get out on the wave as soon as it is your turn, so others do not have to wait unnecessarily.
- When you get out to scout major rapids, do not concentrate so much on the rapids that you forget about the rest of your party. If you are among the more capable boaters, make sure the less-capable know where to run the rapid, or have started their portage, before you run it. Quickly jumping into your boat to run the rapid does not show how brave you are, it shows that you need to hurry and run it before you lose your nerve.
- After running a rapid, wait in the water at the end, watching the other people come through, ready to help them if needed. If this becomes a burden, make some agreement about rescue responsibilities with the other people, but do not just quit unilaterally.
- Conversely, if you are one of the less skillful members in the party, do not dawdle getting back in your boat after scouting while the rescuers are waiting in the water below to rescue you. If you decide to portage, do so quickly, and talk to or signal to the other people so they see what you are doing. If you are not immediately confident about running a rapid, just start portaging - do not meditate on whether or not you should run it. You shouldn't.
- Sometimes more capable boaters will run their own boat through a rapid, then walk back up and run other people's boats through to save having to carry boats down the shore. But do not implore people to do this for you - they may have difficulty running the rapid in an unfamiliar boat.
- When a major rapid is still a few miles ahead, do not ask other people whether or not they will run it, and do not make pacts about “if you run it, I'll run it”. Each boater should decide for himself after getting to the rapid, inspecting it, and noting how he feels at the moment.
- On multi-day trips, do not turn the trip into a political tangle by lining up allies to support some change of plan that you desire, such as hurrying to the take-out ahead of schedule. Either live with the trip as planned, or figure out how you can split up into separate trips, if that's even possible given the gear and shuttle arrangements the group has set up. If a change in plan is truly necessary, suggest it directly to the leader and let him discuss with the others.
- If you are the leader, make sure you arrange for car key placement, safety and first aid equipment, and other group needs. Coordinate the group, but without being a dictator.
- Just as you try to improve your individual boating skills, when boating with a group try to improve the overall group, so you all proceed down the river smoothly, as opposed to crowding and ramming each other on the one hand, or leaving people stranded behind on the other.

Huntsville Canoe Club By-Law's

These original By-laws were approved by the Huntsville Canoe Club (HCC) Board of Directors on 07 October 1982, and by the general membership on 21 October 1982.

I. Amendments

Amendments to these By-laws must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors, approved by the Board, distributed to all club members with a meeting notification, and approved by the general membership.

II. Board of Directors

- A. The HCC Board of Directors shall consist of the following officers:
 - 1. President
 - 2. Vice President
 - 3. Secretary-Treasurer
 - 4. Cruisemaster - Lake-Class I
 - 5. Cruisemaster - Class II-III
 - 6. Cruisemaster - Class IV
- B. Officers shall be elected by receiving a majority of the votes cast at a general meeting.
- C. Board members shall serve for one year, beginning 01 January and ending 31 December.
- D. Election will be held in October and incoming officers shall be invited to all remaining Board meetings prior to taking office.
- E. Special elections shall be held as necessary to refill any vacated office.
- F. Non-voting directors may be appointed by the Board as needed to carry out Club functions. These appointed directors are not considered members of the Board of Directors
- G. Any Director may be removed from office by approval of an appropriate motion at a Club business meeting.

III. Membership

- A. Membership may be obtained by submitting an application and paying annual dues.
- B. A membership may be expelled by a majority vote of both the Board of Directors and the general membership. Dues will be refunded on a pro-rata basis.
- C. Single memberships consist of one person, one vote.
- D. Family memberships consist of all persons living under one roof as a family unit, two votes.

IV. Dues

- A. Annual dues will be set by the Board of Directors. Any changes will be announced in the club newsletter and will take effect on 01 January of the following year.
- B. New member dues cover a 12 month period, beginning the first day of the month following the month that membership is made.
- C. Renewal of a membership from the previous year will be given a one month grace period prior to removal from the club roster. Renewal of a membership will become effective by filing a membership application and paying prevailing rate of annual dues.
- D. No refunds will be given to a person who resigns from the club.
- E. Refunds due to expulsion are:
 - 1st quarter of membership - 75%
 - 2nd quarter of membership - 50%
 - 3rd quarter of membership - 25%
 - 4th quarter of membership - 0%

V. Meetings

- A. All club and board meetings shall be operated under Robert's Rules of Order.
- B. Board of Directors
 - 1. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each calendar quarter
 - 2. Special board meeting may be called by any Board Member.
 - 3. Approval of a motion requires an affirmative vote by a majority of the Board members.
- C. General Membership
 - 1. The Club shall have a least one business meeting each calendar quarter.
 - 2. Special Club meetings may be called for business purposes by notifying all members of the time and place.
 - 3. Approval of any motion requires an affirmative vote by a majority of the votes cast by the members present at a business meeting.

IV. Financial

- A. General
 - 1. The Club's fiscal year begins 01 January ends 31 December.
 - 2. The Board shall prepare a budget the first quarter of the fiscal year.
- B. Collection
 - 1. All moneys collected from dues shall be put into the Club's General Fund.
 - 2. All moneys collected from donations shall be put into special funds designated for expenditures for the intent and purpose of the donations. Donations not so designated will be put into the Club's General Fund.
 - 3. All moneys collected from fees shall be put into special funds designated for expenditures for the intent and purpose of a fee. Fees not so designated will be put the Club's General Fund.
 - 4. All other moneys collected shall be put into the Club's General Fund.
- C. Expenditure Authorization
 - 1. Ten percent (10%) of moneys projected from current year dues shall be budgeted for reserve and its expenditure may be authorized only by the Board.
 - 2. Each Board member is authorized to spend once yearly costs for reproduction of one page, 8½ by 11 or smaller, in black and white, and the mailing of same at first class postage rates to all memberships for the purpose of calling a special Club business meeting.
 - 3. The Secretary is authorized expenditures for costs of mailing once monthly to every membership at first class minimum postage rates.
 - 4. The Secretary is authorized expenditures for monthly costs of reproduction of up to and including five pages, each 8½ by 11 or smaller, in black and white, for mailing to every membership.
 - 5. The Secretary is authorized expenditures associated with refundable reservation fees for planned Club functions.
 - 6. The Secretary is authorized expenditures for paying the Club's dues to the American Whitewater Affiliation (AWA) and the American Canoe Association (ACA).
 - 7. Other expenditures from the General Fund must be authorized by the general membership or the Board of Directors.
 - 8. Any item on a budget approved by the Board or the general membership constitutes authorization of expenditures for same.
 - 9. An officer, elected or appointed, specifically assigned to a function by the Board of Directors is authorized expenditures of special funds collected from designated donations/fees as long as those donations/fees are spent as designated.

VII. Club Trips

- A. Trip Coordinator - Any Club trip will have an assigned trip coordinator whose function is to act as a focal point of contact and coordinate events up to put-in.
- B. Float Leader - Any Club trip will have a float leader(s) whose function is to ensure Club rules and safety precautions are observed while navigating water. The party should be divided into float groups of 4 to 8 boats with a leader for each group. The leader may be designated by the trip coordinator or by mutual consent of the members of the float group.
- C. Guests - Any guest must be sponsored by a Club member. The Club member shall be responsible for the conduct of a guest. Guests must abide by all Club rules.
- D. Participants - All participants must sign an Attendance/Liability Release Form. The trip leader will note the river(s) and date(s) and turn in this completed form to the Club Secretary for filing. All participants must agree to abide by the rules of the Club, the trip coordinator, and the float leader.

VIII. Float Rules

A. General

1. Any trip requires each person to have a United States Coast Guard (USCG) approved Personal Floatation Device (PFD).
2. No Illegal or controlled substance shall be taken on a Club trip without a medical prescription.

B. Up to, and including, Class I water:

Same as General

C. Class II water and up:

1. Same as Class I water plus the following:
2. Each person shall wear a USCG-approved PFD while navigating Class II and above rapids.
3. Each person shall wear a protection helmet while navigating
 - a. decked boat through Class II and above rapids, or
 - b. open boat through Class III and above rapids.
4. Each float group shall consist of three or more boats.
5. The most upstream or last float group shall have at least two safety lines - each a minimum of 50 feet in length. Preceding float groups shall have at least one safety line 50 feet in length.
6. The most upstream float group shall have a First Aid Kit when navigating canyon or wilderness-type rivers.
7. Each person shall remain within sight whenever practical of at least one other member of the float group.
8. No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed between the put-in and take-out.
9. Any person a float leader believes to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be excluded as a member of the float trip.
10. Violation of any of these rules is grounds for the float leader to "expel" any person from continuing as a member of the float trip.

IX. Equipment

Club equipment is for the use of the Club members. Policy for use of any Club equipment will be established jointly by the Board and by the person maintaining custody of said equipment.

GUIDELINE TO HCC OFFICER FUNCTIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| President: | Chief officer of the club, the President directs all club meetings, sets the course the club will take under his/her direction, and insures that all club administrative duties are carried out. |
| Vice President: | Assumes the Presidents responsibilities in the Presidents absence. Maintains the club Video Library. Acts as Programs Director for monthly meetings. |
| Secretary / Treasurer: | Records minutes of all board and business meeting; maintains all club records, archives, documents, membership lists, and accounts; generates mailing labels for the club newsletter and assists with newsletter as needed. |
| Cruisemasters: | The Cruisemasters job is to act as a focal point and source of information for club trips that are planned in advance as well as acting as a trip broker for impromptu or "pick-up" trips. The Cruisemaster should prepare a trip schedule of planned trips for the club newsletter whenever possible. The Cruisemaster is not required to act as a float leader on the river, rather, he or she puts paddlers in touch with trip leaders before the trip date arrives. The Cruisemaster may also be a float leader if so desired. |
| Newsletter Editor: | Gathers canoe related material and trip reports, and prepares newsletter for publication. |
| Publicity: | Does PR work for club. Gets the word out about the HCC with posters, fliers, mailings and newspaper exposure in news articles and recreational activities announcements. |
| Safety: | Promotes safety within the club by providing updates of safety techniques as they become known, submitting safety articles for the club newsletter, arranging demonstrations of safety techniques at club meetings, and act as director of safety for the club. |
| Quartermaster: | Responsible for managing the inventory of club equipment, it's distribution and timely return. |
| Membership: | Responsible for keeping the membership roster up to date and printing address labels for newsletter and other mailings. |
| Conservation/Access: | Informs club members, at meetings and in newsletter, of current issues relating to paddling conservation and access. May be asked to act as club representative or delegate to voice concerns to officials. |

HCC Frequently Paddled Rivers

| <u>River Name / Section</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Skill Level</u> | <u>River Miles</u> | <u>Road Miles</u> |
|---|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Blackwater Creek, AL / Section 2 | 0-I | Beginner | 8 | 90 |
| Elk River, TN | 0-I | Beginner | 40 | 30 |
| Sequatchie, TN | 0-I | Beginner | 20 | 90 |
| Flint River, AL | I | Beginner | 30 | 15 |
| Sipsey, AL | I | Beginner | 15 | 85 |
| Chattooga, GA / Section 2 | II | Novice | 8 | 290 |
| Hiwassee, TN | II | Novice | 6 | 150 |
| Mulberry, AL / Section 2 | II | Novice | 4 | 83 |
| Mulberry, AL / Section 1 | II | Novice | 10 | 75 |
| Blackwater Creek, AL / Section 1 | II | Novice+ | 9 | 95 |
| Locust Fork, AL / Section 2 | II | Novice+ | 10 | 70 |
| Amicolola Creek, GA / Section 1 | II-III | Novice-Inter | 10 | 160 |
| Locust Fork, AL / Section 3 | II-III | Novice-Inter | 4 | 70 |
| Locust Fork, AL / Section 4 | II-III | Novice-Inter | 4 | 75 |
| Nantahala | II (III) | Novice-Inter | 10 | 260 |
| Cartecay | II-III | Intermediate | 11 | 170 |
| French Broad, TN | III (IV) | Intermediate | 8 | 200 |
| Little River Canyon, AL / Section 3 (Chairlift) | III (IV) | Intermediate | 6 | 90 |
| Little Tennessee River, NC | III | Intermediate | 13 | 290 |
| Upper Scarham | II-III | Intermediate | | 50 |
| Upper Short Creek, AL | II-III | Intermediate | 5 | 50 |
| Upper Town Creek, AL / Section 1 | II-III | Intermediate | 4 | 50 |
| Tellico, TN / Section 2 (Middle) | III+ | Intermediate+ | 6 | 180 |
| Amicalola Creek, GA / Section 2 | III (IV) | Advanced | 10 | 160 |
| Black Oak | III-IV | Advanced | 6 | 60 |
| Chattooga, GA / Section 3 | III (IV) | Advanced | 11 | 290 |
| Daddy's Creek | III-IV | Advanced | 6.5 | 150 |
| Nolichucky Gorge, TN | III-IV | Advanced | 8 | 310 |
| Ocoee, TN | III-IV | Advanced | 5 | 150 |
| Scarham Creek | III+(V) | Advanced | 2.5 | 50 |
| Town Creek, AL / Section 2 | III+ | Advanced | 13 | 50 |
| Chattooga, GA / Section 4 | IV (VI) | Advanced+ | 8 | 290 |
| Little River Canyon, AL / Section 2 (Upper2) | III-V | Advanced+ | 3 | 90 |
| Little River, TN | III+(IV) | Advanced+ | 21 | 185 |
| South Sauty | IV+ | Advanced+ | 6 | 60 |
| Short Creek | IV | Advanced+ | 3.5 | 50 |
| Tellico, TN / Section 1 (Ledges) | III-IV | Advanced+ | 10 | 180 |
| Little River Canyon, AL / Section 1 (Suicide) | IV-V | Expert | 3 | 90 |

NOTE: It is **strongly** recommended that persons of less than highly advanced ability and skills **never** attempt to run a section of river they are not familiar with unless they have an experienced guide to lead them and they have consulted maps and guidebooks to gain needed knowledge. Just because you have “**survived**” a Class III Rapid, this **does not** make you a Class III paddler. Also, please note that skill level is a subjective category. If you are in any way unsure of a run, ask someone who has paddled it (and has paddled with you, preferable).

The **Road Miles** listed above are **Guesses**. The **River Miles** are from established sources. This listing should be read with extreme care because several rivers have very similar names, and one river may have several **sections** which vary greatly in difficulty. Water levels are assumed to be normal. Ask a knowledgeable club member for help with this list if you are unsure.

Equipment Outfitters

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Alabama Outdoors | | 3054 Independence Drive | Birmingham, AL 35209 | 205.870.1919 |
| Alabama Small Boats | | 2370 Highway 52 | Helena, AL 35080 | |
| Beacon Sports Center | | Highway 52, East | Ellijay, GA 30540 | 706.276.3600 |
| Boundary Waters | http://piragis.com | 105 North Central Avenue | Ely, MN 55731 | 800.223.6565 |
| Cabela's | http://www.cabelas.com | 812 13th Avenue | Sidney, NE 69160 | 800.237.4444 |
| Campmor | 810 Route 17 North | Post Office Box 997-K | Paramus, NJ 07653 | 800.526.4784 |
| Four Corners Riversports | http://www.riversports.com | Post Office Box 379 | Durango, CO 81302 | 800.426.7637 |
| L.L. Bean, Inc. | http://llbeam.com | | Freeport, ME 04033 | 800.221.4221 |
| Nantahala Outdoor Center | http://www.noc.com | 13077 Highway 19, West | Bryson City, NC 28713 | 800.367.3521 |
| Northwest River Supplies | | 2009 South Main | Moscow, ID 83843 | 800.635.5202 |
| Patagonia | 1609 W Babcock Street | Post Office Box 8900 | Bozeman, MT 59715 | 800.336.9090 |
| REI | http://www.rei.com | 1700 45th Street, East | Sumner, WA 98390 | 800.426.4840 |
| Rock Creek Outfitters | | 100 Tremont Street | Chattanooga, TN 37405 | 615.265.5969 |
| Roger Scott's Outdoor | Highway 19 | Post Office Box 19 | Ocoee, TN 37361 | 615.338.2147 |
| SDI | | 908-A Bob Wallace Avenue | Huntsville, AL 35801 | 256.536.8404 |
| Tents & Trails | | 4800 Whitesburg Drive | Huntsville, AL 35802 | 256.882.0026 |
| Voyageur | | Post Office Box 207 | Waitsfield, VT 05673 | 800.843.8985 |
| Wiley Outdoor Sports | | 18008 Sportsman Lane, NW | Huntsville, AL 25816 | 256.837.3920 |

Organizations & Publications

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| American Canoe Association | 8580 Cinderbed Road, Suite 1900 | Post Office Box 1190 | Newington, VA 22122 | 703.550.7523 |
| Bama Backpaddlers Association | paddler@uab.edu | | | 205.940.9076 |
| Birmingham Canoe Club | | Post Office Box 951 | Birmingham, AL 35201 | 205.987.2826 |
| Canoe & Kayak Magazine | | Post Office Box 10784 | Des Moines IA 50349 | 800.678.5432 |
| Canoe & Kayak Racing News | | Post Office Box 3146 | Kirkland, WA 98083 | 206.827.6363 |
| Coosa River Paddling Club | | | | 334.514.1292 |
| Georgia Canoe Association | | Post Office Box 7023 | Atlanta, GA 30357 | 404.421.9729 |
| Northword Press, Inc. | | Post Office Box 1360 | Minocqua, WI 54548 | 800.336.5666 |
| Stokers Paddle Club | | | | 205.507.0867 |
| Tennessee Scenic Rivers Assoc. | TSRA | Post Office Box 159041 | Nashville, TN 37215 | |
| Tri-State Paddlers Association | | | | 334.739.7490 |
| Wild Alabama Magazine | waruk@aol.com | | | |

Schools

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Chota Canoe Club | Post Office Box 8270 | Knoxville, TN 37996 | | |
| Nantahala Outdoor Center | 13077 Highway 19, West | Bryson City, NC 28713 | 800.367.3521 | |
| Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA) | Post Office Box 159041 | Nashville, TN 37215 | | |
| Tennessee Valley Canoe Club (TVCC) | Post Office Box 11125 | Chattanooga, TN 37401 | | |

Companies & Manufacturers

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Canoes by Whitesell, Ltd. | | Post Office Box 9839 | Atlanta, GA 704.488.2386 | |
| Coleman Company | | Post Office Box 1042 | Maple Plain, MN 55348 | 800.343.4420 |
| Dagger | http://www.dagger.com | Post Office Box 1500 | Harriman, TN 37748 | 423.882.0404 |
| Mad River Canoe | | Box 610 | Waitsfield, VT | 802.496.3127 |
| Mowhawk | http://mohawkanoes.com/ | 963 CR 427 North | Longwood, FL 32750 | 407.834.3233 |
| Old Town Canoe Company | http://www.otccanoe.com | 58 Middle Street | Old Town, ME 04468 | 207.827.5514 |
| Wenonah Canoe | 1252 Bundy Blvd. | Post Office Box 247 | Winona, MN 55987 | 507.454.5430 |

Local Conservation Efforts

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|--------------|
| Alabama Rivers Alliance | alabamariv@aol.com | 700 28 th ST, S., Suite 202G | Birmingham, AL 35233 | 205.322.6395 |
| Alabama Water Watch Association | aww@acesag.auburn.edu | | | 888.544.4785 |
| Cahaba River Society | cahaba@igc.apc.org | | | 205.322.5326 |
| Friends of Little River | | | | 706.857.4707 |
| Friends of the Locust Fork River | locust95@aol.com | | | 205.647.8835 |
| Friends of the Tennessee River | | | | 256.586.1721 |
| Frinds of the Flint River | | | | |
| Frinds of the Mulberry Fork River | | | | 205.429.4504 |

River Outfitters, Campgrounds, Cabins & Accommodations

| River | Name | City, State | Phone | Notes | Canoe Rentals | Raft / Tube Rentals | Shuttle | Raft Tours | Campground | Cabins / Rooms |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|---------------|---------------------|---------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Amicalola | Amicalola River Rafting Outpost | | 706.265.6892 | | • | | | | • | • Hot tubs |
| Amicalola | Diamond Lure Campground | Ellijay, GA | 706.273.3075 | | | | | | • | |
| Big South Fork | Cumberland Rapid Transit | | 615.876.4818 | • | • | • | • | | | • Rock climbing, cave tours |
| Big South Fork | Sheltolee Trace Outfitters | | 606.679.5026 | • | • | • | • | | | |
| Buffalo | Buffalo River Canoe Rental | Flatwoods, TN | 615.589.2755 | • | • | | | | | |
| Buffalo | Buffalo Shoals | Waynesboro, TN | 615.722.3960 | • | • | | | | • | |
| Buffalo (AR) | Buffalo Outdoor Center | Ponca, AR | 501.861.5514 | • | • | | | | • | |
| Cartecay | Diamond Lure Campground | Ellijay, GA | 706.273.3075 | | | | | | • | |
| Cartecay | Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions | Ellijay, GA | 706.635.2726 | • | | | | | • | • Ask for Jay |
| Carter's Lake | Woodring Branch Campground | Ellijay, GA | 706.276.6065 | | | | | | • | |
| Carter's Lake | Doll Mountain Campground | Ellijay, GA | 706.276.4413 | | | | | | • | |
| Carter's Lake | Harris Branch Campground | Ellijay, GA | 706.276.4545 | | | | | | • | |
| Cedar Creek | Cedar Creek Park | Cave Spring, GA | 706.777.3030 | • | • | | | | • | |
| Chattahoochee | Wildewood Outpost | Cleveland, GA | 800.533.2715 | • | • | • | | | | • Upper Chattahoochee |
| Elk | Elk River Canoe Rental | Kelso, TN | 615.937.6886 | • | | | | | | |
| Elk | Coldwater Canoe Co. (Pete Whitt) | | 615.425.6656 | • | | | | | | • Lower Elk |
| French Broad | Carolina Wilderness | | 800.872.7437 | | | | • | | | |
| French Broad | Southern Whitewater Canoe Livery | Hot Springs, NC | 704.622.3607 | • | | | | | | • Downstream from Hot Springs |
| French Broad | Hot Springs Spa & Campground | Hot Springs, NC | 704.622.7676 | | | | | | • | • Hot springs |
| Gauley | Cherokee Adventures | Erwin, TN | 615.743.7733 | | | | | • | | |
| Hiwassee | Mountain Stream | | 423.338.1070 | | | | | | • | |
| Hiwassee | Webbs' Float Service | | 615.338.2373 | | • | • | | | | |
| Long Creek | Wildwater, Ltd. | Long Creek, SC | 803.647.9587 | | | | | | • | |
| Mulberry (AR) | Turner Bend | | 501.667.3641 | • | • | | | | • | |
| Nantahala | Great Smokies Rafting Co. | Bryson City, NC | 704.488.6302 | • | | | | | | • A division of NOC |
| Nantahala | Lost Mine Campground | Bryson City, NC | 704.488.6445 | | | | | | • | • Near NOC |
| Nantahala | Nantahala Outdoor Center | Bryson City, NC | 800.232.7238 | • | • | • | • | | | |
| Nantahala | Nantahala Rafts | Bryson City, NC | 800.245.7700 | • | • | | | | | |
| Nantahala | Turkey Creek Campground | Bryson City, NC | 704.488.8966 | | | | | | • | |
| Nolichucky | Carolina Wilderness | | 800.872.7437 | | | | | • | | |
| Nolichucky | Cherokee Adventures | Erwin, TN | 615.743.7733 | | | | | • | | |
| North Fork | Twin Bridges Canoe Rental | West Plains, MO | 417.256.7507 | • | | | | | • | |
| Ocoee | Wildwater Ltd. | | 615.496.4904 | | | | | • | | |
| Ocoee | Ocoee Outdoors, Inc. | | 615.338.2438 | | | | | • | | |
| Ocoee | Quest Expeditions | | 615.338.2979 | | | | | • | | |
| Ocoee | Ocoee Inn | | 615.338.2064 | | | | | • | • | |
| Russel Fork | Cherokee Adventures | Erwin, TN | 615.743.7733 | | | | | • | | |
| Spring | Riverside Campground | Mammoth Spr, AR | 501.625.7501 | • | | | | | • | |
| Talking Rock | Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions | Ellijay, GA | 706.635.2726 | • | | | | | | • Ask for Jay |
| Tuckaseegee | Tuckaseegee Outfitters | | 704.586.5050 | • | • | | | | | |
| Wolf | Ghost River Canoe Rentals | Moscow, TN | 901.877.9954 | • | | | | | | • Upper Wolf |
| Wyoming | Wyoming River Raiders | Casper, WY | 800.247.6068 | | | | | • | | |

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| American Canoe Association | http://aca-paddler.org | |
| American Whitewater Affiliation | http://www.awa.org | Check out Whitewater Resources Online |
| Chota Canoe Club | http://kornet.org/chota/ | |
| Georgia Canoe Association | http://www.mindspring.com/~gaconoe/ | |
| Nantahala Outdoor Center | http://www.noc.com | |
| Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association | http://home.earthlink.net/~smgibbon/tsra/ | |
| Tennessee Valley Canoe Club | http://home.earthlink.net/~smgibbon/tvcc/ | |
| TVA Water Pages | http://lakeinfo.tva.gov | |
| USGS Water Gauges | http://water.usgs.gov | Check out Water Data , Real Time |
| Weather Channel | http://www.weather.com | |
| Canoeing and Kayaking Information | http://www.paddling.net | |

Hospitals Closest to Area Rivers

No one likes the idea of needing to go to a hospital, especially when a weekend paddle had been planned instead. But, if you or someone you are paddling with does need medical care, it helps to know where the nearest hospital is. Keep this list of rivers and the hospitals closest to them, in the glove box of your river vehicle.

| RIVER | HOSPITAL | ADDRESS | CITY, STATE | PHONE |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Amicalola River | Lumpkin County Hospital | Highway 60 | Daholonega, GA | 864.6136 |
| | Pickens General Hospital | Highway 5 | Jasper, GA | 692.2441 |
| Alcovy River | Newton County Hospital | 4171 Tate Street | Covington, GA | 786.7053 |
| Broad River | Athens General | 797 Cobb Street | Athens, GA | 549.9977 |
| Cartecay River | Watkins Memorial Hospital | Highway 5 | Ellijay, GA | 635.4741 |
| Chattahoochee, Upper | Habershaw County General Hospital | US 23 | Demorest, GA | 754.2161 |
| Chatooga River | Rabun County Memorial Hospital | South Main Street | Clayton, GA | 782.4233 |
| Chauga River | Rabun County Memorial Hospital | South Main Street | Clayton, GA | 782.4233 |
| | Memorial Hospital | Highway 125 | Seneca, SC | 882.3351 |
| Chestatee River | Lumpkin County Hospital | Highway 60 | Dahlonega, GA | 864.6136 |
| Conasauga River | Bradley County Memorial Hospital | Chambliss Avenue | Cleveland, TN | 479.0111 |
| Coosawattee River | Watkins Memorial Hospital | Highway 5 | Ellijay, GA | 635.4741 |
| Etawah River | Lumpkin County Hospital | Highway 60 | Dahlonega, GA | 864.6136 |
| Fightingtown Creek | Cooper Basin General Hospital | Highway 68 | Copper Hill, TN | 496.5511 |
| Flint River (AL) | Huntsville Hospital | 101 Sivley Road | Huntsville, AL | 533.8020 |
| Flint River (GA) | Upson County Hospital | 801 West Gordon Street | Tomaston, GA | 647.8111 |
| Hiwassee River | Memorial Hospital | Highway 411, North | Etowah, TN | 263.5521 |
| Hudson River | Athens General | 797 Cobb Street | Athens, GA | 549.9977 |
| Little River (AL) | Baptist Medical Center | 1400 Forest Avenue | Fort Payne, AL | 845.3150 |
| Little Tennessee River | Swain County Hospital | Plateau Street | Bryson City, NC | 488.2155 |
| Locust Fork River | Cullman Medical Center | 401 Arnold Street | Cullman, AL | 734.1210 |
| Mountaintown Creek | Watkins Memorial Hospital | Highway 5 | Ellijay, GA | 635.4741 |
| Nantahala River | District Memorial Hospital | US Highway 19 | Andrews, NC | 321.4231 |
| | Swain County Hospital | Plateau Street | Bryson City, NC | 488.2155 |
| Ocoee River | Copper Basin General Hospital | Highway 68 | Copper Hill, TN | 496.5511 |
| Soque River | Habershaw County General Hospital | US Highway 23 | Demorest, GA | 754.2161 |
| Talking Rock River | Pickens General Hospital | 1301 Church Street | Jasper, GA | 692.2441 |
| Talulah River | Rabun County Memorial Hospital | South Main Street | Clayton, GA | 782.4233 |
| Tellico River | Memorial Hospital | Highway 411, North | Etowah, TN | 263.5521 |
| Toccoa River | Fannin Regional Hospital | Highway 5 | Blue Ridge, GA | 632.3711 |

TVA Water Resources Customer Information System

Interactive Voice Response System

Touch Tone Phone Codes

To access the system, dial 800.238.2264 (voice)
or 800.438.2264 (TDD)

