

*****[NEWS FROM THE HAW RIVER](#)*****

**The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company – Electronic Update
May 2007**

Table of Contents:

- * Haw River Festival - Saturday, May 12th. 1-6 p.m.
- * Saturdays in Saxapahaw
- * Schedule of Courses & Trips for May & June
- * We Have Moved to a New Location
- * Watch Out for Those Sweepers!

***** Haw River Festival - Saturday, May 12th. 1-6 p.m. *****

Come celebrate the Haw River with the annual Haw River Festival in Bynum, NC. The Festival, put on by the Haw River Assembly, is a fun-filled afternoon for adults and children.

There will be a silent art auction of Clyde Jones' ducks, native plants for sale, nature walks and river monitoring, environmental booths, a canoe raffle, and especially for young kids, painting and canoe rides. In addition to music and other live performances, the local Ruritan Club will make food available.

Bynum is located just off Hwy. 15-501 about 12 miles south of Chapel Hill and 4 miles north of Pittsboro, NC. For more information on bands and scheduled activities, go to www.hawriver.org or call 919/542-5790.

***** Saturdays in Saxapahaw *****

Every Saturday through August 25, Saxapahaw is the place to be if you are not paddling down the river. If you like local and organic produce, flowers, wine, jams, eggs and baked goods, the farmers' market starts at 5:00 p.m. Live local music played on the hay wagon stage begins at 6:00 p.m. and lasts until 8:00 p.m. Free activities for the kids include arts and crafts, games, face painting and the environmentally friendly, homemade slip & slide.

For more information about Saturdays in Saxapahaw, the farmers' market and music series, go to www.rivermillvillage.com.

***** Schedule of Courses & Trips for May & June *****

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 that you can rent a canoe or kayak and do a self-guided trip. A brief listing of activities for the remainder of May and June are listed below:

May

5/5 Sunset Paddle
5/6 Haw River to Swepsonville
5/12 Canoe & Kayak Classes*
5/19 Stargazing Float
5/20 Swepsonville to Saxapahaw - or Other Direction
5/26 Poker Paddle

June

6/2 Full Moon Paddle
6/3 Haw River to Swepsonville
6/9 Canoe & Kayak Classes
6/10 National River Cleanup Day
6/16 Stargazing Float
6/17 Swepsonville to Saxapahaw - or Other Direction
6/23 Paddle & Potluck
6/30 Full Moon Paddle

*Classes include Quick Start for Canoe & Kayak (3 hrs.), Introduction to Canoeing (8 hrs.) and Introduction to Recreational Kayaking (8 hrs.)

***** We Have Moved to a New Location *****

We are happy to announce that The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company has completed the move to the Community Center in Saxapahaw, right next to the Haw River and the portage trail that is planned around the dam. The new space will serve not only as our office and "gear" shed, but also as a place for people with an interest in paddling and nature to

meet. With a kitchen and bathrooms easily accessible, the space will be ideal for Potluck Paddles, special presentations and Haw River Paddling Club events.

Part of our space will be turned into a small, but very functional, hostel for through paddlers. A library of natural history surveys, guidebooks and many maps will enable anyone to plan their Haw River trip as well as adventures from the Florida Keys to the Yukon River in Alaska.

This Fall, when we have had a chance to add a little paint and spruce up the place a little, we plan to hold an open house. We hope you'll come visit then, but please know you are welcome to come by anytime. Just call to make sure we will be here and not out on the river. We'd love to hear of your ideas for making our space a place where you just want to hang out.

***** Watch Out for those Strainers *****

Several years ago, a friend of The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company drowned on the Deep River. She wasn't wearing a PFD. It was on the bottom of her canoe. She turned over and got caught in a strainer. We're not exactly sure of how it happened, but we guess that she leaned upstream when her canoe hit the tree sideways and turned over. It may sound strange but we honor her memory when we tell our guests that although PFDs may feel confining, they aren't as confining as a coffin and not nearly as for long. So wear your PFD.

We bring up this very sad event because there is a down tree in the Haw River downstream of the Town of Haw River. At the time of this writing, the tree is all the way across the river and presents a problem for beginner and experienced paddlers, alike. At low water, you can approach the tree sideways if you are careful, remember not to lean upstream and wear your PFD. Simple get out of your boat onto the tree, lift your boat over the tree and get back in downstream of the tree to continue your paddle.

Folks with the Haw River Trail and the Alamance County Parks and Recreation Department are planning to cut a safe passage where the tree now crosses the river. With a few high water events this coming winter, the tree will

probably not even be an issue this time next year.
Instead, it will become fish and turtle habitat.

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the Haw River", an Electronic Update provided by The Haw
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