



The Haw River

Canoe & Kayak Co.

Reconnect with nature, have fun paddling.

THE HAW RIVER PADDLER

September 2008

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2008 Paddle Tourism Survey

The North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources State Trails Program (NCSTP) has launched a research project designed to collect information from both resident and non-resident paddlers who enjoy the lakes, rivers and coastal areas of North Carolina. To better understand the paddling community, NCSTP has created an online survey. The survey is designed to determine what attracts paddlers to waterways across the state, what types of activities they participate in while on paddle trips, the qualities they desire to make their visits more enjoyable, and the economic impact they have on the areas in which they paddle.

NCSTP will use the results of the survey to promote paddling, enhance paddling experiences, and increase awareness of paddle tourism throughout North Carolina. A link to the N.C. Paddle Survey is available at www.ncparks.gov under Items of Interest.

Please take a few moments to fill out the survey online. The deadline is October 1st. The results will be posted on the NCSTP website later in the fall. For more information, contact Project Manager Jennifer Beedle at (919)715-9613 or Jennifer.beedle@ncmail.net.

Tour the Haw River Via Paddle Dinners

September represents a transition from the hot days of summer to the cooler days of autumn. To celebrate this wonderful time of the year, we have scheduled Paddle Dinners for three separate Saturdays with three different partners; the Grove Winery in northern Alamance County, Benjamin Vineyards & Winery in southern Alamance County and Carolina Brewery in the central part of Chatham County.

Each Paddle Dinner will include a 2-3 hour, guided paddle trip on a gentle section of the Haw River followed by a 5 or 6 course, catered meal with wine pairings, or in the case of Carolina Brewery, beer pairings. There is nothing like meeting new friends, having a fun, educational adventure on the river and then breaking bread together with your new friends to finish off the day.

Participating in all three Paddle Dinners is a good way to explore the Haw River over the course of a month and delight in its variety of colors, moods and wildlife viewing opportunities. To register for one or more Paddle Dinners either call us at 336/260-6465 or send us an e-mail message to info@hawrivercanoe.com.

New Neighbor – Paper Hand Puppet Intervention

If you have met us at our office in Saxapahaw, you know that we are located in the basement of the old Community Center in Saxapahaw, NC. Until recently, the upstairs of the Center was an indoor basketball court. We are happy to announce that the Paper Hand Puppet Intervention (www.paperhand.org) is now renting that space. They are turning it into both a studio for the development of their giant puppets and backgrounds for their outdoor shows, pageants and parades and a theater for indoor productions. The space will also be made available for musical events and community gatherings.

If you have never been to one of Paper Hand Puppet Intervention's presentations, you have the opportunity to enjoy their current production, "I Am An Insect" with shows at the Forest Theater on the UNC campus in Chapel Hill, NC each Friday, Saturday & Sunday night from now until September 12th. Their shows are always beautiful, entertaining and educational for both kids and adults. We highly recommend them and are very pleased to have them as our neighbor.

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 the remainder of September & October are listed below:

September

8/30	Owl Prowl
9/6	Paddle Dinner – Grove Winery
9/6	Stargazing Float
9/7	Town of Haw River to Swepsonville
9/13	Canoe & Kayak Classes
9/13	Harvest Moon Paddle - Benjamin Vineyards
9/14	Harvest Moon Paddle - River Landing Inn B&B
9/20	Paddle Dinner – Benjamin Vineyards & Winery
9/20	Paddle & Potluck
9/26	Sunset Paddle
9/27	Paddle Dinner – Brewery Style/Carolina Brewery
9/28	Swepsonville to Saxapahaw

October

10/4	HRA - Haw River Clean-up
10/4	Stargazing Float
10/5	Town of Haw River to Swepsonville
10/10	Sunset Paddle
10/11	Canoe & Kayak Classes
10/11	Sunset Paddle
10/18	Fly Fishing Paddle
10/18	Full Moon Paddle
10/24	Sunset Paddle
10/25	Owl Prowl
10/26	Swepsonville to Saxapahaw
10/31	Pumpkin Paddle

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

Saturdays & Second Sundays in Saxapahaw

If music and farmer markets are things you enjoy, then Saxapahaw is your weekend destination. Each Saturday through September, there is a regular Farmer's Market beginning at 5:00 p.m. with local vendors of all kinds followed at 6:00 p.m. by great music on an outdoor stage. To fully enjoy the experience, bring a blanket and join the friendly crowd on a grassy hillside. There are lots of activities for your kids, so bring them along, too. For more information and a schedule of bands, please go to www.rivermillvillage.com/bands07.html.

On the second Sunday of each month, the River Landing Inn (www.riverland-inginn.com) puts on an art and music event featuring local artisans, good food and wines from Benjamin Vineyards & Winery (www.benjaminvineyards.com). Spread out over a beautiful old farm approximately one mile outside of Saxapahaw, the Inn offers beautiful, relaxing accommodations for those wanting to get away for the weekend and stay overnight. For more information either call Matt Diehl at 336/376-1502 or send him an e-mail at matt@riverland-inginn.com.

Don't forget paddling with us if you do come to Saxapahaw on the weekend. We offer guided trips and canoe and kayak rentals every weekend day from March through November. Take a look at our website www.hawrivercanoe.com and find a date when you can come and enjoy what Saxapahaw has to offer.

The Haw River: Nature & Art Series

Look all around you. Nature has always been a dominant theme in many of the visual arts. Paddlers, like artists, have a way of seeing the beauty in rivers and their wildlife. Artists have a way of experiencing that same connection to nature as paddlers do.

The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company has teamed up with the Central Carolina Community College Continuing Education program to put together a course for visual artists who haven't had much experience paddling on the Haw River. The course will take place on four consecutive Saturday mornings in October.

The idea behind the course is to provide the artists with basic safety and paddling skills on the first Saturday morning and then, on the next three Saturday mornings, lead them to special places along the river where they will have time to sketch, paint and/or take pictures.

For more information, contact The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company at 336/260-6465 or info@hawrivercanoe.com. To register for the course, contact Maggie Zwilling at 919/542-6495, ext. 228 or mzwil272@cccc.edu.

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