



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Betsy McDonald
betsy@RenoRiverFestival.com
775-784-9400 x 119
Jim Litchfield
jimL@RenoRiverFestival.com
775-324-6622

WATCH *AND* LEARN AT THE 2009 RENO RIVER FESTIVAL

Truckee River Foundation offers FREE whitewater clinics May 9 and 10

RENO, Nev. (May 5, 2009) – This year, don't just sit on the banks wishing for the skills to boat like a pro, become a pro by participating in the free kayaking clinics at the 2009 Reno River Festival. Sponsored by the Truckee River Foundation (TRF), a local non-profit organization dedicated to providing environmental education, safety and athlete development programs centered around the Truckee River, clinics take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday during the festival. Registration is available on a first-come-first-serve basis on site and signups begin at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 7. Clinics are offered for a variety of skill levels including those geared specifically to beginners, women and physically impaired boaters. The clinic headquarters are located on the east end of Wingfield Park, while the adaptive whitewater clinic starts at Barbara Bennett Park.

Taught by world champion kayakers, swift water rescue team members and other longtime instructors, Reno River Festival clinics are one-and-a-half hours long and limited to a maximum of eight students per teacher. All boating gear is provided with the exception of the 9 a.m. freestyle clinics. The following are further details on the 2009 Reno River Festival clinics:

Saturday, May 9

9 - 10:30 a.m. Freestyle clinic
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. White Water Kayaking Level I
1 - 2:30 p.m. Whitewater Kayaking Level II
3 - 4:30 p.m. Whitewater Kayaking Refresher

Sunday, May 10

9 - 10:30 a.m. Freestyle clinic
9 - 10:30 a.m. Women's Clinic
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Whitewater Kayaking Level I
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Adaptive Whitewater Clinic
1 - 2:30 p.m. Whitewater Kayaking Level II
3 - 4:30 p.m. Whitewater Kayaking Refresher

Freestyle: Learn basic freestyle (play boating) tricks, tune up skills or learn the latest and greatest maneuvers during this morning freestyle lesson. Registrants should have their own gear, possess a solid combat roll and be prepared to get wet. Instructors: Colin Kemp and Chris Wing

Kayaking Level I: This is a first-timers class with no experience needed. Learn basic strokes, proper body position and wet exits. Instructors: James McBeath and Jackie Newman

Kayaking Level II: This clinic is suitable for those who crave more instruction and experience after basic exposure to whitewater kayaking. A great compliment to the Level I clinic, boaters learn bracing and basic river running. Instructors: James McBeath and Jackie Newman

Kayaking Refresher: For those who paddle on a regular basis but are in need of a tune up lesson; students get a reminder on how to roll and brace, while practicing basic river running skills. Equipment is available but students are encouraged to use their own if possible. Instructors: James McBeath and Jackie Newman

Women's Clinic: Taught by two very talented women kayakers, this specialized clinic is intended for novice females with a desire to learn. Instructors: Jackie Newman and Ruth Gordon

Adaptive Clinic:

Participants are introduced to basic adaptive whitewater concepts and equipment with an opportunity to float the Truckee River during the festival.

The Truckee River Whitewater Park is located just blocks from Reno's 24-hour gaming excitement and other attractions including dining and nightlife, golf, skiing, hiking and bike trails, lakes and a selection of art museums and galleries. For more details about the 6th annual Reno River Festival, visit www.RenoRiverFestival.com or call 775-784-9400 x 119.

The 6th annual Reno River Festival is held at the Truckee River Whitewater Park at Wingfield in the heart of downtown Reno's booming RiverWalk district. Hosting top whitewater athletes from around the world May 8-10, 2009, the city's \$1.5-million Whitewater Park contributes to the region's image as America's Adventure Place, providing an easily accessible venue for adventure and recreation just steps from downtown's Reno's entertainment and gaming district. The 6th annual Reno River Festival is presented by Reno River Festival LLC in Reno-Tahoe, America's Adventure Place.

###