



To all Grand River Expedition 2010 Team Members...

Rules of the River

- For your safety and to comply with state and federal law and our insurance carrier, you must have a life jacket for each person in each boat. We highly recommend that the life jacket be worn while on the water. State law and the USCA do not require it to be worn at all times, However, for the safety of the members of the expedition team, the Rivermaster may require that the life jackets (PFDs) be worn. In these instances, it will be mandatory to comply to remain a member of the expedition.
- This expedition is being run under the auspices of the United States Canoe Association. Please read and understand the brochure "Welcome Paddler" that will be provided. If you have any questions, please check with the Rivermaster or the organizing team.
- To comply with our insurance carrier and our campground hosts, alcohol shall not be used prior to launch, during the expedition, nor in camp.
- Also to comply with our insurance carrier and federal and state laws, no illegal or mind altering substances shall be carried or used by any member of the expedition.
- It is necessary and important to attend the daily briefing by the Rivermaster. The daily schedule will be provided. Known portages and areas of special concern will be described as will other information needed for the day's paddle.
- A hand-out from the United States Canoe Association (USCA) entitled Welcome Paddler! is a part of your registration package.
 - We want assurance from you that you will read and understand the following safety sections:
 - Learn When to Lean Downstream
 - Wind and waves
 - Upsets
 - Loading capacity
 - Safety Devices
 - Dangers to Avoid
- This information will help make the expedition a safer and more pleasant journey. If you have any questions or disagreements, please go over them with the Rivermaster.
- To paddle with the Expedition team and be considered a team member, you must have completed a registration form and medical emergency information form, signed an insurance waiver and a photo/audio/video release form and paid the registration fee for the days of the expedition that you are paddling.



- You must also agree to abide by these rules of the river. Those who chose not to comply may be asked to leave the expedition. In such instance, there will be no refunds.

Courtesies to Remember

- Remember that we are all volunteers.
- Please be attentive during daily briefings and avoid side conversations at this time.
- In a constricted area or at portages, please find a safe spot to wait while the boats ahead land or clear the obstruction.
- Upon landing, please pull your boat away from the landing area quickly so that others behind you may come ashore.
- When launching, please follow the Rivermaster's instructions for that location. In general, we will want to travel as a group, but there will be occasions that we will need to disperse from the launching location and gather at a later designated location.
- Please pick up all trash and any personal paper products and deposit into a trash bin. If no trash bin is near, then deposit in a trash bag or container in your boat until it is possible to dispose of properly.
- Please assist one another on the portages.
- Please keep in mind the daily schedule and do everything possible to stay with the group and remain within the time schedule of the Expedition, especially when you hear the morning wake up call but you want to go back to sleep.
- Because of the large size of the group, be on the lookout for ways to improve our progress, please feel free to make suggestions that may correct mistakes and take care of details that may have been missed.
- During media interviews, remember our team effort and focus on the river.
- Please be courteous to others enjoying the river. Remember to give those fishing plenty of clearance.

A Word to the Wise

- Take a chamber pot, screw lid plastic bottle or some type of container into the tent at night so it is not necessary for you to go in search of bathrooms in the middle of the night.
- Carry plenty of water and snack food to stay healthy, hydrated and "fueled".
- We will be putting in long days. Keep the goal in mind and remember that the Expedition is a learning experience that we are privileged to share.
- Remember we are all volunteers trying to do our best.
- Secure your canoe upon landing, either tie it to a tree or another canoe and/or turn the canoe over in case of rain.
- The Expedition can not be responsible for lost articles during the Expedition and/or display times with the public. Stay alert and watchful that all of your personal belongings and display materials are packed in the van in plenty of time for transport to the next location.



- Try to adjust gracefully to the fact that we all won't be able to shower every day. Remember that we all will probably be grubby and dirty at some point – this is part of the Expedition experience. We'll all try to do our best and put our best face forward to the many citizens who will be greeting us and hosting us.
- We are not setting out on a vacation. We have dedicated ourselves to the sincere purpose of research and public education, including learning something for ourselves! At all times, we should keep in mind that we are representing the Expedition and focusing attention on the Grand River.
- Grand River Expedition 2010 is not a macho trip. If at anytime you believe that you are unable to continue paddling, please ask for assistance. An attempt will be made to find you a strong partner, if one is willing to trade places. Please note that we cannot guarantee that we will be able to achieve this.
 - Remember this is not the army. At any time you can return to your home if this is your choice. However the expedition will not be able to refund any payments for days not traveled.
 - Please alert family members or friends to pick you up if you are leaving the Expedition before the finish.
 - If you leave the Expedition at any time, please check out with the Rivermaster. In the interests of safety we will be keeping track of each craft and each individual during the day to assure that all members reach each destination safely.
- Have a good time!!