

## PRECAUTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANOE & KAYAK RENTAL

### BEFORE GOING OUT

**Know the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing-** Keep shoes on, consider bringing a hat, and a warm layer.

**Know your Skill level-** Before boarding the watercrafts, ask questions and listen to safety instructions.

**Wear a PFD at all times-** Personal Flotation Devices must be worn properly; meaning they are appropriate for your weight and height, and are tied, clipped and zipped.

### CHECKING EQUIPMENT

Everyone in canoe/kayak must wear PFDs at all times (life vests)

**PFDs corresponding to your weight should be tied, clipped and zipped- SNUG**

Canoes should have two paddles- never tie paddles to your wrists or boat

Each Canoe should have 2 lines (stern and bow lines)-

**ALL lines should be tied/wrapped before departing**

**NEVER EXCEED BOAT CARRYING CAPACITY**

### GETTING IN

**STEP 1-** Position the canoe at a right angle to the shore. ---/\--- Have someone steady the canoe while boarding- ALWAYS board one person at a time, from the front or back of canoe

**STEP 2-** Keep knees bent, step into the center of the canoe, and hold both sides.

**STEP 3-** Walk hunched over as low as possible to your seat.

**Do not step or sit on the sides of the canoe.**

**STEP 4-** Once seated, Stay there. **NEVER STAND IN A CANOE!**

**STEP 5-** Steady the canoe by burying the paddle in the bed of the river to allow the other person to board

**Avoid sudden movements or rocking from side to side.**

### PADDLING

**Yield to all motorboats and sailboats, steer clear of areas being fished, fishing lines, and lures**

Heed all warning signs

Always face waves or wake ~~~ □ □ ~~~~~

Watch for and avoid water hazards, low branches, fallen trees, rocks and other debris.

Watch for other boaters, keep away from boat docks and docked boats.

**Stay on the right when passing on-coming boat traffic.**

**IF THE BOAT TIPS OVER BUT FLOATS, STAY WITH IT AND SWIM TO SHORE**

### GETTING OUT

**STEP 1-** Park canoe straight into the shore at a right angle, test stability, re-park if necessary.

**STEP 2-** Back person- stabilize boat by digging the paddle into the river bottom

**STEP 3-** Front person- set paddle in boat, with knees bent, holding both sides of the canoe, stand in center of canoe, and step over the front of the canoe onto the shore

**STEP 4-** Front person- pull canoe onto shore (**NO MORE THAN 2 FEET**) stabilize canoe from shore holding both sides

**STEP 5-** Back person- set paddle in boat, with knees bent, hold both sides of the canoe, step in center of canoe, and walk toward front of boat slowly.

**STEP 6-** Back person- Once on shore, pull the canoe the rest of the way out of water

### RULES and REGULATIONS

- Comply with all **WI DNR Boat Regulations**
- Alcohol and glass containers not allowed- all City of Racine Parks regulations in effect
- Renters must stay downstream of Quarry Lake Park, and upstream of the mouth of the Racine Harbor. **LAKE USE PROHIBITED**
- Canoes/Kayaks must be returned to the REC Facility by the posted closing time, or 30 minutes before sunset, whichever ever comes first. Rented equipment not returned on time will be subject to additional fees and fines.
- Renters will not leave, deposit, place, or throw on the waters, or shores, upon public or private property, any cans, bottles, debris, refuse, solid waste material, or fish parts.
- If you see a person in the water in distress, it is your duty to render aid

### RETURNING EQUIPMENT

**All returned equipment must be brought inside the REC facility and checked by REC staff. Any damaged or missing equipment will be charged to the renter.**