

Paddle the Galien River in New Buffalo

On Saturday, August 26, the Prairie Club Activities Group will paddle down the Galien River to the harbor in New Buffalo at Lake Michigan and back, with a lunch break at the half way point on the New Buffalo waterfront. Round trip paddle time is approximately three hours. Paddle level is beginner-to-intermediate-beginner. It should be a very easy paddle, if no wind.

We will meet at Outpost Sports at 105 West Buffalo Street in New Buffalo, MI at noon Michigan time (11 AM Chicago time). Kayaks are available for rent subject to availability for those not bringing their own. You must call ahead to confirm your rental at 269-469-4210. Outpost Sports is located on US 12 (Buffalo Street) one block west of Whittaker Street (MI Hwy 239) in downtown New Buffalo. Outpost will transport their rentals to the launch site and provide pickup.

We will put in at the Galien River boat launch on Red Arrow Highway by the Galien Kayak Rental sign about three miles east of Outpost Sports. We may want to visit Oink's famous ice cream parlor in New Buffalo after the paddle.

Bring plenty of water, a lunch, bug spray, and sun protection. If you are bringing your own canoe/kayak, you must have a life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD). A dry sack to hold lunch and a change of clothes is recommended. Let the organizer know if you are planning to rent a kayak or bring your own. You can also rent a kayak at the put in from Galien Kayak at the put in. Rates are higher than Outpost Sports. There is limited free parking available at the put in.

Directions from Chicago area: Take I-94 east from Chicago to New Buffalo Exit 1 MI 239. Go north on MI-239 (Whittaker Street/Harbor Country Drive) to Route 12 (Buffalo Street) at the traffic signal in downtown New Buffalo. Turn left on Route 12, Outpost Sports is one block away on the southeast corner. The parking lot is off Route 12. If you are bringing your own kayak, you can meet us at the Galien River boat launch on the Red Arrow highway about two miles east of New Buffalo at about 12:30 PM local time, 11:30 AM Chicago time.