

**Spring Paddle Day
2010
Sand Harbor**

Frequently Asked Questions:

How and where do I register? We are accepting on line registrations this year at www.laketahoewatertrail.org . All participants must pre-pay to assure your reservation. You may pre-pay on line with a credit card, or mail in a check (mailing instructions provided at the end of the on line registration form). If you pay by check, we must receive it before May 20th. The Sierra Nevada Alliance is our fiscal sponsor and on line registration and payment is handled through their secure website. Registration begins on April 26 and closes on May 20th. Please register early to secure a spot!

Can I register more than one person using the on line form? We welcome family or groups of friends at this event, but you must register each participant individually. (Sorry, this is a limitation of using Google forms!)

I'm not sure yet that I can participate. Can I show up the day of the event and register? No, all participants must pre-register by May 20th . Event planning related to parking, group paddles, lunch, and kayak rentals all require that we have confirmed participants prior to the day of the event.

Do I need kayaking experience to participate? No! Kayaking is a great sport for beginners! Our paddle groups are organized by ability and interest and led by experienced guides. A general level of fitness is an asset to allow you to really experience the deep, blue beauty of Lake Tahoe.

Where is Sand Harbor? Sand Harbor is south of Incline Village on SR 28. Boat launching is allowed from the northern park entrance at the boat bay ONLY.

Where do I offload and park? All event participants will offload their boats at the boat ramp, then move their vehicles to the group picnic parking lot. Some participants in past years have left their vehicles in the boat ramp parking area during the event. This limits park use by other members of the public and is contrary to our agreement with Nevada State Parks. ALL CARS LEFT IN THE BOAT LAUNCH PARKING LOT WILL BE CHARGED PARK ENTRY FEES. (We will also nag you to move it!!)

Can I bring my children or my dog? This is a fun event for older children, but please consider your child's paddling ability before you register. All children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. We recommend children under 12 be in a double kayak with an adult paddler. No dogs are allowed at Sand Harbor.

Can I rent a boat at Sand Harbor? We are partnering with EnviroRents in Kings Beach for kayak rental. If you want to rent a kayak, you MUST use the on line registration form and pre-register by May 20. The cost is \$30 for a sit-on style and \$40 for a sit-in style. A life vest is included in the price.

Will my boat be inspected for Aquatic Invasive Species? YES! A new boat inspection program at Lake Tahoe is part of the effort to protect our beautiful lake. If you are bringing

your boat from outside of the Tahoe Basin, bring it DRY. No boat should be launched with water in the hatches, pumps, or sponges.

What are the safety requirements? All participants will be required to sign a liability waiver at check-in. All participants must wear a life vest at all times on the water.

What if the weather is bad? This event will NOT be cancelled due to weather conditions. High winds, however, will limit the extent of paddling possible. Our scientists and interpretive specialists will still be available at the group picnic shelter and we will still offer a yummy lunch at noon!

What happens if I have to cancel? Can I get my registration fee refunded? Sorry, no refunds. If you have registered but can't attend, we can offer you a one-year Lake Tahoe Water Trail membership free of charge. Please email us at info@laketahoe-water-trail.org and we will set that up for you.

What time do I need to arrive? Please do not arrive before 8 am. You will have plenty of time for offloading, registration, and boat inspection before the first group leaves the beach at 9 am.

Where will we paddle? Participants will paddle in a group with others of a similar interest and ability. We will leave Sand Harbor and paddle south.

- No Pain-No Gain. Paddle fast and steady until lunch time!
- Bring on Summer. Head out fast, and then stop on the way back to talk with scientists about Lake Tahoe.
- Easy Does It: Enjoy the sunshine, paddle with your friends, and talk with the scientists.

What is the program this year? The 2010 Spring Paddle Day theme is *A Day of Discovery, Science and Stewardship*. We are pleased to bring Sudeep Chandra and Marion Whitman, leading Lake Tahoe researchers, to the event to tell us the latest about changing aquatic ecosystems in Lake Tahoe and aquatic invasives and how we are fighting them. We will also organize a beach clean up after lunch as a way practice stewardship and to say Thank You to Nevada State Parks!

What do I need to bring with me? Everyone should bring sunscreen, sunglasses, and water. All participants must wear a life vest; other safety equipment like whistles and paddle floats are a good idea too. We will have the new Lake Tahoe Water Trail t-shirts and 2009 Map and Guide for sale, so maybe some extra cash will come in handy!