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**NEXT OWA MEETING**

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

**Flying Pie Pizza**

7804 S.E. Stark Street  
Portland, OR 97215

**6:00 pm**

Social hour begins

**6:30 pm**

Club business and announcements

**7:15-8:15 pm**

Featured presentation

**RIVER TIP**

Submitted by Tom Hanson

To get one-inch webbing to feed through a buckle easier, iron the webbing end with a hot iron. This will flatten the webbing enough so that it will easily feed through a cam buckle.



# Oregon WHITewater ASSOCIATION

Volume 13 Number 5

May 2012



**TRIP  
REPORT**

[Click here for more information on the Umpqua River at the OWA website](#)

## Annual North Umpqua Family Float

APRIL 20-22, 2012 • Submitted by Ron Belnap

When my wife (Renee) and I arrived at Whistler's Bend Park early Friday evening the festivities had already begun. For the second year in a row we slipped our RV into the best spot in the campground, right next to Gary Steffy's miniature canvas lodge. I like this location because really good stuff to eat is continually popping out from Gary's many Dutch ovens along with lots of laughter and stories. After setting up and a hot biscuit or two, I set out to meet new people, renew old friendships, check out new boats and other equipment, and listen to the Bickersons\*, Scott and Bruce, for a few moments. The night was warm, the sky clear, and beyond the laughter was the sound of the river.

>> **CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

*Oregon Whitewater Association is dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting Oregon's rivers for the safe enjoyment of both public and private non-motorized boating, now and in the future. We advocate fairness in accessibility to river resources and provide a voice for responding to river issues and management concerns.*

## Contact Information

Your OWA officers and volunteers

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<http://www.OregonWhitewater.org>

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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

**BY BRENDA BUNCE**

Hello Fellow club members,

May is here and the rivers are a flowing. We have lots of events scheduled this month and several of them are NOT to be missed. There is approximately one week remaining to bid on the auction for shuttles and gear. Make your bids now at <http://oregonwhitewater.org/rescue/auction> for some great deals. All of the money raised in this auction will go directly to subsidize both the Wilderness First Aid class and the Swift Water Rescue class.

We still have some slots available for the Wilderness First Aid class on May 11-13.

This class will be taught by Sierra Rescue for the low price of \$70.00. This price was made possible due to the generosity of the sponsors who donated their goods and services to our club in order to help us keep to our mission of providing white water safety to our club members.

**Come participate in the Upper Clackamas White Water festival on May 19th and 20th.**

This is a great river community event complete with races, a silent auction, raffle, camping and music. As with any big event, it can't be made successful without the hard work of volunteers. For more information, please go to: <http://upperclackamasfestival.org/>

OUR NEXT MEETING will be held on May 9 at the Flying Pie Pizzeria. Social hour begins at 6 pm. Come meet your fellow club members and enjoy an exciting evening.

Cary Solberg, Risa Davis and Karen Eichhorn will be engaging us in a lively discussion on the what, whys and how-to's of river etiquette. They will talk about launch do's and don'ts, river, camp and kitchen customs and practices with a question and answer period to follow. They will discuss what their collective experience has been and what they have done on previous river trips at the put-in, take-out, camp arrival, setting up the kitchen and group site, meal preparation, cleaning and fire tending.

Happy boating,  
Brenda Bunce



“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.”

~John Muir



Our next board meeting will be held May 22. Please contact me for details if you would like to attend.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with future events including assistance with the fall swift water rescue training. Contact me if you're interested.

**Make sure you pay regular visits to:**  
[www.oregonwhitewater.org](http://www.oregonwhitewater.org)

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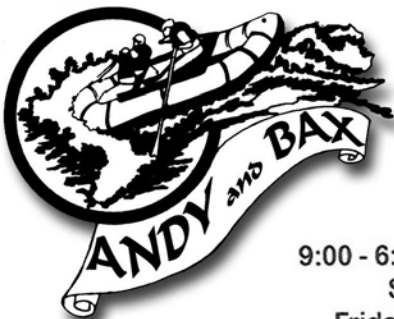
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# Tax Relief Float – 2012

April 14, 2012 • Submitted by Tom Hanson

**T**he 2012 Tax Relief Float had 25 participants, 12 boats, a blue sky and a 60+ degree day. It was a beautiful day to do the run from Harphan Flats to Sandy Beach on the Deschutes.

At 10:00 AM we shuttled the vehicles down to Sandy Beach so we were back at Harphan Flats for an 11:00 AM cast off. The flow at the Moody gauge was around 7500 cfs, so the river was moving along quite well. The two Class IV rapids of Boxcar and Oak Springs had plenty of water and were easy to negotiate.

At noon we stopped at Grey Eagle for lunch in the warm spring sun. We reached

Sandy Beach a little after 2:00 PM and were loaded and heading home by 3:00 PM. Thanks to everyone for making this another great OWA trip. And a special thanks to Don Jacklin and Carol Beatty for opening their Maupin home on Friday and Saturday for OWA friends and family. The contributions in time and effort made by Don and Carol over the years have been a great asset to our club.





## North Umpqua River Family Float

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For whitewater people life just doesn't get any better.

Saturday morning dawned with overcast skies but the clouds soon burned off and the day turned out to be sunny and warm just what we all asked for. A scout party had been out checking out the various launch sites and had determined that there were three that worked. For those wanting a short trip, Colliding Rivers was it, for those wanting more distance, the wooden boat ramp at Lone Rock was available, and due to the high water it was determined that we could run the Narrows at Idleld, launching with a bit of work, from Swiftwater Park at the Swiftwater bridge.

Guys are stupid (most women will verify that). When rafting with my guy friends or by myself my attitude is simple; we are here for fun and an adrenaline rush, the more

fun the higher the risk, the higher the risk the larger the adrenaline rush, but sometimes we swim. Some men or boys get smarter as they get older, most of us don't.

**With my wife along things are different for me, however. She has a knack for falling out (of the boat).**

I think that it has something to do with round butts that many women seem to have. I don't know for sure. Entering the Narrows I was a bit nervous because I knew that if my wife swam on this trip that there wouldn't be another trip for her and that I would have to endure another round of stories about my inept rafting. I also knew that there were a lot of kids on this float. So I had listened carefully to the

scouting report of the Narrows and then we had looked at it ourselves making sure of our comfort levels. Our assessments were correct. In the Narrows we were bounced around a bit, the hydraulics strong and fun but we were safe and mostly dry. I later was informed that a young man in an inflatable kayak had dumped but had self-rescued and completed the Narrows without assistance. Unfortunately, around the corner, hidden from the prying eyes of rafting scouts, lurked Salmon Falls. The water was swift and waves large and breaking. The lead raft was a paddle boat containing Dave and Kelly Keys along with Don and Robyn Robertson. The second wave caught them and all four had a long cold swim with no one to help them due to their position in the pack. Much to my relief Renee and I zipped right through, but behind us another raft piloted by Bosco D'mello also had its struggles. Bosco managed to stay upright, but 7-year-old



Daniel with his dog Shadow, decided to test the waters, an unplanned event that his mother, Bonnie, decided shouldn't happen without supervision, so she went along. Fortunately, all were successfully rescued. We floated along then for an hour or so enjoying the sun, scenery, company, and some minor rapids until Colliding Rivers. I would say that Colliding Rivers was exciting, but uneventful, except that Merrie King who tested her IK skills in the right channel drop would disagree. Again, the rescue was successful, with her husband Jessie now her hero and savior. After another hour or so the float ended, mid-afternoon, with everyone landing, hungry, happy, and ready for the evening.

Dutch oven cooking is wonderful. The dinner and the contest is a highly looked forward to event. I cannot remember all of the delicacies that were presented or the wonderful people who prepared them but I can remember going through the line twice and I can still taste

the cherry-chocolate dessert that was my favorite. The first place winner for the main course was Franchesca for her pizza. The first place winner for his spicy beans in the side dish category and for his pear tart in the desert category was Gary Steffy. Please do not take my camping spot next to Gary next year.

We celebrated a couple

\*The "Bickersons" were a couple in a radio show many years ago who continually fought and harassed each other over the most trivial things. Listening to Scott Ogren and Bruce Ripley always reminds me of them, but also present with them is a very high level of respect for one another.



of birthdays Saturday night. Miranda Ogren turned 6, I believe. She and her friends and river acquaintances were treated to balloon animals prepared by Merrie King, cupcakes, and a rousing round of "happy birthday". A claim was also made that Julie Nathe had just turned 50. I'm pretty sure that was a lie, she doesn't look a day over 30 and I had better not say any more than that as my wife may read this.

I did not float on Sunday. (Trip leader) Brenda Bunce reports that there were 16 boats launching at 11:00 am. The weather was 82 degrees and sunny, the countryside was intensely beautiful and was a 10-mile trip to the take-out at Winchester. On Saturday we had 27 rafts or cat boats and seven kayaks, canoes, or IK's. About 75 people attended the event, definitely a rousing success. A huge thank you goes out to Brenda Bunce for planning and directing this outing.

**SAFETY TIP** Submitted by Tom Hanson

**STOP**

There is a potential hazard ahead.

Wait for the "All Clear" signal before proceeding, or scout ahead.

Form a horizontal bar with your outstretched arms.

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Group photo from the North Umpqua Family Float



Marnie, Victoria and Fran on the Umpqua Float

# Lessons Learned From a Trip Leader

## *Basic guidelines for leading successful trips*

Submitted by Brenda Bunce

Leading trips can be an OWA member's most important and rewarding activity. Important because it is the heart and soul of the club, rewarding because you get to share with others the knowledge and skills that you've learned while exposing them to your favorite river through discovery and adventure.

The rewards of trip leading are huge. But nothing is more important than getting everyone to the take out without an accident or incident. As I lead more trips each year, I try to be mindful of my strengths, my biases and to learn from my past oversights and mistakes so that the trip goes as smooth and as safe as possible....not to mention packed with fun!

The focus here is to outline responsibilities of trip leaders and is not intended to be a comprehensive list of swift water rescue skills or obvious boater safety precautions. There are many books and classes that cover that in detail and should be familiar to the trip leader.

### **Pre-trip planning and communication**

- Scout the paddling route and the big rapids if possible. Familiarize yourself with the details of the run, and know the time and distance.
- Check water levels before you leave home and have a Plan B if the conditions change too drastically to keep to Plan A.
- Confirm details with participants via email a few days before the trip.
- For paddlers unknown to the Trip Leader, establish in the pre-trip communications whether or not the participants have the necessary skills and equipment to feel successful on the trip. Confirm that participants understand the skill level required for the paddle and that

each paddler asserts that they have the appropriate skills.

### **Know the factors that influence your risk or could potentially introduce risk to the whole group**

- Has the water level or weather suddenly changed?
- Ask if there are any special medical conditions which may be a concern. Learn where the paddler carries the required medications.
- Identify who are the least experienced boaters. Perhaps you want to assign an experienced boater to "buddy up" with them.

### **You have to be your own master when you take a risk**

- While it is the trip leader's goal to help reduce risk, paddlers should know their own base qualities and make honest decisions about their skills, knowledge and abilities. People unfamiliar with the river should ask questions and scout rapids if possible. Like wise, trip leaders can look to offer up advice to a beginner paddler who appears unable to advocate for their own best interest.

>> **CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**

## Trip Leader

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

### Pre-Launch Group Discussion

- Before launching, gather your group together and give the safety talk only when you have everyone's undivided attention.
- Discuss the trip length, difficulty, water and weather conditions, any known obstacles, and then ensure that everyone feels comfortable with the trip.
- Ask everyone to tighten life jackets and offer to assist with others, especially children.

Watch that folks are checking for tightness, don't assume it will happen.

### While on the water

- Check on your paddlers. Watch how ALL of your paddlers are doing and frequently ask people how they are doing during the trip.
- Depending on the conditioning of your group, take sufficient breaks for water and rest.
- Assign better paddlers to be lead, sweep and assist with any struggling paddlers.
- Remind folks to keep within view of each other.

Whether you are an expert boater or a novice boater, familiar with a few rivers or many, you need not be an "expert" to be a trip leader, as very few of us are. You only need a desire to connect with others and to be willing to gain profound experience. Also, consider teaming up with an "assistant" trip leader to help lighten load.

Life is a matter of taking risks but it is only by doing so that we grow, learn, gain experience and make living worthwhile and enriching.

*\*Note: Many of these tips were taken from the trip leaders handbook.*



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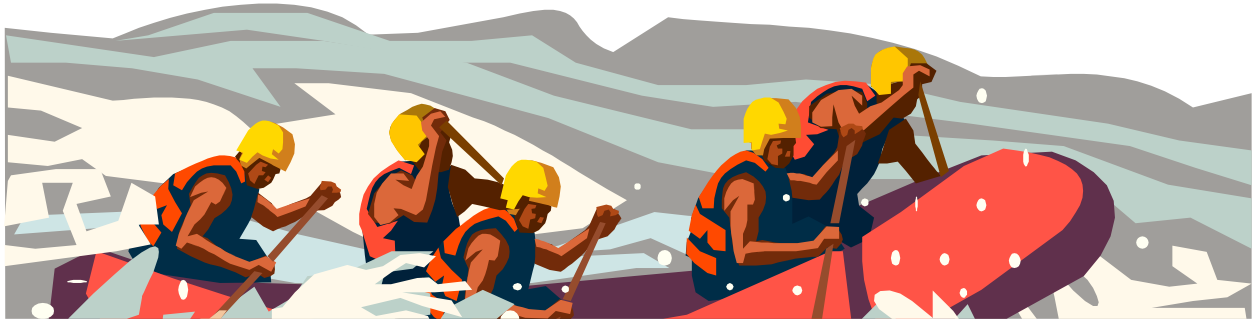
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*NEXT ADVENTURE*



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The UCWWF is an equal opportunity provider operating under a special use permit from the Mt. Hood National Forest.  
Alcohol not allowed at event per forest service permit.



## OWA Summer Picnic (and Gear Swap) at Eagle Fern Park

### DETAILS

**Saturday, August 11 11:00am-3:00pm**  
**Eagle Fern Park (Area 1 )**

*27505 SE Eagle Fern Road  
Eagle Creek, Oregon 97022*

- There is a large covered shelter, with picnic tables (so come rain or shine)
- Picnic tables located right next to the beautiful Eagle Creek.
- Throw rope and knot tying competition (bring a throw rope)
- Games will be provided for children – feel free to bring your own
- Located next to playground
- DOGS allowed
- Alcohol is allowed in the park, so bring your own

### GEAR SWAP AND SALE:

Swap or sell your new or used boating gear. From boats to bags, all gear is welcome. This was a huge success last year!

**PROVIDED:** Meat (hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, turkey burgers, veggie burgers) and beverages (pop and juice).

**BRING:** A pot luck side dish or dessert, lawn chair, the whole family

**Fee:** \$5.00 vehicle pass at the entrance gate

**RSVP:** [president@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:president@oregonwhitewater.org) by August 5

### DIRECTIONS

<http://www.co.clackamas.or.us/parks/eaglefern.htm>



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## Knot of the Month Figure 8 Follow Through

By Steve Kasper

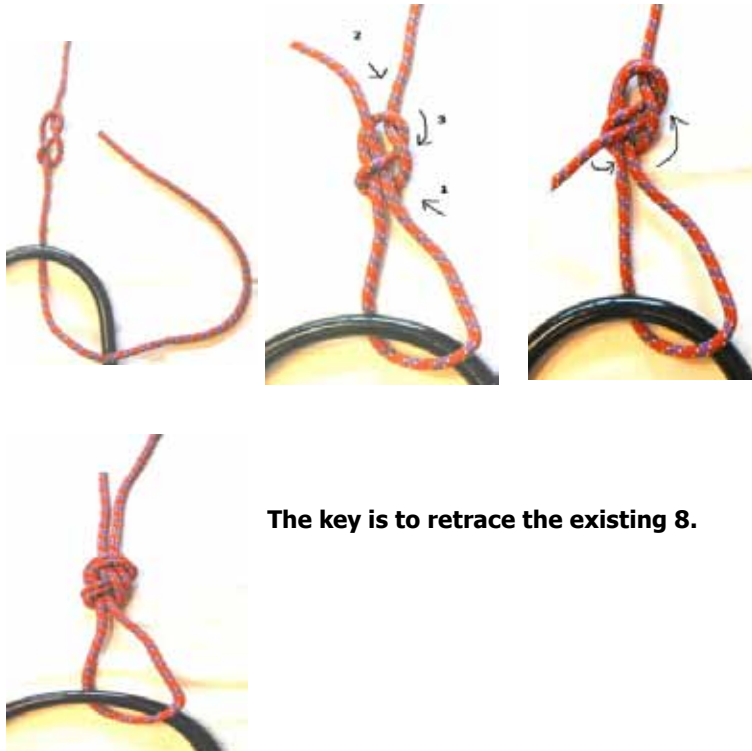
*Each month we will showcase essential knots you should know for river situations*

### OVERVIEW

- It is a very strong knot and easy to tie.
- Great for tying into a fixed anchor point, or around a frame or D-ring which you cannot pass a loop over/through.

### USE

- At the end of a rope as an anchor point, attach to a tree or raft frame or any other closed attach point.
- To form a permanent loop.



The key is to retrace the existing 8.



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# Trip Calendar

Submitted by Pat Barry

Please go to the OWA website for additional details on each trip.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Or go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>



1.1 Sun	<a href="#">Sandy River</a>	II/III	Val Shaul	<a href="mailto:val.shaul@frontier.com">val.shaul@frontier.com</a>	503-805-8991
1.28 Sat	<a href="#">Siletz River</a>	III/IV	Tom Riggs	<a href="mailto:triggs@ashland.com">triggs@ashland.com</a>	503-647-0690
2.18-20 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Bee Tyree	<a href="mailto:dillflet@comcast.net">dillflet@comcast.net</a>	503-753-4081
3.16-18 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Rick Carman	<a href="mailto:frederickcarman@comcast.net">frederickcarman@comcast.net</a>	503-642-9347
3.24-26 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Lower Deschutes</a>	III	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503-267-9785
3.26-30 Mon-Fri	<a href="#">Owyhee River</a>	III/IV	Dan Alsup	<a href="mailto:rivermandan2698@yahoo.com">rivermandan2698@yahoo.com</a>	503-888-0569
4.14 Sat	<a href="#">Deschutes River</a>	III/IV	Tom Hanson	<a href="mailto:TJHRafter@earthlink.net">TJHRafter@earthlink.net</a>	503-201-4428
4.20-22 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower North Umpqua</a>	II/III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:brenda.bunce@gmail.com">brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
5.5 Sat	<a href="#">Green River Cleanup</a>	III	Lyles Larkin	<a href="mailto:ik4fun@comcast.net">ik4fun@comcast.net</a>	
5.11-13 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Grand Ronde</a>	III	Eric/Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-201-4428
5.12 Sat	<a href="#">Lower Cispus</a>	II/III	Tina/Eric Myren	<a href="mailto:tnemyren@gmail.com">tnemyren@gmail.com</a>	
5.18-21 Fri-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Van McKay	<a href="mailto:vanm1@aol.com">vanm1@aol.com</a>	360-737-3148
5.26-27 Sat-Sun	<a href="#">Riverfest on the Deschutes</a>	III/IV	Christie Amaral	<a href="mailto:info@maupinriverfest.com">info@maupinriverfest.com</a>	541-993-1708
5.26-27 Sat-Sun	<a href="#">Lochsa River</a>	IV/V	Steve Herring	<a href="mailto:stevenh@tektronix.com">stevenh@tektronix.com</a>	503-646-6100
6.1-3 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Upper North Umpqua River</a>	III/IV	Suzie Richards	<a href="mailto:suzir47@gmail.com">suzir47@gmail.com</a>	360-601-0898
6.9 Sat	<a href="#">Klickitat River</a>	III/III+	Doug Smith	<a href="#">Doug Smith</a>	503-232-5285
6.15-17 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Deschutes</a>	III	Carol Beatty	<a href="mailto:caroldon1@comcast.net">caroldon1@comcast.net</a>	503-816-6172

7.13-15 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Salmon</a>	III/IV	Eric/Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-525-6134
7.14-15 Sat-Sun	Lower Salmon	III/IV	Tom Riggs	<a href="mailto:trriggs@ashland.com">trriggs@ashland.com</a>	503-647-0690
7.19-22 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">McKenzie River</a>	III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:brenda.bunce@gmail.com">brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
9.15-17 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Hell's Canyon</a>	III-IV	Mike Moses	<a href="mailto:mtymo_@hotmail.com">mtymo_@hotmail.com</a>	509-240-4220
9.22 Sat	<a href="#">North Santiam River</a>	III	Rick Hendon	<a href="mailto:gonetothedogsinc@msn.com">gonetothedogsinc@msn.com</a>	503-887-4305
9.29 Sat	<a href="#">Yakima River</a>	II	Vance Cordell	<a href="mailto:pyloris58@yahoo.com">pyloris58@yahoo.com</a>	360-253-3013
11.10-12 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503-267-9785



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EXISTING MEMBERS: <http://oregonwhitewater.org/about/pay-dues>

NEW MEMBERS: <http://oregonwhitewater.org/about/join/sign-up>

## Oregon Whitewater Association Membership Application Form

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**A household membership is \$28.00 for one year, from January 1 to December 31.**  
You may go to our website at [Oregonwhitewater.org](http://Oregonwhitewater.org) to sign up and pay your dues online.

### Membership

1 Year – \$28

2 Years – \$56

3 Years – \$84

I hereby state that I wish to participate in courses and/or activities offered by Oregon Whitewater Association (OWA) a non-profit corporation. I recognize that any outdoor or aquatic activity may involve certain dangers including, but not limited to, the hazards of traveling by boat on rivers or other bodies of water, accidents, or illnesses in remote places or occurring during portages, forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons. I further understand and agree that without some program providing protection of its assets and its leaders, officers, and members, OWA would not be able to offer its courses and activities.

In consideration of and as part of my payment for the right to participate in the activities offered by OWA, I hereby release OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from any and all liability, claims and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in any activities offered by OWA. I personally assume all risks in connection with these activities, and further agree to indemnify OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from all liability, claims, and courses of action which I may have arising from my participation in activities including, but not limited to those involving death, drowning, personal injury, and property damage. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, and for all members of my family including any minors. [Parent or legal guardian must sign for all persons under eighteen (18) years of age.] This agreement is effective as of the date signed, and has no termination date. I have fully informed myself of the contents of this release and indemnity agreement by reading it before I have signed it.

All participating adult members of the household (age 18+) must sign. Guardians must sign for minors.

Participant	Printed Name	Signature
Member #1		
Member #2		
Member #3		
Member #4		

Participant	Email Address	Preferred Phone(s)
Member #1		
Member #2		
Member #3		
Member #4		

Make your check payable to the  
**Oregon Whitewater Association**  
and mail to:

Oregon Whitewater Association  
P. O. Box 2137  
Beaverton, Oregon 97075-2137