

First Saturday Wolf River Paddle
Bateman to Moscow
December 3, 2011



On the first Saturday canoe trip in December 2011 we will paddle from Bateman Rd. to Moscow, Tennessee. This is a 6 mile trip through some of the most beautiful narrow water trails on the Wolf. Annual flooding continually changes the river channel, frequently resulting in the opening of lovely new routes through the swamps and wetlands. Plan on portage. There will likely be a few hundred yards where paddlers will have to walk in relatively shallow water, towing/dragging their boats behind them.

All WRC members are welcome. Because of likely winter conditions, experienced paddlers only can be accommodated. The first Saturday trips are free, offered as a WRC membership benefit. Bluff City Canoe Club members are also welcome and may be requested to help, but please let us know you are coming beforehand. To register for this trip and/or become a member, contact the WRC Office Manager, Kimberly Thomas at 901-452-6500 or officemanager@wolfriver.org. All paddlers should be registered by 5:00pm, Thurs., Dec. 1st

Trip Leader: Volunteer and WRC Board Member Dale Sanders will be leading this first Saturday canoe/kayak trip. A very experienced paddler, intimately familiar with the Wolf River, Dale enjoys sharing the beauty of the area with others.

For Paddlers Bringing Their Own Boats: You will meet Dale at 9:00am at the Bateman Rd. access. To get there, drive east on Hwy. 57 through Moscow for about two miles. Turn right onto Bateman Road and drive about a mile. The parking lot is on the northeast side of the bridge. Depending on the number of paddlers registered, vehicle shuttle will be arranged either before we paddle or after. Get there early if you would like to shuttle your vehicle to the Moscow take-out prior to paddling.

For Those Renting Boats: You will meet the outfitter at 8:30am, at the take-out, the vacant Moscow Shopping Center and parking lot: Mapquest.com with this address: 13775 Hwy. 57, Moscow, TN 38057. After crossing the Wolf River Feemster Bridge at Moscow, traveling east on Hwy. 57, make the first possible left into the lot. If you need to rent a boat, please contact Ghost River Rentals at 901-485-1220 or www.ghostriverrentals.com no later than 5:00pm Thurs., Dec. 1st. The outfitter will provide shuttle service for you and your group to the launch site at Bateman Rd.

You can find a [canoe trip waiver form](#) on our WRC website. Please download, print and sign a form for each participant and bring the signed releases with you to give to your trip leader. Boaters 18 and older must sign a waiver. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult who has legal responsibility. The responsible adult boater(s) must ensure their on board minors are capable and strong enough for the duration of the trip. All participants must wear an approved Personal Flotation Device.

Weather and water could be cool, so please wear appropriate clothing, footwear and waterproof gloves. Quarter-inch thick neoprene booties or knee-high waterproof footwear and layered synthetic material clothing are good examples of what to wear. Cotton, when wet, can be the very cold, heavy and uncomfortable in the event of a capsize. **Don't wear cotton! Have in your boat, an emergency change of clothes and a towel, in a dry bag.** In the event of inclement weather bring along, in your boat, a full set of rain gear.

Shallow water portage will be necessary in this section of the river. Paddlers will get wet and muddy up to their knees at least. Remember, the take-out at Moscow is also primitive and, for some people, difficult. **This is not a trip for small children.** Because of likely winter conditions, experienced paddlers only can be accommodated. If you are unsure if experience levels are sufficient, please contact Dale, the trip leader, in advance, prior to registration: fdales@aol.com. The trip leader will assign a point boat and a sweep boat; all paddlers will be required to stay between these two boats. **The safety of all participants is absolutely paramount.**

Plenty of drinking water is a must. Things to consider carrying along in your boat are: sunscreen, insect repellent, emergency supplies/allergy medications, camera and cell phone. A waterproof bag is highly recommended for these items. Bring your own lunch and snacks. Again, each trip participant is required to sign a [canoe trip waiver form](#). Please download, print and sign a form for each participant and bring the signed releases with you to give to your trip leader on arrival (Dale will also have blank copies on hand). If you cannot open the document, please [email Kimberly Thomas](#) and she will copy and paste the form onto an e-mail. Last but not least, traffic laws are strictly enforced on the Hwy. 57 corridor. Be safe and observe all speed limits.