



Paddle-a-thon registration and event info.

www.wildernesswind.org 218-365-5873

Registration:

- 1) **Fill out an registration form and sign the safety waver.** It is helpful to know of your interest in June. However, we like to order the T-shirts by the middle of May, so the sooner the better. See the appropriate address at the bottom of the registration form.
- 2) **Complete the RABC pass** and send it directly to Thunder Bay. www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/forms-formulaires/bsf386-eng.pdf
- 3) **Gather photo, brief bio and haiku** for the paddle-a-thon web page and send it to recycledclay@gmail.com. See <http://www.wildernesswind.org/paddleathon2010.htm> for an example of the questions and the format it will be posted in.
- 4) **Step #4 is optional but very helpful.** As a way of personalizing the event as well as the request, make a personal insert for the paddle-a-thon brochure. Include on the insert:
 - a) information about the event
 - b) a picture of yourself
 - c) why you are participating
 - d) how much you need or hope to raise
 - e) how to make a donation.
 - f) a hand written note is always appreciated.

If you are sending requests as apposed to talking to someone in person, the inserts are especially helpful. We have seen people post them on their refrigerators as a reminder of the event and the paddler's efforts. If you would like to add this option, but need assistance, send us the information above, and we will create inserts for you..

- 5) **Get the pledge sheet, brochures and inserts and begin collecting contributions.** Each paddler is responsible to raise \$500. You can manage your pledges/contributions by completing the pledge sheet or by having donations sent directly via check or online. We will send you e-mail updates concerning your online donations. We are learning that our enthusiasm for the event makes the \$500 amount very attainable and that many have far exceeded it. Please see the fundraising tips section below.

Travel expenses:

There are two ways that travel costs can be cared for. In either case, receipts are needed.

- 1) You can donate your travel expenses. Wilderness Wind will write a tax-deductible receipt.
- 2) Wilderness Wind can reimburse you for a portion or all of your expenses. Our travel reimbursement policy is figured according a percentage of the total amount raised. Please ask for more details if you would like to go this route.

About the event:

- 1) Please plan to arrive at Wilderness Wind no later than supper on August 5th. (Occasionally people have come a day early simply to settle in, rest up, and get caught up with the details. You are very welcomed to do this and lodging and meals will be provided). Prior to supper, we will have packed our food and personal gear for the paddle-a-thon.
- 2) After supper on August 5th, with all needed items in tow, we will drive to Moose Lake. This saves us driving time in the morning and allows each paddling unit to start their day at the time they desire. Accommodations on Moose Lake are in bunk houses. For those paddlers doing the 30 mile route, you may not need the extra time boost that this provides. If preferred, housing will be provided at Wilderness Wind.
- 3) On the eve of August 5th, we clarify plans for the next morning as well as make sure all know about gathering at the end of the day.
- 4) We will be paddling into the Quetico this year, you will need to have your RABC pass to enter. Your passport will be needed on the following day – thus can be left at Wilderness Wind.
- 5) On the morning of the paddle-a-thon, paddling partners soak up the beauty around them. Crossing each other's paths has been a memorable part of the experience. Once back at Moose Lake landing, we drive back to Wilderness Wind for a good night's rest.
- 6) The day of celebration changes each year depending on who is involved and when they need to head back home. We have enjoyed having a celebration breakfast/brunch as a group at The Chocolate Moose or Chapman Street Market. Having a chair massage has also been a highlight. Whatever we do it is a fun day to relax, laugh and tell stories.

Tips for raising donations:

People tell us the number one reason they never gave is they were never asked!

Here are some fundraising ideas and information to get you started:

- Do a little fundraising every week. It all adds up!
- Tell people why you are involved in this event and what excites you about what Wilderness Wind is involved in. As you share about your interest, you are drawing others into your life and letting them know what is important to you.
- Aim high. Think about who you could ask for a large gift and ask them first. You'll be surprised at their willingness to help and it might raise the bar for others to follow.
- Ask friends and family for donations instead of a birthday or Christmas gift
- Wear your Paddle-a-thon T-shirt to events or whenever you fundraise. It starts conversations and gives you an opportunity to ask for support.

Statistics that might give you a reference point to start from.

- Past paddlers have had from 6-21 sponsors.
- Sponsor's gifts have ranged from \$5-\$1,000, with \$130 being the average gift, and \$100 being the median gift.
- Individual paddlers have raised from \$500 to \$3,100.

We are grateful for your participation in this event and look forward to seeing you at Wilderness Wind this summer.