

3 Rivers Whitewater Rendezvous (May Long Snofest)

Its hard to believe that this will be the 10th RUNNING OF THE RIVERS down here in southwest Alberta this year. The Pinch-o-Crow Creekers are hosting the 10th annual WW Rendezvous on May 16-17-18-19, 2008 again this year down in the "Centre of Adventure". We will be organizing and leading trips on the Castle, Crowsnest and Oldman Rivers. There will also be chances to go paddle Cameron Creek and the Carbondale, Elk, Wigwam, Highwood, Waterton or Belly Rivers while you are down here. Only three days and too many rivers to paddle.

There will be opportunities for beginner groups to get on the water and paddle easier stretches as well as more advanced trips. We have something special planned for this year, including **more sun, less snow and lots of water** for all you big wave fans. Okay seriously – its always been fun and it will be fun this year too!

This year's ww demo boats will be on site for you to try out from Aquabatics and Undercurrents and some sea kayaks are coming as well from High \Level Canoe and Kayak.

Camping is going to be the same as last year. We will be at the Castle River Rodeo Grounds. You may remember it as the takeout for the Upper Castle River run. It is centrally located and easy to find off Highway 507 between Lundbreck/Burmis and Beaver Mines, just south of Highway 3. This site is well sheltered with flush toilets and a great camp kitchen.

Drive west on Highway 3 past Lundbreck Falls till you come to Highway 507. Turn south and head towards Beaver Mines and Castle Mountain Ski Resort. Drive 8 km south, after you cross the Castle River at the top of the hill turn east to the Castle River Rodeo Grounds. The road swings back down to the river and we are camped right there.

We will again offer a bbq-burger and fixings dinner for Saturday night and the Sunday night we will have a chili dinner. There will be vege-burgers and a vege-chili for those who want it. Please let us know in advance so that we can order enough for you.

We are again hosting a full breakfast each morning. Cost is included in the package.

Prizes will be drawn for during the weekend.

We are building a package price for the weekend. This price includes all entries, 3 nights camping, 2 suppers and 3 breakfasts, prizes.

Paddlers - Adult/Junior	\$70.00
Non-Paddlers	\$50.00
Non-Paddling Children (under 12)	\$15.00
Toddlers (5 and under)	Free
Families of 3	\$115.00
of 4	\$125.00

of 5 or more \$135 + \$10 for each additional adult/junior

Please pre-register this year to help us with figuring out how much food to prepare. If you want to set aside a camping spot with your friends I would appreciate knowing that in advance so we can pencil you in and rope a spot off for your group. There is no need to prepay, we'll collect when you get here.

<u>Trips planned</u>	<u>Advanced</u>	<u>Novice</u>
Saturday	- Castle Falls to Rodeo grounds - Castle Canyon - Elk	Crowsnest River Lee Lake
Sunday	- Castle Canyon to Reservoir - Carbondale River - Upper Oldman - Elk	Castle R Rodeo to Canyon Crowsnest River Waterton Lake
Monday	- Oldman River Gap to Dennis Ranch	Oldman River Dennis Ranch to Bob Creek

Snowpack in the mountains is just above average this year, which is surprising given the great skiing we had this winter and record snowfalls at Castle Mtn. So with some warmer weather we should be above normal water this year on the Oldman and the Castle.

For up to date info on water levels and snowpack go to:
<http://www3.gov.ab.ca/env/water/basins/BasinForm.cfm>
go to Oldman River Basin - River Data - and then check out the Castle and Oldman.

So we are building on our very successful long weekend event. In 2007 we had 137 paddlers down here, so it was a great gathering and still with so many locations there was lots of space for everyone. We hope to see you down here and look forward to paddling with you. Please pass this message along to your club members and friends.

For those of you with friends or family not paddling, there is some great hikes, mtn biking, Castle Mtn is rumored to open for the weekend??, great historic sites (Frank Slide, Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump and the Bar U Ranch) close by, flyfishing, shopping and even some cowboy adventures if you want something totally different.

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P.S. If you are a brand new novice paddler, still dry behind the ears, and would like a 3 day lake and river beginner kayak course. We are making special arrangements for you this year. There will be an **additional** \$100 cost to the weekend for you, which is a great

deal for 3 days all inclusive, camping, meals, equipment and instruction. Contact me if you are interested. THIS HAS TO BE PRE-REGISTERED AND PREPAID.