

# the river REPORTER

## Don't Be Fooled by False Choices

By Alex Duchak, Volunteer Canoe Guide



As I paddled upstream from Clark Park for the first time this spring I thought about the water quality problems the river faces. I floated through the light spring mist and listened to the birds chirping and watched a great blue heron stalk along the bank in search of a breakfast of fish. I paddled further upstream and passed under the bridge at Irving Park, where an underbridge path is planned and quietly coasted through the residential neighborhoods slowly awakening with the morning. Then I thought about how lucky we are to have the right to recreate on a river in such an urban environment.

The Chicago River is home to herons, bluegill, darters, otters, frogs, and many more creatures that are too numerous to list. In many places the banks of the river are resplendent with native plants and you don't have to look very

hard to find a turtle warming itself on a log on a sunny day or last night's tracks from a mink as it traveled the bank in search of a meal.

At the same time, in some of the same places, the banks of the river are bustling with commerce and development. Friends' downtown canyons canoe trip takes the paddlers past Friends' fish hotel, the emerging Chicago Riverwalk, tour boats, skyscrapers, parklands, bridges, and even the spot where an otter was spotted hanging out last summer. The Chicago River is unique in its ability to support nature, recreation, commerce, and development simultaneously.

Right now, as you may be aware from Friends' newsletter and e-alerts, the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) is considering water quality standards that will require the disinfection of wastewater before it is released back into our river (a practice that is standard in virtually every metropolitan area in the U.S.). Instead of spending time trying to figure out how reach this new plateau, we are being forced to try and prove why it is necessary, as if the Clean Water Act didn't already create laws that enforce the continued improvement of all the waters of the country.

One of the arguments is that the river is a man-made ditch that doesn't have the features of a "natural" waterway when even the shortest journey on the river makes it obvious that our river is teeming with life. There has been information presented to the IPCB that tries to show that the river is solely comprised of steep walled banks and deep draft channels with nary an opportunity for an animal,

plant, or fish to thrive. Friends' staff have been asked to answer questions about whether the river is too inhospitable to paddlers due to the traffic and lack of places to get it and out. Yet we know that paddlers and commerce have been coexisting on the river for over half of a century and that user numbers and canoe access points increase every year, and the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District have been powerful advocates for more.

A part of the debate also seems to focus on delaying disinfection at least until the Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP, or colloquially, Deep Tunnel) is done. Yet TARP is decades behind schedule, decades from completion, and only designed to reduce (not eliminate) the amount of sewage flowing into the river when the sewer system is overwhelmed by rain events. It will do nothing to treat the massive amounts of pathogens that are released by the Northside, Calumet, and Stickney Wastewater Treatment Plants every hour of every day of the year, only disinfection addresses this issue.

Another argument made against disinfection and new standards is that the additional energy used by disinfection technology. Yet instead of choosing clean air over clean water we should be talking about purchasing the energy from renewable sources or buying carbon offsets in order to mitigate any impact. Our local coal burning electric plants will stop releasing mercury by the middle of the next decade. Our new government is committed to a green

*(story continued on page 5)*



# WADING IN

## Do something: yellow lines and dead armadillos

At my college graduation, Jim Hightower, author and activist, told the assembled students there is nothing in the middle of the road but yellow lines and dead armadillos. Apparently, this was a common Texas adage. It was also great advice for new college graduates. "Take a stand. Do something," he exhorted. The yellow lines are yellow lines and the armadillos are, well...dead.

I took it to heart.

Today, when I look at the Chicago River I feel like we are in the middle of the road. We have come so far, and yet there are still great impediments to final improvement.

On the positive side, since Friends was founded nearly 30 years ago, the Chicago River has improved dramatically. Many leaders like Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley recognize the inherent value of a healthy Chicago River.

Where it used to be considered a community detriment and the Chicago River used to receive massive amounts of sewage, today 85% of the combined sewer overflows have been captured by TARP and communities as diverse as Chicago, Skokie, and Blue Island are investing in their riverfronts. Where there used to just a few fish species and wildlife was scarce, the river is now home to nearly 70 species of fish, 60 species of birds and a growing diversity of animals including beavers, muskrats, mink, and river otters. Where fences and walls of buckthorn used to prevent easy access, new canoe and kayak launches, river-edge parks and plazas, river-edge homes, and miles and miles of river trail now allow people down to the water and the landowners such as the Chicago Park District and homeowner associations are encouraging use. In Lake County, watershed-wide thinking and open space planning has decreased flooding, encouraged environment-friendly development, and increased public involvement in the river's

care. Thousands of people are engaged in the river's care.

On the other side, unchecked development in the watershed still continues. Clean rain water lands and, with no way to soak into the ground, becomes polluted; picking up road salt, fertilizers, and other pollutants as this stormwater rushes through pipes to our rivers. TARP isn't finished, and sewage still gets into the river on a regular basis. Our local wastewater treatment plants do not kill bacteria from sewage so those bacteria are part of the byproduct that flows back into the river system every day. Much of our habitat is fragmented and/or in poor condition. And we have a 100-year history of abusing the river and so we need to change attitudes that say the river must be sacrificed on behalf of the lake.

And this is where you come in.

As river supporters, we urge you to tell people what you think.. Contact the Governor. Write the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. Call your state senators. Send a letter to the editor to your local newspapers. Tell your all neighbors.

Tell them that you are taking a stand. Tell them you support clean water. Tell them you want healthy fish. Tell them that you can see the economic return on these investments. Tell them you want to canoe, to kayak, to row crew, or just to sit still and enjoy the view.

Tell them that just because 100 years ago someone said that the river could be used for sewage and pollution doesn't mean it should be today. Tell them that that you don't fall for false choices.

Tell them all that today.

Margaret Frisbie  
*Executive Director*

## STAFF & BOARD

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**Friends' mission is to preserve, protect and foster the vitality of the Chicago River for the plant, animal and human communities within its watershed.**

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# Standing Up for Clean Water at Friends' Annual Meeting

Students from Northside College Prep High School recently stood up in defense of the Chicago River. They spoke at Friends of the Chicago's annual meeting in January, as the voice of the river's future. When the group of seniors were asked about their program of mentoring students in other grades about the river, John Mahia, stated, "We want to bring awareness to younger kids so they can be the future." The students from Northside have been studying the river for years as part of the Chicago River Schools Network. The river is literally in the school's backyard, and it serves as a foundation of their science curriculum, habitat studies, and service learning initiatives. They want to spread the word and get the whole community involved. "Our excitement and passion will inspire other people about [the river]," said Alyssa Mercado.



Students from Northside College Prep. High School

## RIFFLES & CURRENTS

### EcoMyths Chicago

When it comes to the environment, there is an abundance of misconceptions, and wrong or misleading information often gets interpreted as fact. Friends of the Chicago River is currently participating in EcoMyths Chicago, a mythbusting effort spearheaded by the Lake Forest Openlands Association. EcoMyths Chicago aims to clarify some of the confusion, backed up with real science from right here in the Chicago region.

Every month, a scientist or local expert will shake the truth out of the myths we have come to know and love. Visit [ecomythschicago.org](http://ecomythschicago.org) to view the "Myth of the Month," and explore the resources and events listed by the partner organizations. Discover the truth and join the growing legion of volunteers who make a difference by conserving our natural resources.

### June 2009: Leave No Child Inside Month

June 2009 is Leave No Child Inside Month! Chicago Wilderness members have secured the support of several Illinois legislators for the resolution declaring June LNCI Month in the State of Illinois and promoting the importance of the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.

The Bill of Rights has been adopted by the Chicago Wilderness alliance, of which Friends is a part.

It states that every child should have the opportunity to:

1. Discover wilderness—prairies, dunes, forests, savannas, and wetlands
2. Camp under the stars
3. Follow a trail
4. Catch and release fish, frogs, and insects
5. Climb a tree
6. Explore nature in neighborhoods and cities
7. Celebrate heritage
8. Plant a flower
9. Play in the mud or a stream
10. Learn to swim

The Leave No Child Inside website, [kidsoutside.info](http://kidsoutside.info), has been thoroughly updated and will list members' Leave No Child Inside programs and events for June. A variety of activities are planned, so check the website for updates. If you are a parent, an educator, a professional, or simply someone who shares our goal of getting more kids outside, and would like to be involved in the LNCI Month effort, give Chicago Wilderness a call. Emilian Geczi, LNCI Coordinator, 312-545-1007.

### Science Saturday

From research labs to eco-systems, Science Saturdays will be a signature reoccurring event throughout the year-long Science Chicago initiative, a program of the Museum of Science and Industry along with numerous

partners. Appropriate for all ages, Science Saturdays are designed to spur individual discovery, promote civic pride and encourage a better understanding of our region's unique science footprint. As partners, Friends and the Forest Preserve District of Cook County will be leading a Science Saturday on June 20, 2009. Come join us for a "Wade in the River and Walk in the Woods," as we monitor the health of the Chicago River and the surrounding ecosystem. Get in the river as we perform hands-on activities such as macroinvertebrate monitoring and water chemistry testing. Take a walk and learn all about habitat improvement. To get more information about the program, including registration, visit [sciencechicago.com/content/science-saturdays](http://sciencechicago.com/content/science-saturdays).

### Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon

This year's Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2009. Founded in 1957, this event is the second oldest annual canoe race in the United States, now in its 52nd year. Paddle 18.5 miles on the beautiful and historic Des Plaines River. Every skill level is welcome to participate. For those with a competitive spirit, test yourself by entering the National Championships held the day before the race. For more information see [canoemarathon.com](http://canoemarathon.com) or call (847) 604-2445.

# HIGH Water Marks

Friends recognizes the generous support of members and donors who gave gifts of \$100 or more between August 16, 2008 and February 28, 2009.

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# St. Philips the Apostle: Friend to the River

Help us in celebrating St. Philips the Apostle who recently collaborated with Friends to begin the restoration of their Chicago River site located on the Middle Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River. A local resident who partnered with Friends last year in coordinating his neighbors to replant their residential land adjacent to the river helped St. Philips to adopt a river management plan. St. Philips members and Northfield community residents will come together on

May 9, 2009, to join Friends annual Chicago River Day to clear exotic buckthorn, garlic mustard, clean up trash in the river, and begin planning an all-native plant buffer along the river. This planting will help filter rain water run-off, slow soil erosion rates, reconnect the local food web, and make an accessible, higher-quality natural area for Northfield to enjoy. Do you live along the river and want to get involved? Contact [cbolton@chicagoriver.org](mailto:cbolton@chicagoriver.org) for more information.



*False dragonhead*

## Bridgehouse Volunteer Spotlight

Lisa Mohan-Ram



*Visit the Bridgehouse! Use the coupon on pg. 7*

Growing up in Western Pennsylvania with Raccoon Creek running through her backyard, Lisa Mohan-Ram had an early love of water, streams and wildlife. With an education degree in history, Lisa taught in Venezuela, Japan, Spain and England, but her travels brought her and her husband to downtown Chicago nearly 5 years ago. "Vid and I instantly fell in love with the city, the bridges, the Chicago River and Lake Michigan," she said. "I jumped at the chance to volunteer for the McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum, as it was one of our favorite places to take visiting friends and family during the summer months."

As a Bridgehouse Museum docent, Lisa helps bring the Chicago River's story to life for guests who visit the museum from near and far. Whether answering questions about the river, elaborating on particular details of river history, bridges, or Friends' mission, Lisa helps visitors better relate to the Chicago River – and even to rivers in their own backyard. "It's very special to meet people who tell us about their particular rivers – whether it be the Ohio River in Ohio, or the Snowy River in Australia. I like to think we are imparting the idea of conservation to these visitors and that every river deserves a 'friend'."

Friends is looking forward to having Lisa back for another season at the Bridgehouse Museum, which re-opens on May 15. "I love every element of 'daily life' at the museum – meeting the bridgetenders during a bridge lift, interacting with Riverwalk neighbors and, of course, meeting all of our wonderful visitors." We also love having Lisa as a member of our museum family.

*If you are interested in sharing your passion for the Chicago River by volunteering at Friends' Bridgehouse Museum, please contact Ozana Balan at (312) 939-0490, ext. 23.*

*(cover story continued from page 1)*

economy. We need to be looking to the future not to the past.

In 1972 the Clean Water Act was passed and it demands that every waterway in the United States should be moving towards becoming fishable and swimmable. Additionally, the Clean Water Act says that the water quality standards of any body of water in this country should be set to protect current and future planned uses. The Clean Water Act is a step by step approach. It doesn't assume we can fix things overnight but it says we have to continue to try.

In this case people, plants, animals, fish, and commercial enterprises use the Chicago River every day and the technology exists, and is accepted and commonly used throughout the country, to take the river on the next step towards becoming fishable and swimmable.

The last time the water quality standards were evaluated was over 30 years ago. The Illinois EPA spent five years researching making new recommendations that reflect what is happening now.

Must we choose clean air over clean water; TARP over disinfection? Do we really need to prove that fish can survive and even thrive in a metropolis?

We should look at the riverbanks, look at the boats, look at the people fishing and decide.

If we don't do this now, it is quite possible the water quality standards for the river won't be looked at again for another 30 years.

Come with me. Let me show you the river. Then you can decide for yourself.

# riverLIFE

The Belted Kingfisher is a medium-size kingfisher with a distinctive stocky appearance, bushy crest, blue-gray feathers with a white collar and underbelly, and large bill for spearing fish. Among the more than 90 species of kingfishers, the sexes often look alike. The Belted Kingfisher is one of the few species in which the female is more brightly colored than the male.

The kingfisher is found near inland bodies of water, rivers and shorelines across Canada, Alaska and the United States. It is a commonly found species throughout its range, especially in the Mississippi River valley and southeastern U.S. They migrate from the northern parts of its range to the southern United States, Mexico, Central America, the West Indies and northern South America in winter.

The breeding distribution of the Belted Kingfisher is limited in some areas by the availability of suitable nesting sites. This bird nests in a horizontal tunnel made in a river bank or sand bank and excavated by both parents. They often use the same tunnel year after year, especially if it is left undisturbed. The female lays five to eight eggs and both adults incubate the eggs and feed the young. Human activity, such as road building and digging gravel pits, has created banks where kingfishers can nest and allowed the expansion of the breeding range. Belted Kingfishers have been known to share their tunnels with swallows. The swallows dig out small side rooms in the main tunnel wall.

During breeding season the Belted Kingfisher pair defends a territory against other

kingfishers. A territory along a stream includes just the streambed and the vegetation along it, and averages more than ½ mile long.

The Belted Kingfisher is often seen perched prominently in tall trees, on posts, or other suitable vantage points near water. They often hover before plunging in head first after fish. They also eat small crustaceans, frogs, aquatic insects, small mammals and lizards.

To avoid being eaten by hawks, they will dive into the water. A group of belted kingfishers are collectively known as a “crown” and a “rattle” of kingfishers.

Belted Kingfishers are commonly seen in the Chicago River watershed, especially along the straight channels with steep banks covered with trees, and in the Palos area.



Belted Kingfisher  
*Megasceryle alcyon*  
illustration by Jen Pagnini

# 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND TOURS

## McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum Opens

Friends' museum is re-opening for the season on Friday, May 15, 2009, with a newly expanded Chicago Riverwalk just outside our museum door! We are also planning our annual Fish Liberation at the museum, where you can join Friends in adopting and releasing a baby bluegill in a symbolic celebration of wildlife returning to the Chicago River. Please visit [www.bridgehousemuseum.org](http://www.bridgehousemuseum.org) for more details. We hope to see you at the museum!



### McCormick Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum

**\$1 off general admission**

Coupon good for up to four guests  
Valid Thursday – Monday,  
May through October 2009



### Chicago River Summit

Friday, April 17

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Merchandise Mart

Join us for the 5th annual Chicago River Summit: An Introduction to Responsible River Corridor Planning and Development. Friends of the Chicago River, in partnership with the Office of Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, will host this unique event. Attendees will include municipal staff, engineers, environmental consultants, environmental groups, and other Chicago River stakeholders. RSVP required to John Quail, [jquail@chicagoriver.org](mailto:jquail@chicagoriver.org), (312) 939-0490, ext. 20. Sponsorships are available.

### Chicago River Day

Saturday, May 9

9 am – 12 noon, Workday

Noon to 3 pm, Festival at River Park

Friends of the Chicago River and 3,900 volunteers gather for a day of hands-on environmental work and celebration along 156 miles of the Chicago River. See the attached flyer for more information.

### Big Fish Ball

Wednesday, June 24

5:30 to 9 pm, at the Merchandise Mart's Riverside Drive

Friends of the Chicago River's fourth annual gala will celebrate the city's namesake river while raising money for our award-winning work. Highlights will include stylish outdoor dining, Chicago River animals up close, and a river-centric performance by a renowned local group. The breathtaking downtown Chicago skyline will be our backdrop.

### Chicago River Flatwater Classic

Sunday, October 4

Join Friends and hundreds of paddlers for our 10th annual canoe and kayak race. Perfect for pros and first-time paddlers alike, the Flatwater Classic is an ideal and fun way to see many of the neighborhoods that surround the Chicago River. Paddlers have spotted a variety of wildlife and gazed in awe at the panoramic view of downtown as seen from water level. Registration opens in May. Learn about all of our paddling opportunities at [www.chicagoriver.org/paddle](http://www.chicagoriver.org/paddle).

**YES! I want to help ensure a boundless future for the Chicago River!**

I'm pleased to make a membership contribution to Friends of the Chicago River in the amount of:

- |                                  |                                |                                |               |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 | Watershed Steward              | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | Bridge Tender |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | Wetlands Restorer              | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50  | Family        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500   | River Guardian                 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25  | Individual    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250   | Stream Keeper                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | \$ _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$156   | 156-Mile Club (river's length) |                                |               |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

For recognition purposes, list my name as \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

My check made payable to Friends of the Chicago River is enclosed.

Charge my credit card circle one: American Express Discover Mastercard Visa

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-4 digit security code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name and billing address if different than above \_\_\_\_\_

- I want to double my support through my company's matching gift program!
- Matching gift form enclosed  Please contact me about how to arrange this
- Please contact me about a stock contribution, Friends' endowment fund, planned giving, and/or tribute and legacy gifts.

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

The best way to reach me is by:  Email  Daytime phone  Old fashioned mail

Please do not add me to your email communications list

Your contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please send it to Friends at 28 E. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1800, Chicago, IL 60604-2272 or make your gift online at [chicagoriver.org/get\\_involved/](http://chicagoriver.org/get_involved/)

#### All Friends of the Chicago River members receive:

- A subscription to Friends' River Reporter newsletter, filled with important information on issues that effect the Chicago River plus a calendar of river-related events
  - Volunteer bulletins, email actions alerts, and other opportunities for hands-on involvement
  - Invitations to Friends' special events like Chicago River Day, the Big Fish Ball, and Chicago River Flatwater Classic
  - Discounts on Friends' canoe trips
  - Listing in Friends' Annual Report
- And most significantly...
- The reward of knowing that your membership contribution has a direct impact on improving the health and vitality of the Chicago River

#### Donors of \$250 and above are also eligible for additional recognition opportunities and more!

Please contact Suellen Burns at (312) 939-0490, ext. 19, or [sburns@chicagoriver.org](mailto:sburns@chicagoriver.org) for more information.

Friends of the Chicago River is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization.



# chicago RIVER DAY 2009

**SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2009**  
**WORKDAY 9 A.M. – NOON**  
**FESTIVAL NOON – 3 P.M.**



Belted Kingfisher  
*Megasceryle alcyon*  
Illustration by Jen Pagnini

## WHY

The Chicago River has come a long way over the years. Be a part of its continuing revitalization by joining Friends of the Chicago River for the 17th annual Chicago River Day workday!

## WHAT

Activities include litter pick-up, invasive species removal, trail maintenance, planting native seeds, water quality testing, river-focused art projects, and workshops at a variety of locations to enhance the educational experience for those interested in.

## WHO

Everyone can help out! Friends welcomes individuals, families, schools, corporate groups, scout troops, community and conservation groups to take part in Chicago River Day.

## WHERE

There are over 60 sites located along 100 miles of the Chicago River system! From North Chicago in Lake County to Blue Island south of Chicago, there is sure to be a site convenient for you!

All volunteers receive a t-shirt and are invited to the CHICAGO RIVER DAY FESTIVAL for a free barbeque lunch, live music and an environmental fair.

## HOW TO SIGN UP

1. Go to [www.chicagoriver.org](http://www.chicagoriver.org) and click on Chicago River Day and then Find a Site.
2. Pick a site near you or of particular interest.
3. Email or call the site captain listed so they know to expect you.\*
4. Show up the morning of May 9 with a smile and shoes and clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty.

*\*Groups larger than 10 people should call or email Alex at (312) 939-0490, ext. 18, or [aduchak@chicagoriver.org](mailto:aduchak@chicagoriver.org) in addition to their site captain. This will ensure your group is placed in at a location that fits your needs.*

## UPDATES

Check our website for updates. There may be new or different site captain information, additional sites or activities, and sites that have reached capacity and have closed.

## SIGN UP AT CHICAGORIVER.ORG

Friends of the Chicago River



# chicago RIVER DAY FESTIVAL

**NOON – 3PM**  
**RIVER PARK**  
**5100 NORTH FRANCISCO, CHICAGO**

Celebrate at the Chicago River Festival. This is a chance to indulge in some good food, music, and fun environmental art activities. This event is open to the public and Friends encourages all of the workday volunteers to attend with family and friends. Bring your favorite blanket or lawn chair and join us in the park.



## 2009 SPONSORS

### EDUCATION SPONSORS



### OUTREACH SPONSOR



**MIDWEST  
GENERATION**

An EDISON INTERNATIONAL® Company

### SITE SPONSORS

AECOM Environment  
Com Ed  
Illinois EPA  
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Wrigley

### LEAD IN-KIND DONORS

Chicago Park District  
City of Chicago  
Fletcher Chicago  
Forest Preserve District of Cook  
County  
Metropolitan Water Reclamation  
District of Greater Chicago  
Pactiv

Friends of the Chicago River also thanks the following partners: Black & Veatch and Essanay Studio and Lighting Company.

## Come Celebrate the Chicago River with us!

- Food and T -shirts for all volunteers
- Fun river-inspired art activities
- Festive music
- Learn about opportunities with other environmental organizations in your community at our environmental fair!

**Friends of the Chicago River**





# 2008 Chicago River FLATWATER CLASSIC REPORT

Friends' 9th annual Chicago River Flatwater Classic was a wonderful success with over 450 paddlers enjoying a lovely morning last October on the Chicago River. Over 200 of the participants were new to the event, many of whom were experiencing the Chicago River for the first time!

Also a first, Friends invited paddlers to participate in a Paddle-a-thon fundraiser to support our work for clean water. Our great paddlers raised nearly \$900 in this first year. Thank you to everyone who raised money or supported a paddler. These funds assist Friends in our ability to successfully operate the programs that educate children and adults about the importance of river stewardship, physically improve water and riparian habitat, and provide resources for research of and advocacy for best management practices in areas concerning water quality, access and more.

## TOP PADDLE-A-THON FUNDRAISER

Myles Hasty, 13, raised \$165 toward Friends' work for clean water. He received a weekend kayaking and camping trip for two, courtesy of The Northwest Passage. Thank you, Myles!

## VOYAGEUR CHALLENGE

Ten corporate teams competed against each other hoping to win the Voyageur Challenge Paddle Trophy. Teams paddled in Voyageur canoes, which are 26-foot replicas of the boats used by Marquette and Joliet during their 17th century travels through the Chicago region. PricewaterhouseCoopers won for the second time, completing the course in a fantastic 1 hour and 18 minutes.

Friends of the Chicago River thanks everyone who came out and joined us for this fun day on the river.

## TOP FINISHERS

Friends congratulates all of the paddlers who participated in the Flatwater Classic. Following are the top finishers for each racing class.

### C-2 ADULT/YOUTH

James Fawcett and Taylor Fawcett • 1h:28m:46.9s

### C-2 WOMEN TOURING

Veronica Luth and Karry Nevel • 1h:46m:3.89s

### C-2 WOMEN COMPETITION CRUISING

Diana Ballesteros and Elizabeth Diaz • 2h:22m:57.9s

### C-2 MEN TOURING

Douglas Lange and Paul Wasylyszyn • 1h:18m:28.7s

### C-2 MEN COMPETITION CRUISING

Patrick Faul and Nick Josefite • 1h:8m:51.1s

### C-2 MIXED TOURING

Dennis Witt and Nancy Witt • 1h:23m:54.5s

### C-2 MIXED COMPETITION CRUISING

Evelyn Alford and Mike McGowan • 1h:43m:2.1s

### C-2 MASTER TOURING/ALUMINUM

Jeff Hartman and Ken Koehler • 1h:36m:8.9s

### C-1 MEN'S CANOE

Sixto Linares • 1h:28m:20.7s

### K-1 WOMEN'S DOWNRIVER KAYAK

Aileen Kelly • 2h:4m:52.5s

### K-1 MEN'S DOWNRIVER KAYAK

Michael Cooper • 1h:26m:53.7s

### K-1 WOMEN'S SEA KAYAK

Jude Besler • 1h:28m:12.2s

### K-1 MEN'S SEA KAYAK

Mark Anich • 1h:6m:45.7s

### K-1 SENIOR WOMEN'S KAYAK

Susan Feinberg • 1h:38m:29s

### K-1 SENIOR MEN'S KAYAK

Mike Chirchirillo • 1h:19m:26.1s

### K-1 WOMEN'S OPEN RACING

Elena Paloumpis • 2h:57m:31.6s

### K-1 MEN'S OPEN RACING

Chris Foltyn • 1h:3m:56.1s

### K-2 OPEN RACING

Kiril Florov and Pavel Lach • 53m:28.3s

### OPEN RACING

Rex Klein and Chris Klein • 1h:17m:5.07s

### VOYAGEURS

PricewaterhouseCoopers • 1h:18m:35.9s

The John Buck Company • 1h:19m:16.5s

CNA • 1h:20m:55.1s

Schulze & Burch Biscuit Co. • 1h:22m:37.8s

MWH • 1h:25m:27.7s

GaiaTech • 1h:26m:0.14s

NAVTEQ • 1h:27m:54.6s

Ozinga • 1h:29m:0.9s

Earth Tech/AECOM • 1h:34m:28.5s

Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella, P.C. • 1h:38m:17.4s

## SPONSORS

### PRESENTING SPONSOR

# NAVTEQ

### VOYAGEUR SPONSORS

Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella, P.C., CAN, Chicago Park District, Earth Tech/AECOM, GaiaTech, General Iron Industries, Goose Island Beer Company & Urban Catering, The John Buck Company, MWH, Ozinga, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Schulze & Burch Biscuit Co.

### CRUISE SPONSORS

City of Chicago, Department of Environment, Conscious Choice Magazine, DLA Piper LLP (US), Eddyline Kayaks, Erewhon Mountain Outfitters, Mid-City Subaru, Wendella Boats & Chicago Water Taxi

Special thanks to our partners and sponsors including the City of Chicago, DeVry University, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, The Northwest Passage and Superior Ambulance Service, Inc.

Return Service Requested

## BE A FRIEND OF THE CHICAGO RIVER!



### PADDLE WITH FRIENDS!

Why travel afar when you can experience rich wildlife and urban adventure in your own backyard? Friends of the Chicago River offers guided group tours of several sections of the Chicago River. Experienced and knowledgeable river guides, paddling skills training, shuttle service (when needed), and equipment (canoes, paddles, personal flotation devices and dry bags) are provided by Friends of the Chicago River.

Trips begin in June, but if you simply cannot wait, call Kim at (312) 939-0490, ext. 15, to learn more about private trip options.

### CHICAGO RIVER FLATWATER CLASSIC

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