



Paddle Safe Washington Youth Program

Information for Parents / Guardians

Introduction to Kayaking Course

Washington State Parks has made an introductory kayak course youth to learn water and paddle sport safety principles, increase self-confidence, and build foundations to enjoy outdoor recreation. Trained State Park Volunteers will promote water safety and fun to youth statewide using national and local standards.

Provided Equipment

Washington State Parks will supply safety gear and kayaks. In addition, every participant will wear a life jacket during the program that will be theirs to keep!

- Hat and/or sunglasses

What to bring on the water

You. Will. Get. Wet! Make sure all items are okay if they fall in the water. • Extra set of clothes, jacket

- Towel
- Sunscreen
- Water

What NOT to bring on the water

- Phones
- Smartwatches
- Games
- Clothes that cannot easily be washed •
Nice shoes

Washington State Parks Boating Program Staff

Alyssa Smith, Program Coordinator: Alyssa has worked with youth in and around water for more than 10 years. She planned and administered programs and special events for the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department's two boating centers before she came to Washington State Parks. She has Wilderness First Aid/CPR, Boy Scouts of America Youth Protection Training, and is SafeSport trained.

Derek VanDyke, Education Coordinator: Derek has been with State Parks' Boating Program for over 8 years. Before that, he worked in public education with experience in curriculum and program development with an emphasis on outdoor education and hands-on learning.

For more information, visit <https://www.parks.wa.gov/435/Boating> | (360) 902-8555 November 2022