

WELCOME to the 'Round the Mountain Canoe and Kayak Races in Saranac Lake, NY

This year, the popular paddling event will be run by the **Northern Forest Canoe Trail** following its acquisition of the Adirondack Watershed Alliance's events, which also include the Celebrate Paddling Invitational, the Long Lake Long Boat Regatta and the Adirondack Canoe Classic — the 90-Miler. AWA founders Brian and Grace McDonnell will continue to work with the NFCT in 2021 as the transition continues.

The 2020 installment of the 'Round the Mountain was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We know from our interactions with the paddling community in the Adirondacks that folks are super excited to get back out and race," said Karrie Thomas, NFCT's executive director. "Even with COVID conditions improving, we're taking extra precautions to ensure the safety of participants and spectators, and to be absolutely certain that we're following all state and local protocols."

2021 guidelines including the following:

- Masks and social distancing will be required at the start and finish lines
- NO DAY OF REGISTRATION.
- Paddlers need to submit a health check survey certifying that they are in compliance with New York State COVID guidance along with contact tracing information prior to participation.
- The first heat will start at 11 a.m. at the Ampersand Bay Resort, located at the foot of Ampersand Ave on Lower Saranac Lake. Parking will be limited.
- Participants are encouraged to do a pre-race car shuttle to the finish line at the Riverfront Park on Lake Flower. Race organizers will not provide transportation.

THE RACE COURSE: begins at Ampersand Bay. Paddlers head west on Lower Saranac Lake to the mouth of the Saranac River across from Bluff Island. The course continues down river, with a short carry around the lower locks, the trail is slippery - THE CARRY IS A WALK ZONE! From the Locks continue to Oseetah Lake and end at Lake Flower. Race distance is approximately 10.5 miles.

Check out the back side of the flyer for great info from local eating establishments.

PARKING: Race organizers are not providing any transportation. We encourage you to shuttle your car before the event as parking is limited near the start line.

START ORDER: The start order has been established to minimize passing – especially on the carry. For the most part, faster boat classes will go out first. We will have either 2 or 3 waves based on the number of boats registered. You will get a card indicating your wave, boat number and class. Please make sure you check it for accuracy and turn it in when you go through the start chute. It is your race ticket!

WAVE CHECK IN: We are attempting a quick and efficient Canoe, kayak, SUP and guide boat check in system. **YOU MUST CHECK IN** by passing through a chute on the beach at Ampersand Bay Resort. Please give your race ticket to the friendly volunteer when your wave is called. There will be no paddle wave. Once all boats in the wave are on the water we will do a count down and say Ready, Set, GO! You can warm up but please keep your distance from others at the start line. Your cooperation is essential.

Personal Flotation Devices must be worn by all participants at all times during the event. Inflatable PFD's are acceptable as long as they are US Coast Guard Approved.

FINISH LINE is the timing tent at the cedar tree in Riverfront Park. Paddler times will be recorded and posted on the NFCT website. First, Second and Third Place class winners can pick up their plaques at the awards tent in the park. There will be no post-race activities.

About the Northern Forest Canoe Trail

The Northern Forest Canoe Trail is a nonprofit organization that maintains and promotes the 740-mile water trail that runs from Old Forge, NY, to Fort Kent, Maine. The trail showcases the mix of landscapes and communities currently lining the traditional routes used by Indigenous peoples, settlers and guides. It is the longest in-land water trail in the nation and consists of 23 rivers and streams, 59 lakes and ponds, 45 communities and 65 portages. To learn more, visit northernforestcanoetrail.org.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, SPONSORS AND MUNICIPAL PARTNERS.