

Whitewater Raftoree 2025



Lebanon Troop 279 and North Country Rivers (NCR) in Maine will be hosting the 4th annual Whitewater “Raftoree” as a fun and adventurous way to kick off the summer. The event will be centered around 2-days of whitewater rafting on the Kennebec River (Class III-IV rapids) guided by NCR’s professionally licensed river guides and a “mini-guide training” facilitated by NCR’s lead guide trainers. The training, instruction and trip facilitation will be focused on supporting scouts in completing the **BSA Whitewater Rafting Award** and relevant requirements of the **Whitewater merit badge**, and introducing them to the amazing world of whitewater rafting adventure and team-building opportunities.

Dates: June 19-22, 2025

Place: North Country Rivers, Bingham, ME <https://www.northcountryrivers.com/>

Cost per person: \$350

Cost includes: Camping (3 nights), 3 Breakfast buffets, 2 River lunches, 3 Dinner buffets, 2 Days of Whitewater rafting (Full river and “Ultimate” trips), All river gear (wetsuits, PFD’s, spray jackets, paddles, helmets, & booties), 2025 Raftoree event patch, Professional photos (jpgs) from both days of rafting, firewood



Who: Scouts, Venturers and adult leaders. (Raft trips are being run by a professional whitewater rafting adventure outfitter and guided by professionally licensed whitewater raft guides). This event is not appropriate for Cub scouts.

Solo attendees: Scouts who wish to attend, but don’t have a troop, leaders or parents to accompany them are welcome to team-up with other troops.

Requirements:

- Current BSA medical forms
- NCR liability release forms signed by parent/guardian (can sign online).
- Current (2025) BSA Swim test – Swimmer level (for all participants).
- BSA Safety Afloat training (online) is required for adult leaders.

- Notification of any allergies, physical challenges or medical concerns
- Notification of need for any special meal options (i.e. vegetarian, gluten free, etc.).
- Sense of adventure, swimsuit and a smile

Registration: Verbal commitments of anticipated troops and participants are requested ASAP. **Payments are due by June 1, 2025** with checks or money orders made **payable to: Lebanon Troop 279.**

Contact: If your troop or individual scouts wish to participate in and register for this upcoming event, or if you would like more details about the event please contact **Chris Lamontagne** (Lebanon Troop 279) via email at wavetrain33@gmail.com.





Accommodations & Amenities:

- Tent camping sites w/ picnic tables and firepit
- Bathrooms (male & female) w/ showers
- Full-service restaurant
- Arcade w/ Pool table, Foosball, Air hockey
- Volleyball courts
- Horseshoe pits
- Disc golf course
- Huge grass fields
- Biking trails
- Trail bike and inflatable kayak rentals
- Full service restaurant (on site)
- Jimmy's grocery store (across the street)



Helpful links for more information:

North Country Rivers website:

<https://www.northcountryrivers.com/>

NCR Whitewater rafting YouTube Video:

<https://youtu.be/ezxtYKTO0GI>

Boy's Life Article:

http://www.ncrivers.com/images/NCR_BoysLife_mediumres.pdf

BSA Whitewater Rafting Award link:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/WW-Rafting-brochure-6-28-18.pdf>

BSA Whitewater Rafting Award application link:

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Whitewater_Rafting_BSA_Application.pdf

Whitewater merit badge requirements link:

<https://www.boyscouttrail.com/boy-scouts/meritbadges/whitewater-merit-badge.asp>

Whitewater merit badge pamphlet link:

https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/merit_badge_reqandres/whitewater.pdf

Whitewater merit badge worksheet link:

<http://usscouts.org/mb/worksheets/Whitewater.pdf>





Anticipated Schedule of Events:

Thurs. 6/19:

Afternoon - Arrival, registration for camping/rafting at NCR base & camp set up

5:30 pm - Dinner

6:30 pm - Opening ceremony, introductions, initial orientation, team-building initiatives

Gear prep & Instruction (in wetsuit room): wet suits, pfd's, paddles, helmets, booties, etc.

Raft prep & instruction (in barn)

8:30 pm - Cracker barrel

9:00 pm - bedtime

Fri. 6/20:

7:00 am - Breakfast @ NCR base

7:45 am - Trip leader orientation. Board bus to Kennebec River. Safety protocols & instruction.

8:30 am - Stop at Indian pond for flat-water guide training and instruction including guide strokes, use of crew, proper techniques for getting into the raft, flip drills, etc.

11:30 am - Put-in at the top of Kennebec River for Class III-IV whitewater rafting trip (approx. 3-4 hrs) and practical instruction

3:00 pm - Take-out at Crusher Pool. Board bus back to NCR base camp.

3:30 pm - Lunch and slide show presentation of raft trip.

4:15 pm - Downtime (Volleyball, horseshoes, cornhole, ultimate frisbee, Disc golf, whiffle ball, soccer, football, etc.)

5:30 pm - Dinner @ NCR base

6:30 pm - Group debrief of the day and continued instruction associated w/ whitewater merit badge and BSA Whitewater Rafting Award

8:00 pm - Downtime campfire, songs, smores/cracker barrel, etc.

9:00 - 10:00 pm - bedtime

Sat. 6/21:

7:00 am - Breakfast @ NCR base

7:45 am - Trip leader orientation and gear up

8:30 am - Board bus to Kennebec River. Safety protocols & instruction.

10:00 am - Put-in at the top of Kennebec River for Class III-IV * "Ultimate" whitewater rafting trip (approx. 4-5 hrs) (*note: The "Ultimate" rafting trip includes running the upper gorge of the Kennebec River twice!!!)

3:00 pm - Take-out at Crusher Pool. Board bus back to NCR base camp.

3:30 pm – Lunch and slide show presentation of raft trip.

4:15 pm – Downtime (Volleyball, horseshoes, cornhole, ultimate frisbee, whiffle ball, Disc golf, soccer, football, etc.)

5:30 pm – Dinner @ NCR base

6:30 pm – Group debrief of the day and continued instruction associated w/ whitewater merit badge and BSA Whitewater Rafting Award

8:00 pm – Campfire ceremony, songs, skits, smores/cracker barrel, etc.

9:00 - 10:00 pm - bedtime

Sun. 6/22:

8:00 am – Breakfast @ NCR base

9:00 am – Break camp

10:00 am – Closing ceremony & farewells





Stay tuned for more details to follow!!!

Chris Lamontagne

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