



Basic Kayaking Paddlecraft Safety (Limit 10 students)

When: September 19, 2026; 8am-5pm; rain or shine.

Where: Old Point Comfort Yacht Club, 102 McNair Dr, Fort Monroe, VA

POC: Norm Effinger (nte@cox.net)

Basic Kayaking is a recommended training that prepares a unit leader to supervise kayaking excursions in **flat water** confidently. This course expands Safety Afloat to include hands-on skills, as well as knowledge, to provide unit leaders with the proper training required to demonstrate competency in paddlecraft usage and safety. Content of this course will include swimming, personal safety skills, basic boating skills, and group safety skills.

Persons wishing to be Kayaking merit badge counselors in Colonial Virginia Council need to be current with this training or achieve ACA certification.

Who Can Attend: The training is open to any registered adult leader or Scout/Sea Scout/Venturer who is age 15 or older. Participants must have completed and thoroughly know Safety Afloat training as well as be in good physical condition, and be classified as a BSA Swimmer.

What to Expect: The training takes roughly 8 hours and is valid for three years. There are 3 hours of classroom, with 4 hours on the water. You must pass the final written test (80%) to get the card, badge, and rocker (if available). Be prepared to paddle and swim.

What to Bring: Water bottle, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, towel, clothes that can get wet, closed-toe footwear (water shoes), light jacket, sack lunch, BSA Medical Form A & B. You may use your personal USCG-approved life jacket (with attached whistle, no inflatables) if you prefer. Equipment provided during the course includes kayaks, paddles, and life jackets.

How to Sign Up: Registration is via the council's Black Pug site. Cost is \$20. Registration deadline is September 12, 2026.



River Kayaking Paddlecraft Safety (Limit 6 students)

Mandatory Prep Meeting: September 20 2026; 7-8:30pm.

In Water: October 3, 2026; 8am-5pm; rain or shine.

Meetup: Old Point Comfort Yacht Club, 102 McNair Dr, Fort Monroe, VA

Put in at: Pony Pasture Park, 7300 Riverside Dr, Richmond, VA.

Take out at: Reedy Creek Park, 4190 Riverside Dr, Richmond, VA

POC: Norm Effinger (nte@cox.net)

River Kayaking is a recommended training that prepares a unit leader to supervise kayaking excursions in **moving water** (Class 1 and 2) confidently. This course expands **Basic Kayaking** to include hands-on skills, as well as knowledge, to provide unit leaders with the proper training required to demonstrate competency in paddlecraft usage and safety. Content of this course will include swimming, personal safety skills, basic boating skills, and group safety skills.

Who Can Attend: **Basic Kayaking is a pre-requisite for this course.** The training is open to any registered adult or Scout/Sea Scout/Venturer who is age 15 or older. Participants must have completed and thoroughly know Safety Afloat training as well as be in excellent physical condition, and be classified as a BSA Swimmer.

What to Expect: In water portion takes roughly 4 hours (includes rescue training and Class 1/2 kayaking), plus 3 hours travel and logistics, a 1 hour written project, and a 1.5-hour video and planning meeting. The qualification is valid for three years. When complete, you earn a pocket certificate and a rocker for your patch (if available).

What to Bring: Water bottle, sunscreen, sunglasses, towel, clothes that can get wet, closed-toe footwear (water shoes), light jacket, sack lunch, BSA Medical Form A & B. Dry clothing for return trip. You may use your personal USCG-approved life jacket (with attached whistle, no inflatables) if you prefer. Equipment provided during the course includes kayaks, paddles, helmets, life jackets, group first aid, and rescue/pin gear.

How to Sign Up: Registration is via the council's Black Pug site. Cost is \$20. Registration deadline is September 20, 2026.