

## ***MTL 2011 KAYAK OVERVIEW***

For the upcoming Kayak season, there will be some changes as to how kayaking events will be organized for MTL paddles. Paddles that are offered by the Club will be led by members and coordinated by Joe Mangione, Angie Testa, Irene and Fred Murray. Anyone who wishes to lead a paddle will submit their plan to the above coordinators as soon as possible for inclusion in the newsletter and website schedule. Keep in mind that the newsletter deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month for the following month's newsletter. Information needs to be submitted to the coordinators who will review it, approve it and make sure it is published in the newsletter.

- Paddle Information needed – Paddle destination, meeting time, directions, and length of paddle. Sundays are the usual day for scheduling kayak events. Saturdays can also be considered by potential leaders. Let participants know if they should bring a snack or lunch on the water and about after paddle activity, (i.e.: either bring something to cook or eat out option.). Certain locations may have an option for 2 paddles at the same location but at different levels. (Example: Bluff Point. There are options there for both flat water and open water into the sound.) In such cases, paddlers will be divided into 2 groups at the beginning of the paddle. Each group should have a separate leader. The paddle route should be planned ahead by the leader.
- Paddle Guidelines - For each paddle you submit, please include the following: approximate number of miles or time on the water and how difficult the conditions are likely to be. (Examples: flat water, river, tidal, dam, lake, open water, boat traffic, cross currents, waves, etc. Groups will go out together, and re-group on the water from time to time.
- Safety considerations – Give as much information for prospective paddlers as possible about limitations or requirements, such as “paddle appropriate for intermediate paddlers with experience in currents or tides” or “spray skirt required”.
- Re: Meeting times: - Meet times are **sharp**. (Example: Meet at 10:00 am). Paddlers should plan on arriving on or before the scheduled meeting time. Launching will take place immediately upon arrival. Launch time could take approximately 15 – 30 minutes, depending on the number of paddlers. If you are running late and arrive after all paddlers are launched, it will be your responsibility to catch up with the group or paddle on your own.

Listed below are some possible destinations that MTL kayakers could consider for paddles. You are welcome and encouraged to submit any others of interest.

Lieutenant River	Mansfield Hollow	Haddam Meadows
East River	Whalebone Creek	Farmington River
Lord's Cove	Salmon River	Thames River
Mystic River	Hamburg Cove	Colebrook Reservoir
Bluff Point	Bigelow Hollow	Thimble Islands

For the 2011 Kayak Season, Joe and Angie will choose and lead the kayak trip for camping weekend. Irene and Fred will choose and lead the kayak trip for Bike Weekend. Dates will be published as soon as we know them.

Sample write up for MTL paddle:

August 2 - Mystic River, 10:00 a.m.

Intermediate paddle down the Mystic River into Long Island sound. Spray skirts strongly recommended since there can be significant waves due to high boat traffic. Paddle will be between 4 and 5 hours and will include one rest/snack stop.

**Directions:** When you get to Mystic Seaport on your right (Exit 90 off I-95 to downtown Mystic/Seaport on Rt.I-95), take your first right onto Isham Street. Launch is at the end of the street. Street parking is limited, so we may have to unload and park in the Seaport parking lot. Following the paddle, there will be a restaurant stop option close by.