

## **IMPORTANT: THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT**

**Please read and understand this document before signing. If you have any questions please ask us or consult an attorney.**

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department \_\_\_\_\_, and its staff have done everything possible to assure that our patrons experience a rewarding experience when boating the River and other waterways. We wish to inform our patrons that canoeing, kayaking or inflatable tubing is not risk free. The same elements that contribute to the unique character and fun of boating such as physical exertion or being in the outdoors can cause loss or damage to equipment, and injury, illness or in extreme cases, permanent trauma or death to myself or others that are under my supervision. We do not want to heighten or reduce your enthusiasm for the experience, but we do want you to know in advance what to expect, and to be informed of some of the possible risks. We ask that you read and sign this lease and waiver, and return it to our office.

### **CANOEING ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK**

There may be rapids or other obstacles to be experienced on the trip. Boaters can be jolted, bounced, and otherwise shaken about during rides through these rapids. It is possible you could be injured if you hit equipment, or other objects while upright or upside down. Equipment may break or malfunction causing loss of property or injury. Boats may turn over in the rapids or in flat water or participants may swim causing prolonged exposure to cold water leading to hypothermia, injury, or death. Injuries can be sustained after you are in the water such as from items floating in the river or in the riverbed. Drowning is always a possibility whenever you are around water.

Accidents can occur getting in or out of the boat, canoe, kayak or tube. You might injure yourself by falling against some object in or around the boat, or on the shore. Boating requires physical exertion and effort. You might trip over rocks, stumps or other debris on shore while trying to hold the boat or tie it to a suitable object on shore. As a kayaker, canoeist, inflatable kayaker or tuber you will be totally responsible for your own movement and safety while on the river. This requires physical exertion as well as emotional and mental stability. You will be primarily responsible for your own rescues. Navy MWR and its staff may not be available to assist you in a rescue due to the inherent nature of the sport.

Accidents can occur during off-water travel. Terrains are often steep, rocky, and slippery. Hikes involve crossing streams, where footing can be awkward. Participants can slip or fall during a hike, resulting in injury. Poisonous or dangerous plants, insects, or animals can be found with harmful effects to some guests. Exposure to the natural elements can be uncomfortable or harmful. Heat-sunburn, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, heat cramps, wind, rain, outdoor, using portable toilet facilities, if available, eating meals out-of-doors, being in the open for the extended length of the trip can be uncomfortable or cause injury.

As part of the Canoeing trip, Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ may provide transportation by motor vehicle, van, or bus to and from the starting and ending point. In that event, I understand and agree that I cannot hold \_\_\_\_\_ liable for any injury I received due to the transportation Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ provides. Accidents occur during travel to and from the starting and ending point of the trip over the roads and highway. I agree that terms of this release shall cover any injury I receive due to an accident on the part of Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ whether by their negligence or the negligence of others.

The list of possible accidents stated above may inflict bodily injury, disease, strains, fractures, partial and/or total paralysis, other ailments that could cause serious disability or death. It is also possible that some participants would suffer mental anguish or trauma from the experience or their injuries.

This list is not an exclusive or exhaustive list of possible injuries, trauma or accidents that may occur while canoeing. Most of these injuries are rare and you are not likely to encounter them. However, they have occurred, and you need to know about them and other possible injuries not mentioned above. These injuries occur more often when the participants are using drugs or alcohol or not physically able to undertake the activity.

**PLEASE READ OTHER SIDE**

## CONTRACT, WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION

I certify that my family, including minor children, and myself are fully capable of participating. I state that I have read the above statement on some of the possible risks in the Canoeing trip/program or activity. Therefore, I assume full responsibility for myself, my family, including minor children, for bodily injury, death and loss of personal property and any expenses as a result of my negligence, negligence of my family, negligence of another participant in the Canoeing trip/program or activity, or the negligence of Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and its staff. I also understand that Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ reserves the right to refuse any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the Canoeing trip/program or activity. My family and I are in good physical condition and able to undertake the Canoeing trip/program or activity the Canoeing trip/program or activity.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Navy MWR, Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and its staff, and the U.S. Navy, and its members, agents and employees from all claims, damages, losses, injuries and expenses arising out of or resulting from participation in these activities. I further agree to release, acquit and covenant not to sue Navy MWR, Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and its staff, and the U.S. Navy, and its members, agents and employees for all actions, causes of action claims or damages, damages in law or remedies in equity of whatever kind, including the negligence of Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ and its staff or my family, myself, or my heirs, against Navy MWR Department \_\_\_\_\_ arising out of participation in the Canoeing trip/program or activity. In short, I cannot sue Navy MWR \_\_\_\_\_ and its staff, and U.S. Navy and its members, and if I do, I cannot collect any money.

I agree to the site of any lawsuit and the law governing any such lawsuit shall be governed under the Federal Tort Claims Act, Military Claims Act, Foreign Claims Act, Suits in Admiralty Act, Public Vessels Act or Admiralty Extension Act, which ever is applicable. The terms of this agreement shall continue and be in effect after the Canoeing trip/program or activity has ended.

I hereby give permission for transportation to any medical facility or hospital, and I authorize any guide or medical personnel to render necessary emergency medical care for my family or me. I hereby authorize the release of any medical information, including information concerning my HIV or "Aids" status, in the possession of Navy MWR \_\_\_\_\_ to any medical facility, hospital, ambulance, first aid provider, first aid service, doctor, nurse or other such person rendering care on my behalf. I hereby waive any action or claim against Navy MWR and its employees or any health care provider, hospital, doctor, nurse or first aid provider for the release of this medical information including my HIV or "Aids" status.

As liquidated damages, I hereby agree that if Navy MWR \_\_\_\_\_ is forced to defend any action, lawsuit or litigation by myself, my executors, or my heirs, on my family's or my behalf; accordingly, my heirs or executors and I agree to pay court costs and attorney fees if they successfully defend such action, lawsuit or litigation.

Should a court of competent jurisdiction declare any paragraph or part of this agreement enforceable, the remaining parts or paragraphs shall remain in full force and effect.

I authorize and release to Navy MWR \_\_\_\_\_ and its staff the use of my image in any photograph or video recording for any purpose of Navy MWR \_\_\_\_\_.

I have adequate health, disability and life insurance for my family and myself.

I understand that I will be provided a life jacket free of charge with my rental. I understand that failing to use the life jacket will increase my chances of injury or death significantly.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of my own free will, for my family, my minor children, my heirs and executors and myself, have read, understand and acknowledge the risks and liability for myself, and my family this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

☐ By checking this box, I indicate that my family and I have previous canoeing, kayaking or tubing experience.

**I have read and understood this agreement.**

**PLEASE READ OTHER SIDE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECOND PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
THIRD PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINTED NAME

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

I CARRY MEDICAL INSURANCE. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ GROUP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PROVIDER: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE READ OTHER SIDE