



Code of Expectations

River Ramblers is a club of like-minded individuals who wish to fully enjoy the wonders of nature and our region's beautiful rivers. We enjoy socializing, paddling and camping together, and helping each other have a safe and fun-filled experience. To accomplish this, we have the following expectations for all trip coordinators and participants:

All Paddlers/Trip Participants are Expected to:

- **IMPORTANT:** Be responsible for their own safety!!
- Read and agree to this Code of Expectations. Violations may result in being banned from future events.
- Be honest with the trip coordinator about your abilities and agree not to participate if you don't have the skills required for a specific paddle.
- Arrive on time with the proper equipment, clothing and food/water, as outlined in the trip packet.
- Volunteer to help with the shuttles when requested (especially if you have a high occupancy vehicle and/or boat trailer to expedite this activity), and extend common courtesy to help others load, unload, and carry their boats.
- Sign in, pay attention to pre-trip instructions, and consider a contribution per club guidelines.
- Be responsible for your own safety as well as any guests you invite to join the trip.
- RR prohibits shuttle drivers from drinking alcoholic beverages until after their shuttle activities are complete.
- RR prohibits the use of glass containers due to the risk of harm from breakage.
- RR participates in the Leave No Trace principles.
- Openly communicate concerns/activities with the trip coordinator to pursue optimal safety for all.
- Have fun, be respectful of others who enjoy the serene surroundings as an opportunity for animal/bird sightings, and be helpful to all other trip participants throughout the day/weekend.
- Provide an Emergency Contact Phone Number to the Trip Coordinator when signing in for the trip.

Coordinators ARE Expected to:

- Plan trips and distribute trip packets upon request that outline details of the paddle.
- Screen participants for adequate skills when they request a trip packet, and deny participation of the trip if individual is deemed to be too inexperienced.
- Before the trip, check the forecast and water levels and scout trip if necessary to pursue an enjoyable and safe day; however, given unknowns, there are no guarantees.
- Hold a pre-trip meeting for introductions and a logistics/safety review.
- Ensure all participants sign-in, collect club contributions, and give \$\$ to the club Treasurer after the trip/season.
- Count boats and make sure everyone is accounted for at lunch and at the end of trip.
- Organize the car shuttle and ensure that all drivers are expeditiously returned post trip.
- Either act as sweep or arrange for someone else to do this, for the safety of all.
- If possible, help those having trouble on the river without endangering themselves.
- Call authorities if 1-hour after everyone is off the river someone is missing.

Coordinators are NOT Expected to:

- Provide paddling lessons for paddlers that have inadequate skills to do the trip.
- Carry participant boats down to the river – although, like all club participants, trip coordinators will make their best effort to help others, out of common courtesy.
- Execute dangerous rescues themselves if they deem they don't have the ability or it will be a serious risk for them. Trip coordinators will make reasonable attempts to rally help from other participants.
- Wait more than 1-hour for paddlers who stray from the group to explore backwaters, fish, swim, rest or just float. If paddlers wish to go more slowly, they are expected to inform the trip coordinator of their desires prior to launch, and should be informed they will be excluded from the end-of-trip boat count and assistance.



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