



PADDLE POLICY:

Friends of the Kaw sponsors educational paddle trips from mid-April through mid-October. We focus our efforts on educational events for 5- or 10-mile trips on the Kaw. We bring the boats, paddle and PFD's (personal flotation device) and host an educational "sand bar" seminar! We will also have 4 public trips per year.

Paddle trips on the Kansas River are appropriate for novice boaters and families at normal water levels. It takes some muscle power to paddle down the river and we advise that participants be in good health and physically in shape. Be advised that it will take extra time and expense (that the individual needing assistance will be responsible for) to receive emergency medical attention while on the river. We also advise that participants drink lots of water the day before you paddle and bring at least 1 gallon of water per person on the paddle trip. We do not allow consumption of alcoholic beverages immediately before or during our paddle trips. We also require that participants wear appropriate shoes – surf walkers, sandals that are securely strapped to feet or old tennis shoes (no flip flops.) Clothing made of man-made fabric such as nylon or polyester works best for paddle trips. Sweat shirts, T-shirts and jeans made of cotton are very heavy and cold when wet and are not recommended.

Friends of the Kaw needs least 8 canoes (16 people) for a viable paddle trip - trips that do not meet that requirement will be cancelled or rescheduled. All registration forms and payment must be received two weeks prior. No refunds if cancelled within one week of the scheduled trip. Reservations can be made by going to our calendar on our website at www.kansasriver.org/calendar. From there, find the date you are interested in and follow the link to sign up. If there is no link, the event is not yet open for sign-ups. We also post all events on our Facebook page.

Suggested donation for use of a Friends of the Kaw boat is \$30 per person (\$60 per boat) and includes paddles and life jackets. Canoes can accommodate two adults or a combination of adults plus children with a weight capacity of about 450 lbs. All participants must wear a life jacket while on the water, sign a liability waiver, and a parent must accompany any child. *Please bring your own life jacket for children under 12.* We do not allow children under the age of 5 on our trips. All children between 5 and 12 years old must be a passenger in a canoe. Children over age 12 are allowed to be in a paddle spot.

We welcome both members and non-members to participate in our publicized paddle trips by BYOB (bring your own boat). We ask for a \$10.00 donation for all BYOB Non-Members to assist Friends of the Kaw in our efforts provide this program. All FOK Members with their own boat are free.

Friends of the Kaw reserves the right to cancel or reschedule paddles due to high winds, eminent thunderstorms or inappropriate river conditions. We paddle in light rain. If water levels are high on the Kaw we will consider an alternate location for the paddle.

Please note any medical condition, allergies or medication you are taking or may need to take that the paddle trip leader needs to be aware of: