

# BSA TROOP 555 UPPER SALT RIVER WHITEWATER RAFT TRIP !

This will be our 2<sup>nd</sup>.trip of this type on the Upper Salt River for our troop!! Also - Scouts who have the WWMB and are 16 years old can rent "Duckies" this year. We don't have the additional costs yet, but will be available soon. Keep checking with your Scoutmaster.

Advancement opportunity: You can start working on the Whitewater Merit Badge Now! If you already have the canoeing merit badge and 1<sup>st</sup> class First Aid, you can earn the "Whitewater" merit badge on this trip! If not, you can still pass-off requirements toward a partial on this merit badge and still have a great time doing it!

On this exhilarating trip you'll explore the wonders of the Upper Salt River Canyon and encounter a scenic panorama of limestone cliffs where endangered Southern Bald Eagles make their home. Experience thrilling **Class II, III and IV** whitewater as you float through the unique entrenched meander of Mule Hoof Bend. You and your crew will navigate rapids including Maytag Chute, Mother Rock, and the powerful waves of Exhibition Rapids.

## What do the difficulty ratings mean?

**CLASS I** No significant waves. No obstacles.

**CLASS II** Easy. Rapids with regular waves, clear passages and wide channels.

**CLASS III** Moderately difficult. Irregular waves, often narrow channels, maneuvering to avoid obstacles required.

**CLASS IV** Difficult. Complex channels with many significant obstacles to be avoided. Precise maneuvering is required.

**CLASS V** Extremely difficult. Long violent rapids, often following each other almost without interruption.

**CLASS VI** Generally considered unrunnable. Possibility of injury or death likely. *(We won't do this one).*

## Itinerary:

Friday, April 25	We will leave Nogales on Friday, after school, drive about 3.5 hrs. to our campsite and set-up our camp for the weekend.
Saturday, April 26	Drive to Salt River Bridge and meet our Outfitters at 8:15 am.. Instruction and practice will put us on the river about 10:00am. Take the wild ride until 4:30pm. Back to camp for a well-deserved steak dinner. (Scouts cook for the Adults) !
Sunday, April 27	Arise, break camp, breakfast and return to Nogales about noontime.

## What to bring: (Pack as light as possible)

___ Swim Suit or shorts	___ Sunglasses with securing strap
___ Sun Screen (Waterproof)	___ hat or headcovering
___ Booties, old tennis shoes or river sandals	___ Shorty Wetsuit (If you have one)
___ Dry clothes 4 trip back (leave in vehicles)	___ Water bottles
___ Tent (share) or camp cot	___ Sleeping bag
___ Insulation Ground Pad or cot	___ <b>WATERPROOF DISPOSABLE CAMERA</b>
___ Dry Shoes for trip up/back/camp	___ Light jacket or sweatshirt
___ Personal clean-up gear	___ Release/permission forms
___ 1 or 2 gallons of water per person (buy this in Globe)	___ Flashlight

Total cost for this adventure is **\$140.00** per person **includes** food and a \$10.00 tip per person for the raft guides.

## Payment Fee Schedule :

\$25.00 to hold your spot by Feb.28<sup>th</sup> (Non-Refundable).

Then...\$75.00 due on April 4<sup>th</sup> (refundable if you don't go)

Then \$40.00 due on April 15th

**DON'T' MISS THESE DATES OR YOU WON'T BE ATTENDING THIS TRIP !!**

More Info will be handed out at meetings and not published on the web.

# TROOP 555 SALT RIVER WHITEWATER INFORMATION SHEET AND PERMISSION SLIP

The date that we have scheduled for this trip is April 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>. Because of better than average snowfall in the White Mountains this year, we are guaranteed to have a great trip. We had to cancel last year because of low water flows in the Salt River.

Our trip will start on Friday afternoon. We will try to **leave** the VFW parking lot by 4:00pm. We will eat dinner at a fast food restaurant in Tucson and be in Globe at 7:00 to 8:00pm. We have group campsite #2 reserved at Timber Camp, about 25 miles past Globe. We will arrive and set-up camp for the weekend here. There is **no** running or drinking water at the campsite, so scouts will have to bring 2 gals. of their own, or buy it in Globe (preferred over transporting 150 gallons of water). Food and snacks **WILL NOT** be allowed in the tent or sleeping area. Only in the cooking and eating area. Remember, this is **Bear Country**. We can leave our tents and equipment up for the weekend.

We will wake-up early, have a fast breakfast and leave the campsite at 7:30am Saturday morning to meet our river-outfitters at 8:15am. **Sunscreen** (SPF3000) and a **good hat**, is the name of the game today! **Waterproof disposable cameras** are needed by every scout (There will be a \$25.00 prize for the Best Trip Photo)!

**Feet Protection:** River Sandals, AquaSocks or old sneakers are o.k. - **Chanclas or flip-flops are not permitted!** They have to **attach** to your feet!

Scouts who have their own wetsuits or shorties are welcome to take them. Everybody else will use what the outfitters have available, which aren't really too bad.

**The Outfitters** (Wilderness Aware) run a quality Merit badge program and will start the merit badge session as soon as everybody has been fitted with a wetsuit, life preserver and helmet. Scouts should stay with their **patrols** as much as possible when assigning rafts. New scouts will be on the water by 10:00 am. Lunch is cooked at their river camp and a long bus ride back to the starting point at 4:30pm.

Back to Timber Camp to for a well-deserved dinner. Scouts will have their **choice of Steak, Chicken or Hamburgers** for Dinner along with Frijoles, Tortillas and fresh salsa. We will take a survey on what each person would like to eat before the trip so that we know that to buy. Maybe a campfire and sleep.

We will break camp Sunday morning, load-up vehicles and head back to Nogales to arrive about noontime.

Parents must understand that this type of activity has the potential to be harmful, but that every safety precaution is taken to insure the security of every person participating. A hold-harmless agreement for Wilderness Aware must be signed by every parent prior to the trip. These will be handed-out before the trip.

Troop 555  
Salt River Whitewater Raft  
Merit Badge Session and Float Trip  
Permission Slip

I give my son \_\_\_\_\_ permission to attend the Salt River Whitewater Raft Trip on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, with Troop 555. I also give my permission for any adult associated with Troop 555 to authorize medical treatment for my son in the event of an emergency.

I can be reached at \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parents Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

[ ] I would also like to attend and provide transportation for Scouts and Equipment on this trip!  
(Please call 313-4824 to reserve).