



The SPRAY

Colorado Whitewater Newsletter

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Colorado Whitewater at River Festivals



Whitewater river festivals are a great way to introduce people to Colorado Whitewater.

Hundreds of people come to enjoy whitewater festivals throughout Colorado, providing river competitions such as freestyle kayak, downriver race, slalom races, boater cross, and stand up paddleboard races. Other additions to the festivals include

free live music, camping, mountain biking and running races, slackline competitions, dog competitions, dozens of microbreweries, and much more.

These festivals draw crowds that could potentially become new Colorado Whitewater members. This year, Colorado Whitewater had its booth set up at CKS PaddleFest, Lyons Outdoor Games, and Royal Gorge Whitewater Festival. It was supposed to be at FIBArk but, unfortunately, we didn't have enough volunteers to make this one happen. In addition to the festivals, we also had the booth set up at Down River Equipment's Raftopia event in April.

At our booth we had a new brochure to hand out, event flyers, the latest Spray issue, and a new Plinko board game where visitors could "Play to Win." They drop the peg somewhere at the top of the board, it falls down sporadically, and lands into a slot to win one of six prizes – 1) You Swim! Booty Beer 2) Candy 3) CW Sticker 4) CW Koozie 5) CW Keychain 6) Portage! Try Again. People enjoyed playing the game and winning free swag. Plus, dogs always help to attract visitors to come talk to us.

Having the booth set up at these festivals gives us name recognition, spreads the word about our wonderful organization, and is a great place where all CW members can hang out and mingle after a fun day on the river.

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Mission Statement

Colorado Whitewater (CW) promotes the sport of whitewater kayaking in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region. The club introduces new paddlers to whitewater, provides training in technique and safety, supports racing, informs the public about whitewater issues, including river access and conservation, and works to resolve related problems.

Membership

CW is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers. Visit www.coloradowhitewater.org for membership info and to join the club. To change your contact information, contact Ryan Lee at: ryanleedba@yahoo.com.

Contributions & Advertising

To submit SPRAY content, contact Carrie Root at: carrieroot@mac.com. To advertise in the SPRAY, contact Jodi Lee at: jodilee23@gmail.com.

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Colorado River Weekend 2015

The last river weekend of the year will be held on the Upper Colorado, at the Pumphouse BLM group campsites A & B, near Kremmling, Colorado. Join with your CW friends and close out the paddling season with some fun runs, drinks around a campfire, and a delicious community potluck meal.

There is plenty of beginner-level water in the vicinity, including the Pumphouse run which starts at the campsite boat ramp. More confident boaters are encouraged to volunteer to lead and/or sweep. This is a great chance to get your sweeping or leading feet wet! Other boating opportunities include the Lower Blue and Glenwood Canyon. We will meet at 9:30am each morning to organize paddle groups and there will be a group potluck dinner Saturday night.

For those who haven't seen it yet, this is also an exciting opportunity to check out the new Gore Canyon Whitewater Park located right by the campsites!

The Gore Canyon Whitewater Park opened this year after years of effort by various stakeholders. Best of all the whitewater park is complemented by a recreational in stream diversion (RICD) water right that will help protect in stream flows on the Upper Colorado. For more information on conservation efforts on the Upper Colorado, see the article "*Thank You For Supporting the Upper Colorado!*" on page 4.

There is no CW fee for the Colorado River Weekend, but there is a \$5 per day, per vehicle entry fee. There will be a basket for donations to contribute to the cost for the camping spots.

[Click here for more information.](#)



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**Moving to
Golden in
August!**

Thank You for Supporting the Upper Colorado River !

Your membership in Colorado Whitewater helps Colorado Whitewater work to preserve and maintain the flows and resources of the Upper Colorado River through the *Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Alternative Management Plan*.

Beginning in 2007, various local and state agencies, governing bodies, recreational and environmental groups, water providers, anglers and others came together as an independent Stakeholder Group for the management of the Upper Colorado River. The Stakeholder Group's intent was to establish local governance of this river section and protecting its Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) in conjunction with the federal government. Those values included, among other things, fishing and botanic quality of the riparian environment and the maintenance of predetermined quality flows.



Colorado Whitewater is part of the Stakeholder Group, and seeks to balance recreational boating and environmental interests and the interests of other stakeholders. Colorado Whitewater successfully argued for stream-flow influenced ORVs and healthy riparian habitat maintenance. Together with American Whitewater and other recreational interest groups, Colorado Whitewater strives to preserve the Colorado River. Our purpose is to collaboratively balance permanent protection of the ORVs while also allocating for water demands and consumption. American Whitewater (AW) has been vested in this process for over eight years, and it is under the mentorship of AW that Colorado Whitewater is able to make this important contribution, by representing the interests of our membership.

After many years of meetings, debates, data collection, and thousands of volunteer hours, the Stakeholder Group submitted a draft now known as the *Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Alternative Management Plan* to the federal government. The plan is nearing enactment and is intended to give Colorado and its locally vested Stakeholders a unique opportunity to manage and protect one of the greatest U.S. Western resources – the Upper Colorado River.

Success of the Stakeholder Group is very important. In a time of escalating water demands, *The Alternative Management Plan* provides hope for collaboration between previously competing interest groups to manage the Colorado River. Colorado Whitewater and other members of the Stakeholder Group have made great achievements in the area of river use and protection and hopes to model this approach nationally.

Your membership in Colorado Whitewater provides crucial support for the protection of the Upper Colorado River and its habitat. Your membership also supports stream flows important to recreational boating, fishing and river health. Thank you for your support of Colorado Whitewater and its work to preserve the Upper Colorado.

For more information, visit www.upcowildandscenic.com and www.americanwhitewater.org.

River Cruises – There Are Still More

A big part of Colorado Whitewater's mission is getting people out on the river, and there is still some time for CW members to get out on organized trips this year. There are a few more cruises scheduled for the year, in addition to the upcoming Colorado River Weekend.

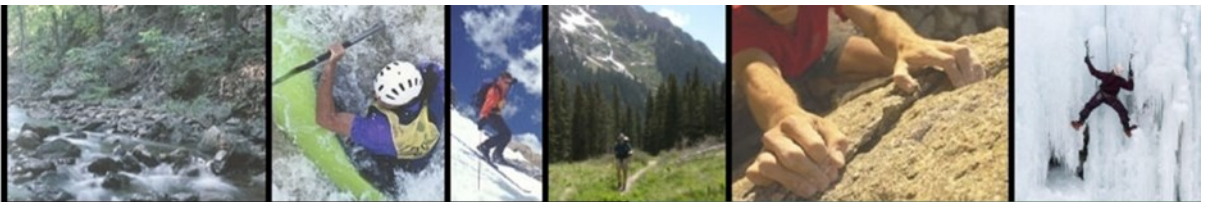
The cruise schedule is updated frequently. [Click here to view upcoming cruises.](#)

Fall Dinner – Save the Date

Colorado Whitewater holds a fall dinner every year with a speaker of interest to the whitewater community and to conduct our annual election of our board of directors. This year the Fall Dinner will be on November 10 at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden.

Board of Directors Election

Do you want to give back to CW? Consider serving on the club's Board of Directors! While some board members have been serving for years, bringing valuable long-term insight, we also need fresh ideas and energy from paddlers like you. Visit www.coloradowhitewater.org to find descriptions of board positions and [click here to email Laurie Maciag for more information.](#)



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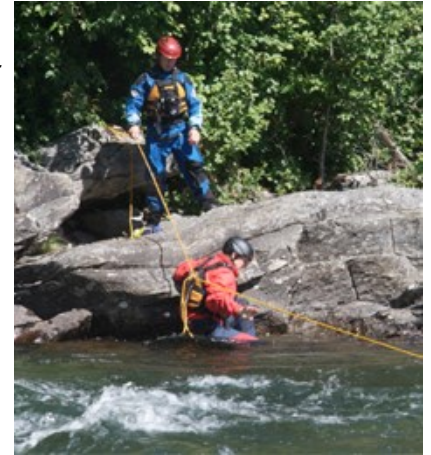
Its late into the summer, but there are still some upcoming Colorado Whitewater educational programs on offer. Don't miss the remaining educational offerings this season!

Swift Water Rescue Clinic – August 22-23.

Somewhere, at sometime, you will wish you knew what to do in a river emergency. Just rescuing gear can turn into a nightmare, never mind rescuing a person. Quick response time and the knowledge to set up a rescue safely are skills you should have as a boater. Make this the year to hone your rescue skills.

Colorado Whitewater has partnered with Renaissance Adventure Guides to offer ACA Swiftwater Rescue Clinics at 25% off the list price. This clinic is for all Colorado Whitewater members who are kayakers, canoeists, rafters, or duckie captains. Boaters must be of Class II-III ability. Rescue lifejackets are considered personal equipment and are highly recommended. This clinic qualifies as an ACA sanctioned course. The cost is \$175 per course.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)



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Calling for Cool Photos for the 2016 Calendar

Colorado Whitewater will be publishing its 2016 CW Calendar with boating related pictures soon!

This is a chance to share your cool boating photos, and to help CW raise money to support its mission to introduce paddlers to whitewater, support river access and conservation, and inform the public about whitewater issues.

Submit your boating related pictures by September 15, 2015 for consideration. Images must be high resolution (no less than 300 dpi). Although JPEG format is preferred, please ask about other formats. [Email up to two photos per CW member to coloradowhitewatercalendar@gmail.com](mailto:coloradowhitewatercalendar@gmail.com). CW is looking for colorful photos, unique and interesting boating themes, and is especially interested in pictures of CW events, the Kids Paddling Team, and the Boating Betties!



Calendars will be sold at the Fall Dinner, online in November and December, and in kayak and raft shops throughout the local area.

CW at River Festivals

(continued from page 1)

At the Lions Outdoor Festival, 20 kayakers met up in the morning for a CW Cruise to either run Shelly's Cottages or Apply Valley on the North Saint Vrain. Both groups boated into the Lyons festival and hung out at the CW booth, which was near the playhole where the kayak pros were competing. Let's just say it was a great day!

Thank you so much to the volunteers who helped at the booth this year: Karen Moldenhauer, John Parker, Laurie Maciag, Terry Standlee, Christinia Walker, Tom Sitz, Christl Finding, Akasha Hueseman, Kent Montgomery, Lillie Leo, Doug Sexton, Ryan Ness, Jodi Lee, Ryan Lee, Jesse Burdge, Elizabeth Waste, Scott Winkleman, Matt Rensel, and Michelle Rensel. Your time and energy help make this club better every year.



We plan on having the CW booth at the whitewater festivals next year and encourage you to volunteer or just come hang out. It's a great way to meet new people while enjoying the awesome festivities. And good news... we ordered a brand-new canopy with our logo imprinted on it so we'll look snazzy next to the other booths.

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