

## 2009 Mayne Island Memorial Day Weekend Kayak Fest Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25



As the hours of daylight grow longer the annual OOPS Mayne Island Memorial Day weekend approaches. For those of you unfamiliar with this event, OOPS annually migrates to Errol Fisher's camp of enchantment at Miner Bay on Mayne Island, BC. Errol owns and manages 22 acres of scenic waterfront, kayak friendly camping. Accompany trip leaders on a variety of routes around Mayne Island and to adjacent islands each day.

In the past we have usually been able to facilitate everyone who registered to attend this outing. However the number of trip leaders who agree to lead trips determines the number of participants who can attend. For this reason, all trip leaders and their families are assured a spot on this outing. If demand should exceed capacity, we will hold a lottery to determine those among the registrants that will attend.

Completed registration is required by April 30 2009. If you will be camping at Errol's the camping fee is \$8.00 per day. The registration form contains fields to indicate the days you will be camping at Errol's. Camping fees are non-refundable after April 30, 2009. A check for your camping fees and Sunday night dinner (if you are participating) must accompany your registration and the check should be made payable to OOPS. Approved trip leaders must remember to submit their registration form, trip release and payment.

There will be some requirements that you should be aware of in order to participate in this event. First, basic safety equipment of cold water attire (either a wet suit or dry suit), personal flotation device, whistle, spray skirt, paddle float and pump will be necessary for each paddler. Second, everyone participating will need to sign a release form (which we will email out when we receive your registration).

Third, it will be necessary to have the skills to comfortably participate in level 2 conditions (defined as: *Experience with wet exits, assisted rescues and bracing; Potential for enough wind to create waves; Wind waves of 1-2' might break over bow; Potential for some chop; Current to 1-2 knots; Easy to moderate landings.*). If you wish to participate, but feel your skill level may be insufficient, there is still time to attend classes and bring up your skill levels. Some of the trips will involve higher skills, but level 2 is the minimum recommended. Weather conditions may also play a role in the actual conditions of the trips.

If you haven't participated in an event such as this, I would highly encourage you to consider going. The wildlife, scenery, camaraderie and adventure are compelling.

For registration form, email [events@oopskayak.org](mailto:events@oopskayak.org)