





# The Verde River Institute, Arizona State Parks Foundation and Audubon's Western Rivers Action Network

## Invite you on a

## Fun-filled Kayak Trip on the Verde River!



Kayakers Enjoy the Verde River @ Clarkdale "Upper Tapco River Access Point"

The Verde River Institute, along with the Arizona State Parks Foundation and Audubon's Western Rivers Action Network would like you to join us for a special day of kayaking on the Verde River! We're offering these free trips to influential people like you who want to experience the wonder, beauty and fun of one of Arizona's few remaining rivers. We'll be offering trips on several Fridays and Saturdays from mid-March through mid-November this year and we would love to have you (and a "plus one, if you like) along for the ride!

We supply everything you need to have a safe, fun, and educational 3½-hour trip on the "Verde River @ Clarkdale" river park system in Clarkdale, just 90 minutes north of Phoenix. You'll be accompanied by one of the Verde's most experienced and knowledgeable guides, Clarkdale Mayor and Verde River Institute Director Doug Von Gausig.

## **Trip Information Sheet**

Our goal for this trip is simple ... we want to provide you with a safe, enjoyable, firsthand experience of what the Verde River offers in Clarkdale and the Verde Valley. Simply put, we believe that providing this experience with the river helps people better understand the unique treasure that is the Verde River, and the importance of protecting it and all of the beautiful rivers in the Colorado River Basin for future generations.

The Verde River supplies water to more than 2.5 million people in Maricopa County and along the way provides water to thousands of acres of agricultural land. Recently, it has become a major tourist attraction in the Verde Valley, providing quality recreational opportunities to thousands of paddlers, birders, hikers and fishermen every year. It also serves thousands of acres of land managed by Arizona State Parks, the U.S. Forest Service, and the municipalities of Clarkdale, Cottonwood, and Camp Verde.

## If this sounds like fun, and you're ready to go, read on!

### **Trip Details:**

Your float trip will begin at the north parking lot of the Lower Tapco River Access Point (TapcoRAP) at 9:00 a.m. After a quick safety briefing and a short talk about the goals of the trip, we'll launch, and float about 3 miles to the Tuzigoot River Access Point (TuziRAP). **This stretch is perfectly suited for everyone from novices to experienced kayakers.** We should be off the river between 12:30-1:30 pm., in time for a great lunch and maybe some wine-tasting in Clarkdale.

#### We Will Provide:

Kayaks/Paddles

Personal Flotation Devices (if you have your own that you prefer, please feel free to bring it)

Water and Snacks

Gear/Dry Bags

First Aid Kits

#### You'll need to bring:

At least one small set of extra clothes (if you go in the water, you'll have the option for dry clothes)

A beach towel (to leave in your vehicle for after the trip)

Closed-toe water shoes (your feet will definitely get wet, and closed toes protect against rocks)

Pants (that roll up easily) or shorts to your comfort -- you should plan to get wet!

Hats and other clothing/accessories (<u>including sunscreen</u>) that provide appropriate sun protection (some people prefer long sleeved shirts for this purpose).

Sunglasses (please note, if you wear prescription or expensive glasses, it is not uncommon for them to fall off in the river ... you should consider bringing Croakies to secure them, or a cheap pair!)

A spirit of adventure, fun and curiosity!

#### **To Schedule Your Trip:**

Email Doug Von Gausig (<u>doug@verderiverinstitute.org</u>) or call 928.300.6603 and let him know you're interested. He'll email you potential dates and help you with all you need to get going. If you are interested in a trip for your organization, we love to do "team building" excursions!

Thanks and we look forward to seeing you on the Verde River!