

## 2024 SUMMER PADDLE SEASON

Friends of Dragon Run (FODR) welcomes you to one of the most beautiful rivers in Virginia. We are dedicated to preserving this waterway and want to show you how special it is. In the summer, the Dragon Run swamp is particularly spectacular with the emergence of flowers. We thank you for your interest in Dragon Run and look forward to meeting you on the day of your paddle trip.

**Dates:** July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. We will paddle by reservation only.

**Limited group size:** 9 Guests maximum each day. **Every paddler must be at least 18 years old. At the time of registration, you must provide the name, email address, and cell phone number of each individual.**

**Route:** The meeting location will be FODR's launch site at its **Dragon Flats**. Paddlers will launch from **Dragon Flats** and return there after 3 hours. Part of the route may be against a current. **Start times and place:** We will meet at our **Dragon Flats - 2580 Farley Park Road** (no address number posted). The meeting time for all the paddlers is **8:30 am**. We will be off the water by 11:45 pm. Directions and a map are provided below.

**No lunch break:** We will not stop for an extended group lunch break, but we will take several short breaks for folks to hydrate, so bring water and snacks.

**Reservations:** Reservations will open on **6/8/24 at 9 am**. Go to [www.dragonrun.org](http://www.dragonrun.org) to register. You must provide: your cell phone number, email address, and mailing address. Include the names, email addresses, and cell#s for each participant. Donations must be made at the time of reservation. The suggested amount is \$50.

**REFUND POLICY:** Refunds will only be offered if FODR has to cancel the paddle due to weather or water levels. Many paddlers whose trips have been canceled by FODR donate their registration fee. Since this is our principal fundraising activity, we hope that you will consider this option, if possible.

If we must cancel a paddle or make any changes, we will call the phone number that you give us when you make your reservation.

IRS requires that a receipt be provided to any donor upon request, and that a contemporaneous receipt be issued at the time of any donation of \$250.00 or more. FODR will provide a receipt if requested, which will disclose that the trip is valued at \$15.00, and that any donation in excess of \$15.00 may be considered a donation to Friends of Dragon Run, a 501c (3) organization. We recommend you consult your tax advisor about tax deductions.

Any time you have questions, you may email [PaddleMasterDragonRun@gmail.com](mailto:PaddleMasterDragonRun@gmail.com).

We provide a kayak for each paddler, a paddle, and a life vest. **DO NOT** bring your own boat. The kayaks are sturdy 9.5-foot kayaks designed for slow moving rivers and streams that are ideally suited for navigating the Dragon Run's narrow, twisting channels. Our kayaks – depending on the model - have a Maximum Capacity of up to 300 LBS. We will “fit” you with a kayak and adjust your boat's seat and foot braces to ensure your comfort.

You may bring your own paddle and life vest. However, your life vest must be a standard U.S. Coast-Guard approved PFD, not inflated by a cartridge. **WE REQUIRE LIFE VESTS TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON THE DRAGON RUN. VESTS MUST BE ZIPPED AND/OR BUCKLED AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON THE WATER.**

We will be on the water about 2 1/2 hours, depending on water levels and the overall ability of the paddlers. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, trips usually end around 11:45 am. It is

not wise to schedule other events on the day of the paddle because of the uncertainty of trip length.

Parts of the trip may require paddling upstream against a current. For this reason, the trip may be a bit more strenuous. Spills can and do occur; so be prepared to get wet. Dress for the weather on the day of your paddle. Bring rain gear and/or a jacket if rain is forecast. Layers of clothing might be appropriate if it is breezy or chilly. Other items you may want to bring include: gloves, waterproof bag for electronics, hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses.

There are port-a-johns where we launch and takeout. However, there are NO facilities of any kind along the paddle route. Bring enough food and water for your time on the water. No potable water is available along the route. We will take frequent water and snack breaks; but we will not stop for lunch. Pack your food and water in a small, soft-sided bag that will fit in the kayak. Secure cameras, binoculars, phone, and other expensive items in waterproof bags that you can tether to the kayak or wear around your neck (waterproof phone and key bags are available for loan at the launch site).

**NOTE:** We strongly recommend that persons with heart problems or other serious medical conditions consider very carefully whether they should make the trip. Remember, we will be in the wilderness. Medical help and transportation are a significant time and miles away. If you have a physical condition that would require treatment while you are on the water, be sure to bring necessary medications and equipment you normally use to treat the condition. If you are allergic to stings, be sure to bring whatever medication you use to counteract a reaction.

**Please notify your Crew Leader if you have an existing medical condition that we should know about.**

**What about bad weather?** We will definitely cancel in case of thunderstorms or if the river is running too fast or the water level is too low or too high. We usually cannot make the decision to go or not to go until the morning of the paddle. Therefore, it is necessary to provide a telephone number where you can be reached the night before and early on the morning of your paddle. If we decide to cancel the paddle, we will notify all those who have reservations at or before 6:00 am on the day of the paddle.

If you feel ill on the day of your paddle, stay home! And, if you have to cancel for any reason, **PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!** That will enable us to fill your seat with someone else.

We hope to sell FODR merchandise each day after the paddle. We have T-shirts (\$25), long-sleeve t-shirts (\$35), long sleeve solar vapor shirts (\$35), quarter-zip long-sleeve performance t-shirts (\$45), long-sleeve performance hoodies (\$45), hooded sweatshirts (\$40), caps (\$25), and bucket hats (\$15) for sale, with all proceeds benefiting FODR. We will also be selling limited edition prints of the Dragon by a local artist (\$60 / \$90 framed). We take cash, checks, or credit cards.

This information sheet and the attached Friends of Dragon Run Release Form should be given to everyone in your party. The release form must be filled out and signed (one person for each form) by each participant. Bring it to the launch site on the day of your paddle.

The above information is intended to help you have a safe and happy trip and to enjoy the special wonders of Dragon Run. We look forward to escorting you on this exciting adventure.

## GENERAL DIRECTIONS to the FODR Meeting Place:

**We will be Launching from the Dragon Flats property.** We will have you drive directly to the launch site. **The Launch site is at the end of a one and one half mile dirt road. Please drive slowly especially if you have a low ground clearance vehicle!** Use the following GPS location: **2580 Farley Park Road, Church View, VA** to get you onto the dirt road. There is no street number posted. There will be FODR signs and a FODR Crew member stationed near the entrance.

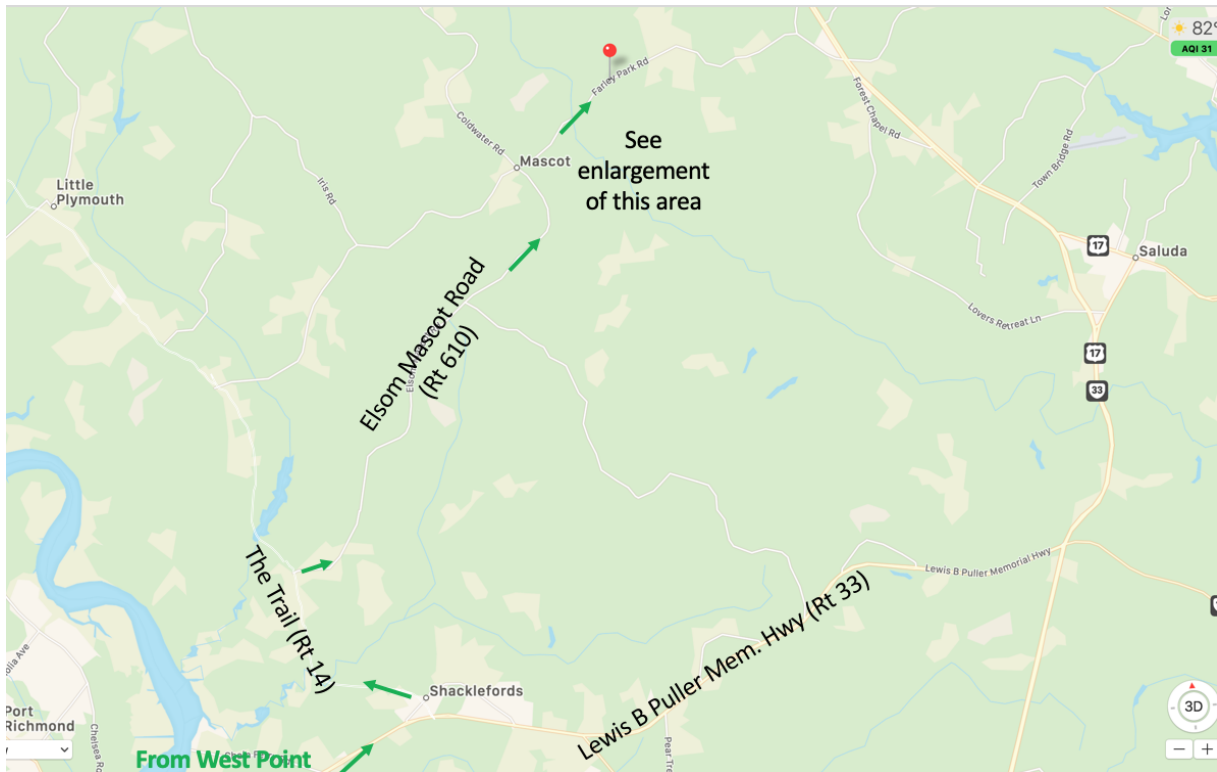
If you have problems with GPS, directions are as follows:

**Heading North on Route 17 from Sauda:** Approximately 6 miles north of the Rt 33 and Rt 198 intersection, turn left onto Farley Park Road (Rt. 603) (603 on the right is Warner Road). Travel 2.6 miles to the entrance on the right.

**Heading South on Route 17 from Tappahannock:** Approximately 22 miles south of Tappahannock, turn right onto Wares Bridge Road (Rt 602) and then take an almost immediate left turn onto Edgehill Road. Follow Edgehill Road to Farley Park Road (first stop sign) and turn right. Travel less than 1 mile to the entrance on the right.



**Heading from West Point:** Travel East on Rt 33 for about 4 miles, turn left onto “The Trail” (Rt 14 just after the Dragon Run Brewing Co). In 2 miles, turn right onto Elsom Mascot Road (Rt 610). Turn right onto New Dragon Bridge Road (Rt 603) which becomes Farley Park Road after crossing the Dragon. Travel 1.2 miles to the entrance on the left (you will pass the Teta Kain Nature Preserve).



**On the day of the paddle, if you get lost, please call our Paddle Masters: Jim Ewan (804) 577-7259 or Carol Kauffman (267) 733-3667**

# **FRIENDS OF DRAGON RUN, INC. 2024 FIELD TRIP RELEASE & WAIVER OF LIABILITY & INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

In consideration of participating in any way in the Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. (FODR) field trip, the undersigned, for himself or herself, his or her personal representatives, heirs, next of kin, agrees to the following: HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES, AND INDEMNIFIES the Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. (FODR), all principals, agents, representatives, officers and directors and their respective successors, heirs, and personal representatives, saves them harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, liability, costs and expenses in connection with loss of life, personal injury, and/or loss or damage to property arising from or out of any occurrence associated with participating in, observing, entering or exiting this FODR field trip. THE UNDERSIGNED expressly acknowledges and agrees that the activities of this field trip are, by its nature, dangerous and involves the risk of serious injury and/or death and/or property loss or damage. The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing release and waiver is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws governing the towns, cities, and counties where the field trip is being conducted.

This release, waiver, and indemnification agreement specifically embraces each and every phase of the field trip sanctioned, authorized, offered and/or promoted by said releasees during the entire FODR field trip in which the undersigned participates so that the parties herein intended the same effect as if executed after each and every activity of the field trip in which the undersigned participates so that the parties herein intended release shall be fully and effectively released and indemnified as to the entire field trip herein described and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall not be withstanding continue in full legal force and effect. THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS THE RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, assumes all risks in connection with the FODR field trip, agrees to abide by all of FODR's rules and regulations in connection with the field trip, agrees that photos of me may be taken and that such photos may be used by FODR and further agrees that no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement have been made. (Only one person per form.)

**PRINT FULL NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **FIELD TRIP DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

We invite you to become a member of FODR. You can complete the application in our brochure (available after your trip) or on our website: [www.dragonrun.org](http://www.dragonrun.org); pay online, or give us your dues today. Or you may also send a check to FODR, P.O. Box 882, Gloucester, VA 23061.



**MARINE LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK ("Release")**

**Trip Description (the "Trip"):** Friends of Dragon Run Inc, Summer 2024 Paddle Season

**TNC Contact and Business Unit:** Jennifer Dalke, Virginia

**Date(s) of Participation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Charter Company (if Any):** N/A

**Participant hereby agrees as follows:**

As the named Participant hereunder on this Trip, I desire to and will be participating in this Trip, which may include one or more of the following activities ("Trip Activities"):

- kayaking or other boating activities, including boat or other travel to and from the Trip site (provided by TNC or Charter Company).

As part of my participation in the Trip Activities, I agree to provide this waiver and release and agree to follow all applicable rules, regulations and best boating and dive safety practices, and all instructions from all authorized personnel and where applicable, TNC's or Charter Company's lead diver. By participating in the Trip Activities, there is a risk of my becoming seriously ill or injured in an area remote from medical care and TNC and the Charter Company cannot guarantee availability of emergency medical services or emergency transportation to medical facilities.

A significant portion of the Trip Activities will take place in or near open ocean, marine and/or coastal areas, lake and river environments and/or other bodies of water, and during my participation in the Trip Activities and travel to and from Trip Activities, I may encounter certain dangers, including, but not limited to, strong currents, rough water conditions and/or other water hazards or obstructions; drowning; malfunctioning equipment; shark bites; injuries inflicted by marine and/or terrestrial animals, insects or plants; natural and/or man-made objects in the ocean, including, but not limited to, corals, rocks, on-shore plant or other debris; risk of slips or falls; extreme climate or weather conditions or other forces of nature including, but not limited to, ocean currents, river currents, lightning, temperature changes, and ocean level changes.

TNC makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, regarding the conditions that may be encountered, the equipment provided and its fitness for use for its intended purpose, the availability of medical care, or any aspect of TNC's involvement in the Trip Activities. TNC is not responsible or liable in any way for my safety, for providing medical care, nor the adequacy or cost of services or equipment provided during the Trip Activities.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in the Trip Activities, I, acting on my own behalf and on behalf of my successors, heirs, representatives and assigns, hereby to the fullest extent of applicable law, assume all risks associated with all activities I participate in, including but not limited to any and all Trip Activities, and release, forever discharge and hold harmless The Nature Conservancy and its directors, officers, employees, contractors and agents (each, a "Released Party") from, and covenant not to sue any of the foregoing in connection with, any and all claims, causes of action, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, expenses or injuries (including death) ("Losses") arising from or in connection with, directly or indirectly, any and all Trip Activities.

The foregoing assumption of risk and release expressly includes all Losses that I may have, suffer or incur and that are caused by the active or passive negligence of any Released Party. However, as to a Released Party, the assumption of risk and release excludes Losses I may have, suffer or incur to the extent such Losses are caused by the intentional or willful misconduct of such Released Party. I AGREE THAT, TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY APPLICABLE LAW, I AM RELEASING AND DISCHARGING EACH RELEASED PARTY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF ITS NEGLIGENCE, EVEN IF SUCH NEGLIGENCE CAUSES ME PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.

I shall save, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Released Parties from any claim or lawsuit by me, anyone purporting to act on my behalf, my family, estate, heirs or assigns, arising directly or indirectly out of my participation in Trip Activities including both claims arising during the course of this activity or after its completion even if such claims may be groundless, false or fraudulent.

During my participation in the Trip Activities I may be filmed, photographed and/or recorded and I hereby grant to The Nature Conservancy, its successors and assigns, the irrevocable and perpetual right to record and use, as The Nature Conservancy may desire in its sole and absolute discretion, all recordings and reproductions or depictions of my name, likeness, voice, persona, words, actions, and/or biography, which The Nature Conservancy may make (the "Reproductions"), for any legitimate purposes, including for advertising, publicity, trade and editorial purposes, at any time in the future in all media now known or hereafter developed, throughout the world. I hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all claims which may result at any time by reason of the use of the Reproductions, including, without limitation, claims of privacy. My heirs, executors, administrators and assigns shall be bound by this consent and release.

In the event that I am unable to consent to medical treatment, I hereby authorize any medical treatment when, in the opinion of the Charter Company and/or The Nature Conservancy personnel, there is an emergency situation which makes such treatment reasonable, prudent or necessary.

This Release will be interpreted and construed under the federal maritime law of the United States to the maximum extent legally permissible, and in all other respects it shall be interpreted and construed under the laws of the location of the TNC Business Unit identified on the first page of this Release (excluding such location's choice of law principles, if any).

*I am at least 18 years old and legally competent to sign this liability release. If I am a minor (under 18 years old, I am required to have my parent or guardian sign below on my behalf.*

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT. I HAVE HAD A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT THIS DOCUMENT MEANS, AND ALL OF MY QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED TO MY SATISFACTION. I KNOW THAT BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, I AM MAKING A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT AND I AM GIVING UP CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT, INJURY OR DEATH.

**Participant Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact** (print): \_\_\_\_\_ **Emergency Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**PARENT/GUARDIAN LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK**  
(for Participant under eighteen (18) years of age)

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the above named Participant and that I have read the foregoing MARINE LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK and hereby execute this MARINE LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK on behalf of the above-named minor and on my own behalf. I hereby relinquish any claim that I might have against The Nature Conservancy its employees, directors and the predecessors, successors, assigns, affiliates, subsidiaries, both on my own behalf and in my capacity as legal representative of the minor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)          Parent/Guardian Signature          Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Telephone Contact    E-mail (optional)