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# Kayak for Carolina

## Saturday, November 16

Sponsored by Kayak Carolina

*Last updated October 20, 2024*

### **What: Paddle to Raise Recovery Effort Funds for WNC**

A kayak adventure, ride the tide down the Cape Fear River to help raise funds for WNC, starting in downtown Wilmington and ending at River Road Park, stopping at

**When: Saturday, November 16, 10am**

**Where: Dramtree Park, Downtown Wilmington to River Road Park, Wilmington**

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## Delays & Tour Time Adjustments

- **Tour time delays and time adjustments** If we see that the weather is going to happen at the scheduled time of the tour, we may go ahead and adjust the tour time for delays up to four hours after the scheduled time and possibly (infrequently) up to two hours before the scheduled tour time. We work diligently to put everyone out on the water at the safest and most pleasant time when there is weather in the area. When making reservations, please try to have availability for the six hour window of two hours before and up to four hours after the scheduled time. We realize not everyone or all groups schedules can provide that kind of availability and we do understand, yet when possible, please try to have that window.

## Rescheduling

- At the time of cancellation of a program due to weather, we will immediately also see what times or days you have availability to reschedule. When programs are canceled due to weather, we are very flexible in the times, in order to accommodate your schedule. You can reschedule to any day or time in the future, it does not have to be immediately or the next time it is offered, you or your group can reschedule for any time or day available.

## Weather that precipitates the cancellation of a program

- **Wind** Wind speed, wind direction, tides and the location of the program is analyzed for the best and safest experience possible. Sustained winds above 25 mph cancels any and all programs, with rare instances not canceled if in a location not affected by the wind. Winds 18-24 mph is dependent upon the wind direction, the tides and launch site on whether or not the program will be canceled. Winds 15-17 mph are challenging but not necessarily unsafe and a call will be made on these based on many factors. Winds 14 or below are generally fine for our programs and our participants. The time of year and time of day also affects the wind and wind forecast. Generally speaking, the spring and early summer can be our “windy” season, especially with the strong onshore breezes. Then typically, the afternoons can be windier than the mornings in the spring, summer and early fall, so if you are able to go in the morning, that is recommended. There are some programs that are offered only at certain tides, so the tides tell us what time to go, in which case, some of our programs are in the afternoon.
- **Rain** If there is rain in the forecast in the form of chance percentages, a program is NOT canceled. The daily and hourly percentage rates shown on weather apps are there to give viewers an IDEA of the weather. Those hourly percentages WILL change the closer you get to the day or time. We do not cancel in advance with any

percentage of rain. On the other hand, If there is RED or YELLOW on the radar that will be passing over the AREA that we will be paddling specifically (not the general region), this means that it will rain hard enough for it to not be enjoyable as well as causes safety issues as outlined below. If there is just light or dark green on the radar, that means it just has moisture in the air and it may or may not rain and the program is NOT canceled. We will not go out if it looks to not be enjoyable, quite frequently it is a welcome refreshment in the warmer months and in the colder months, we are more conservative with how dark the green is on the radar.

- **Lightning** If lightning is seen in the area in preparation for the program, the program will be delayed by half an hour or more. If the weather is not clearing in a reasonable amount of time, we go ahead and reschedule to later that day or the next convenient time for you or your group. If lightning is shown on the radar, and the marked radar area will be passing over where we will be paddling, we will delay or reschedule the tour.
- **Radar / Storms** If there is RED or YELLOW on the radar that will be passing over the AREA that we will be paddling *specifically* (not the general region), we will delay or reschedule the tour. If there is just light or dark green on the radar, that means it just has moisture in the air, that it may or may not rain, and if it does it is a very gentle rain and the program is NOT canceled. We will not go out if it looks to not be enjoyable, quite frequently it is a welcome refreshment in the warmer months. In the colder months, we are more conservative with the rain situation, we generally do not want to be out at all with rain depending on the temperature.

## Weather Tools & Resources

- **Local Weather Apps: WECT Weather** our local weather app and station takes into account the local weather dynamics for our region. National weather apps can tend to over-generalize the weather forecast for a given area. We aim to have the most accurate forecast for our area, Cape Fear.
- **Surfchex.com** LIVE wind at multiple sites of our region (NOT forecasted winds), this site gives us the ability to see firsthand what the wind is doing and how it is trending in REAL time. Other live wind apps that have forecasted wind and live wind (depending on your subscription status) such as Ventusky, iWindsurf, Windy and more can help in the decision-making process.
- **Local Knowledge / Experience** Certain locations can have its own weather dynamics and those will be different from other locations, so we take into account our experience and knowledge of our specific launch sites.

- **Saltwatertides.com or ST3 App (or other tide charts)** Tides come into play with setting our program times as well as can be a deciding factor when considering the other weather factors in our decision on whether or not to cancel a program. midtide, low tide and high tide are important consideration factors including the spring tides with extra low and high tides can affect the decisions.
- **Actual Anemometer Readings** On marginal wind days where the wind is increasing but not at high wind status just yet at or near the time of the program, we will want to see what it is actually doing at the time or around the time of a program, so we will take actual readings at our launch sites.
- **National Weather Sites including Weather Channel** We will consult national weather sites for big weather events such as hurricanes, tropical storms and depressions, nor'easters and any unexpected weather events to analyze the weather forecast models. These big events and forecasts will allow us to cancel or reschedule well ahead of the event itself.

## Weather cancellation times in relation to the event

We will contact you first via text and email in the event of a cancellation due to weather. We typically do not cancel programs in advance of the time of the program since the weather can change/improve so easily. If we know in advance for sure we are going to cancel a program, we will contact you in advance, one hour (and sometimes up to two hours) in advance. If there is a major weather event such as a hurricane, tropical storm or depression or any other major event, we will cancel as far in advance as necessary. If you will be driving more than an hour and a half to arrive at our launch spot and you would like more than an hours notice of the status of a tour, please let us know in advance. And of course if you have any questions at all at any time for weather or anything, please feel free to call, text or email us. We are here to make your experience out on the water with us the best!

## Bottom Line

The bottom line is the same as the top line. We do not go out if it is not going to be safe or enjoyable and try to reschedule you to the next available convenient time or after a small delay. If we can not reschedule you, you are 100% refunded for the tour when canceled due to weather.



**Thank you,**

*Angela*

Angela Caldwell Marshall  
Kayak Guide and Instructor, Since 1992  
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Kayak Carolina, Since 1998