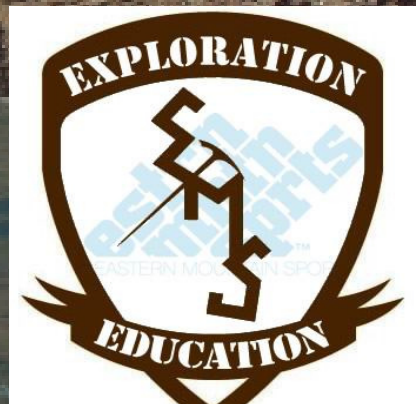




By Peter Casson
American Canoe Association Advanced
Open Water Instructor Trainer
Eastern Mountain Sports Kayak School Director



Trip Leading

- Choose your Route
- Land Reconnaissance
- Equipment
- Group Dynamics

Land Reconnaissance

- Launch Site
- Landing Sites
- Camp sites
- R & R

Group Dynamics

- Who is in Charge
- Strength & Weaknesses
- Support Crew
- Responsibilities

Equipment

- Boats Paddles
- Camping Equipment
- Safety Equipment
- Personal Gear

Equipment

- Boat Paddle and Split
- Spray Skirt
- Water Shoes
- Wet Suit or Dry Suit
- Helmet/Hat
- Dry Bags
- Paddle Jacket
- Stove/Pans/Utensils
- Plate Mug Spork
- Food/Water
- Biodegradable soap
- Tent
- Sleeping bag, synthetic fill
- Thermarest
- Fuel
- First Aid Kit
- Flares/VHF/Whistle/Foghorn
- Repair Kit
- Pump/Paddle Float
- Emergency Shelter
- Compass/Map/Chart
- Tow Line
- Toiletries/sunscreen bug repellent
- Headlamp/Spare Batteries
- Journal/Pencil
- Handy Wipes
- Binoculars
- Trash Bags/Ziploc Bags
- Change of Clothes
- Rainwear

Route

- Total Distance
- Breaking it in to Legs
- Tides/Weather/Water Temperature
- Escape Routes
- Communication on the Route
- Hazards on the Route
- Creating a Float Plan

Distance

- How Far
- How Fast
- How Long
- Break it down into legs

Tides Weather and Water

- High and Low
- Current
- Weather
- Water Temperature and Conditions

Internet

Paper

Tide Books

Locals

- **Float Plan and Trip Report**

- Course/Trip

- Date ETD ETA
- Instructors

- **Communication**

- Cell # Name
- Cell# Name

- **VHF Radio**

- Channel Monitoring Times

- **Participants**

- List boats type and color
- Type Color Paddlers Name

- **Course Itinerary**

- Location Time
- Planned Put in
- Alternate Put in
- Take out
- Alternate Take out
- Planned stops
-
- Escape Routes
-

- **Today's Coastal Marine Forecast**

- Wind (speed & direction) Sea State General

- **Course Trip Report**

- Trip put in & time
- Trip take out & time

- **Landing Areas used**

- Location Reason

- **Weather conditions encountered**

- **Any other unusual encounters or problems**

Insurance

- Paddle America Club
- ACA Instructor Insurance
- \$1,000,000 Each Occurrence
- \$4,000,000 Excess Liability Limit
- Understand the ADA Rules

Qualifications

- First Aid
- CPR
- ACA Instructors
- ACA Trip Leader



What Next

Useful Resources



Eastern Mountain Kayak School <http://www.emskayak.com> 1866 635 2925

RI Blueways <http://exploreri.org>

RICKA <http://www.ricka.org>

<http://www.americancanoe.org>