

Emiquon Partnership Paddling Event

Celebrate over 10 years of restoration at The Nature Conservancy's Emiquon Preserve. Enjoy wildlife viewing and learning about the wetlands restoration efforts. Participants will kayak and canoe their way through the far recesses of Thompson Lake, as leading conservationists from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, Therkildsen Fieldstation and Dickson Mounds highlight some of benefits and challenges of managing the Preserve and surrounding area, including the current scientific research.

This year's paddling event will take place at one of two locations. If water levels at The Nature Conservancy's Emiquon Preserve are stable and accessible, paddlers will launch from the day use area off of Hwy 97/78. If the Preserve is not accessible, we will paddle the backwaters of the Illinois River and Quiver Lake, launching at the Riverfront Park boat ramp in Havana, IL. The location will be announced at the end of June.

The paddling event will be held on Saturday, July 21st from 8-12 p.m. In the case of adverse weather conditions, the event will be postponed until the following day, Sunday, July 22nd at the same time.

Participants may bring their own canoe or kayak (including paddling gear, life-jackets, sunscreen, etc.), or contact us to reserve one of a limited number of canoes. Participants may also reserve a seat in one of two voyager canoes that hold more than a dozen people! There are only a limited number of canoes, so register soon. Participants will provide their own drinks and snacks. Please limit the amount of paper and plastic brought onto the water.

Registration is free and required by Wednesday, July 18, 2018. Call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 309/535-2290 or email illinoisriver@fws.gov to register or for more information.

** This program is sponsored by the Emiquon Partnership.*