



ON THE RIVER '09

Canoe Capital of Virginia

Front Royal, VA

www.canoecapital.org

August 15, 2009

**This event is designed to connect and reacquaint
our community with the Shenandoah River.**

Press Release – March 16, 2009

On August 15, 2009, *ON THE RIVER '09* will be held in Front Royal, Virginia. The paddling portion of this event will start at 9:00 am at the Front Royal Landing Park and will end at the VFW event grounds, the main festival site. *ON THE RIVER '09* is an event designed to connect and reacquaint our community with the Shenandoah River. In 1999, Front Royal was officially named the “Canoe Capital of Virginia” and *ON THE RIVER '09* will be a fitting celebration of the 10th Anniversary of this important designation.

ON THE RIVER '09 will celebrate our community's connection to the Shenandoah River. It is being organized by our community for our community. Admission will be completely free. The festival will feature live music (bring your instrument and jam out with the local talent), great food, demonstrations, a 3-mile river float to the event site with free shuttle service, family friendly on-water events, and much more. Also featured will be environmental and educational displays brought together by The Friends of the Shenandoah River. Prizes will feature river related items from canoes to kayaks, paddles to life vests, and a whole lot more.

In conjunction with this event, we are also having a paddle art contest. Contestants will pick up their blank paddles and return their painted/decorated paddles at the Front Royal/Warren County Visitor Center. Completed paddles will be judged by the Blue Ridge Arts Council and displayed at various locations in Front Royal. Two wonderful grand prizes of a day on the river with lunch for 10 people (each prize) will be awarded on the day of the festival.

We live in an area with abundant natural resources and beauty. From the mountains to the rivers, our citizens have the opportunity to enjoy these resources every day. The Shenandoah River is one of these resources and with our continued education and conservation efforts, we now are seeing positive changes that will preserve the health and natural beauty of the River for generations to come.

We encourage all in our community and all who love the Shenandoah River to participate in *ON THE RIVER '09*. For more information, please visit www.canoecapital.org or contact Sandy Charles at (540) 622-4208.