



RiverTrek 2022 Paddling Team Volunteer Application

Overview

This annual volunteer-based *fundraiser and awareness campaign* benefits Apalachicola Riverkeeper (AR), a member based non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and stewardship of the Apalachicola River and Bay. AR staff and volunteers organize various RiverTrek activities. Volunteer paddlers application are due by April 15, 2022. The team will be selected by May 1, 2022. Fundraising begins in June. **The RiverTrek paddling trip occurs October 12-16, 2022** with a trip backup date of November 2-6. (in case of high water or bad weather) Participants need to be available during both time periods.

In October, a limited group of 15 kayak paddlers travel the 107-mile length of the Apalachicola River in 5 days, averaging 20+ miles per day with additional side-trip options. Each night paddlers camp along the river's bank. *Prior to launch, the volunteer paddlers seek donations from friends, family members, businesses and community members.* **RiverTrek volunteer paddlers are asked to set a minimum individual fundraising goal of \$1,500.** Most previous volunteers far exceeded the minimum donation goal. The 2019 and 2020 RiverTrek teams collectively raised more than \$60,000 each and the 2021 RiverTrek team exceeded \$80,000!

To ensure that RiverTrek is fun and successful, volunteer paddlers must be in good physical health, capable long-distance paddlers (including demonstrated self-rescue skills), and experienced (self-supported) primitive campers knowledgeable of Leave No Trace ethics. Additionally, paddlers trained in Wilderness First Aid are encouraged to apply. Paddlers must agree to wear a life jacket at all times while on the water.

Paddlers are responsible to provide their own sit-inside sea kayak of at least 15' in length, camping gear, transportation to and from the launch site, breakfast each day, lunches and one dinner on the first night on the water.

Send completed applications to riverkeeper@apalachicolariverkeeper.org

Questions about RiverTrek can be directed to georgia@apalachicolariverkeeper.org

RiverTrek 2022: Volunteer Paddler Application

This annual volunteer-based fundraiser and awareness campaign benefits Apalachicola Riverkeeper, a member based non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and stewardship of the Apalachicola River and Bay.

Application deadline is April 15, 2022

Send this application to: riverkeeper@apalachicolariverkeeper.org

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Mailing Address:

1) How did you find out about the event?

2) Have you applied for or participated in RiverTrek in the past?

3) Are you an Apalachicola Riverkeeper member?

4) Have you volunteered with Apalachicola Riverkeeper in the past?

5) Please describe your interest in RiverTrek. Why do you want to participate in this fundraising and awareness-raising event?

6) Please describe your kayak camping experience.

7) Please describe your kayak (including make and model) and camping gear (paddle, tent, life jacket).

8) Please describe your paddling experience, including typical mileage per day and your longest self-supported trip.

9) Please describe your overall health and any health issue and recent surgeries that may impact your participation in RiverTrek.

10) Please describe your volunteer-fundraising experience and how you plan to raise money for this RiverTrek fundraising effort. If you are a past RiverTrekker, please list your previous fundraising totals.

11) What is your fundraising dollar amount goal? (*The minimum expectation is \$1,500.*)

Please list 2 references and contact information familiar with your outdoor or volunteer experience.

#1 Reference Name:

Reference Contact:

#2 Reference Name:

Reference Contact:

Additional comments that may contribute toward your selection for this year's RiverTrek:

Thank you for your application! Your interest in supporting Apalachicola Riverkeeper is sincerely appreciated.