

PLAN AHEAD FOR SPRING STORMS AND COLD WATER

Salt Lake City - As air temperatures warm and ice melts off the reservoirs, Utah State Parks boating officials remind everyone to be aware of the dangers of sudden spring storms and cold water temperatures.

"You never know when you might end up in the water. Life jackets not only keep you afloat, but provide



an extra layer of warmth," said State Boating Coordinator Dave Harris. "The combination of additional heat and flotation might mean the difference between life and death. Wearing a life jacket can also aid in self-rescue, providing you with extra time to climb back into your boat." He reported that if someone fell into 40-degree water, they could survive perhaps five to 10

minutes before succumbing to hypothermia.

Statistics prove the importance of wearing life jackets. Three of four people who drowned in boating accidents would not have died had they worn a life jacket.

State boating law requires all children 12 years of age and younger to wear a life jacket while a boat is in operation, and it is recommended that all boaters wear a life jacket at all times.

Also, always tell someone your boating plans including where you are going and what time you will return. Remember to check local weather conditions. Sudden spring storms occur quickly, and often are accompanied by severe winds.

PREPARING FOR SPRING AT WASATCH MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Midway -- Wasatch Mountain State Park campgrounds open for reservations beginning April 15. Cottonwood Campground is currently open on a first-come, first-served basis. Facilities include drinking water, restrooms, hot water showers, barbeque grills, and fire pits. Hookups are available depending on campground and sites. Little Deer Creek primitive campground will open at a later date depending on weather conditions.

Cross-country ski trails are now closed for the season. The park is preparing for spring and summer recreation opportunities, including hiking, biking, camping, and golf at all four courses: Silver and Gold at Soldier Hollow, and Lake and Mountain. For more information, please call (435) 654-1791.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE SAFETY ENCOURAGED OVER EASTER WEEKEND

Salt Lake -- Utah State Park off-highway vehicle (OHV) managers remind everyone to ride safely and responsibly over the Easter holiday. Riders should be properly trained and prepared, and ride in a responsible manner.

Utah State Parks urges parents to enroll children in a Know Before You Go! training course, which is required by Utah law. By passing this course, drivers eight through 16 may legally operate an OHV. Drivers 16 years and older must have a valid driver's license or OHV education certificate. Remember, children under age eight cannot operate an OHV on public land.

In addition to preparation and training, Utah State Parks OHV Education Specialist Ann Evans offers the following guidelines for safe OHV riding:

- Always wear a safety-rated and properly fitted helmet, goggles, clothing covering arms and legs, and over-the-ankle boots.



- Check mechanical controls and safety devices on your machine before you ride to ensure proper operation.
- Do not take alcohol or drugs along for the ride.
- Ride your OHV only in areas designated for their use. The best way to protect your riding privilege is to stay on the trail.
- Do not carry passengers on single-person machines. However, never ride alone and always let someone know your itinerary.
- Carry tools and survival gear in the event of changing weather conditions and mechanical failure.
- Respect closed areas and private property. Don't cut switchbacks or take shortcuts. Remember, areas signed as wilderness are closed to all motorized vehicles.

- OHVs should not be used as "babysitters" by parents at any time, especially in campgrounds or neighborhood roads.

To register for Know Before You Go! classes or for information on OHV laws and riding areas, contact the OHV Information Center at (801) 538-7433 from within Salt Lake City, or 1-800-OHV-RIDE (648-7433) from outside the area.

Reservations Encouraged for Cooperative Marketing Workshops

Salt Lake City – The Utah Office of Tourism is accepting reservations for two Cooperative Marketing Workshops that will be held in Salt Lake City and Price. A meeting scheduled for April 12 in St. George has been canceled; however, additional workshops are available. The workshops are free and are open to the public, but reservations are encouraged by sending an e-mail to Kelly Day at kday@utah.gov. Participants will review changes in the co-op guidelines, application, and procedures.

Schedule:

April 27 - State Capitol Complex West Building (House Building) Room W135, Salt Lake City, 2 p.m.

May 17 - College of Eastern Utah, Price, 2 p.m., held in conjunction with the Utah Tourism Conference

Non-profit and destination marketing organizations who have been in existence for at least one year are eligible to apply for co-op marketing funding. The next deadline for submission of regular co-op applications is June 29, 2007. Details on the program can be found online at http://travel.utah.gov/cooperative_mktg/co-opmktg.htm.

For questions or additional information on the Cooperative Marketing Program, please contact Dave Williams at dmwilliams@utah.gov or Kelly Day at kday@utah.gov at the Utah Office of Tourism, 300 N. State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114, (801) 538-1900.

WATER FILLS WILLARD BAY RESERVOIR

Willard - Water levels are rising at Willard Bay, but are expected to peak approximately 10 feet lower than normal. Boating is available at Willard Bay State Park, however with low water levels, boaters should use extreme caution. Camping and boat launching is available at both the north and south marinas.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District (WBWCD) are constructing a berm at A.V. Watkins Dam to address seepage damage that occurred last November. The BOR will continue to study possible future, long-term modifications to the dam.

For current conditions or for more information, please call (435) 734-9494.



Women in the Outdoors scheduled June 8 and 9

The "Wasatch Wilderness Women" invite all ladies 14 years and up to the 2nd Annual Women in the Outdoors Event!! June 8th & 9th at beautiful East Canyon Resort and East Canyon Reservoir (approx. 30 miles from Salt Lake City) (website: www.eastcanyon.com)

The National Wild Turkey Federation's "Women In The Outdoors" program provides new opportunities for women to learn new skills, meet people with similar interests and obtain a greater appreciation of the outdoor world.

Friday, June 8th (*Optional*): Arrive anytime after 4pm for early check-in (must be pre-registered)

6:00 p.m. Dinner is served

7:15 p.m. Jerky Making Demonstration

8:00 p.m. Bunco (optional - must pre-register) Get together with friends old and new for our outdoor Bunco playoff. Prizes awarded for: Most and Least Buncos; High Score and Low Score. Limited to first 24 registrants. (\$5 fee)

Saturday, June 9th

7:00 a.m. Check-In (must be pre-registered) 1:30 p.m. Classes resume

Breakfast 6:00 p.m. Dinner

8:00 a.m. Outdoor educational classes begin 6:30 p.m. Raffles/Auctions

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Group Photo

*If you would like to participate in the raffles and/or auctions, we accept cash, checks (made payable to NWTF) and credit cards.

Directions: From I-15, take I-80 East up Parley's Canyon. Take the Highway 65 exit and head north. This highway will take you right to East Canyon Resort.

LIST OF CLASSES

(All classes are 2 hours unless specified below) Classes may be canceled due to low participation

22's and Gun Safety Learn different shooting positions, safety, how to aim and hit your target with these light weight 22 rifles, with little or no kick! For beginners we recommend this class be taken before taking the other shooting classes.

Archery (Beginning) Class will cover safety, gear, tips on shooting, and hands on shooting at targets. Bows are lightweight and easy to pull back. Safety gear and other necessary equipment will be provided.

ATV Extreme (Bring your own ATV) and take a scenic 4 hour ride through the surrounding area. **Must** be an experienced rider.

Bass Fishing Learn the techniques of bass fishing and get some time out on the reservoir with the pros!

Bird House Construction* Build and paint a functional bird house using precut wood pieces. (Limited to first 30 registrants)

Canoeing Learn strokes, equipment involved, and what to do if the canoe tips over. Class will be on the reservoir.

Dutch Oven Cooking Learn how to use, care for and love dutch oven cooking. Participants will be tasting some great recipes!

Fly Fishing Learn techniques of fly-casting, fly fishing terminology and selection of proper equipment. (Fishing license needed)

Gardening Learn how to plant a water-wise garden and what plants grow best in Utah soil. You will make a planter to take home.

Geocaching This is an entertaining adventure game for GPS users. Participate in a cache hunt and take advantage of the wonderful features and capability of a GPS unit. (Bring your own GPS and have knowledge of the basic functions of your GPS)

Hand Gun Basics Whether for protection or for recreational use, this course on handguns can get you started in the sport. At the end of this class, a participant will be able to safely shoot a handgun. The instructor will provide a broad spectrum of information about the operations and fundamentals of shooting handguns.

Hiking Learn what you need to take and what to watch for when hiking. Participants will also take a scenic hike.

Horseback Riding Learn to halter, lead, saddle and tie your horse and how to check for equipment safety. Participants will then take a scenic ride. Please bring a riding or bike helmet if possible.

Kayaking Introduction to the paddles, strokes, equipment and safety of kayaking. Class will be on the reservoir.

Knots and Ropes Learn to use proper ropes and knots for outdoor activities.

Map & Compass Learn the basic information about maps and compasses and how they are used to orient, understand the terrain, and navigate. Class instruction will include field use of a map and compass.

Mountain Biking Must have own good-working bicycle, helmet, comfortable clothing and water bottle or pack. Workshop will teach the basic skills necessary to be able to safely and successfully enjoy the sport of mountain biking.

Mountainman Crafts* Make a necklace or other craft using things such as beads, antlers, stone and bone.

Mountain Manning Opportunities to start a fire, throw a tomahawk, and shoot primitive firearms (muzzleloader).

Outdoor Photography Learn how to take great outdoor photos and what to use to make them spectacular. You may bring your own digital camera (not required). Class may include using a laptop to view pictures taken in class.

Scrapbooking and Homemade Cards* Make 12x12 layouts with an "outdoorsy theme" or great cards to have on hand for those special occasions.

Self Defense/Personal Protection Learn how to watch your surroundings, as well as protect yourself.

Shotgunning Learn safety and how to hit your target using 12 gauge shotguns with the lightest load possible for a limited "kick".

Sticks to Staffs* Construct your own decorative walking stick using leather, feathers, and beads.

Survival Skills/Wilderness First Aid Learn how to face challenging situations and stay alive. Learn what to do in case of an emergency in the wilderness.

Waterskiing or Wake-Boarding Get out on the reservoir and learn a new water sport!

*Due to the cost of materials for the craft-type classes, the \$60 registration fee only includes participation in two 2 hour craft-type class. If additional craft-type classes are desired, an additional \$5 per class will be required.

ITEMS TO BRING: Drinking and washing water (either water bottles or jug and refill bottle), folding camp chair (you will carry from class to class), clothes for rain or shine, comfortable durable walking or hiking shoes, insect repellant, camera, sunscreen and hat. If staying overnight, bring over night gear.

Due to the planning involved in this event, we will need everyone to pre-register by May 25th
No refunds or cancellations after June 1st. Rain or shine, the event will proceed.

EVENT FEES

Early Registration (before May 25, 2007) **Regular Registration** (after May 26, 2007)

\$60.00 per person \$70.00 per person

Mother/Daughter Discount: \$60.00 for mother and \$50.00 for each daughter under the age of 18 (must register at the same time and by May 25th to receive discount)

Fee Includes: 1 year subscription to the quarterly *Women In The Outdoors National Magazine*, Professional instruction,

*All materials and use of equipment, T-shirt, Pocket Knife, All meals, Goodie Bag, and a **GREAT TIME!!!!***

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ - _____ - _____ Email Address _____

(email will be used for confirmation and class schedules)

Parent or guardian signature (if under 18 years of age) _____

Emergency Contact _____ and Phone Number _____ - _____ - _____

I will be staying over Friday night and in: _____ Tent (no extra charge)

_____ Trailer/RV (no hook-up) (no extra charge) (**limited availability**)

_____ Group Housing in Condo (6 people per condo)

(**\$20 per person extra charge**) (**limited availability**)

_____ Full hook-up RV space (**\$32 extra charge**) (**limited availability**)

I will be coming on Saturday only: _____

All participants can take 8 hours of instruction. Most are 2-hour classes (ATV Extreme is a 4 hour class).

All classes will be assigned in advance in order received. Please list eight classes you are most interested in.

List your favorite as 1 and last choice as 8. Every effort will be made to place you in your preferred classes.

1. _____	2. _____
3. _____	4. _____
5. _____	6. _____
7. _____	8. _____

If you are attending the event with someone you would like to take classes together, please submit your registration forms together (if possible) and list their name(s) below:

_____ If registration forms are not received together, we will do our best to put you in the same classes.

_____ I would like to play BUNCO for fun prizes and great company. **I am including the additional fee of \$5**

_____ I would like to take more than two craft-type classes. **I am including the additional fee of \$_____**

(\$5 for each additional class taken)

_____ I would like to stay in group housing in the condos. **I am including the additional fee of \$20**

_____ I would like to stay in the Full Hook-Up RV space. **I am including the additional fee of \$32**

PLEASE CIRCLE T-SHIRT SIZE (**registration must be received by MAY 30th in order to receive a T-Shirt**)

Small Medium Large Xlarge XXLarge

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Christine Prows: wasatchwito@comcast.net or (801) 282-4708

Return this form and fees by May 25th, 2007

MAIL REGISTRATION AND FEES TO:

Christine Prows/Checks payable to "Wasatch Wilderness WITO"

9983 South Birdie Way, South Jordan, UT 84095

Two New Members Join Utah Tourism Board

April Meeting Scheduled in Kanab

Salt Lake City – The Utah Board of Tourism Development will have two new members when it holds its monthly meeting next week in Kanab. The Utah Senate recently confirmed the gubernatorial appointments of Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon and Pam Hilton, marketing director of the Dixie Center and St. George Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mayor Corroon fills the unexpired term of former Weber County Commissioner Camille Cain who decided not to seek re-election. Hilton replaces Mona Given who recently retired from the Huntsman World Senior Games in St. George.

"Economic development through conventions and tourism is very important to Salt Lake County," says Mayor Peter Corroon. "I believe our efforts at the county level are an essential

part of Utah's tourism and weave together very nicely with the Utah Office of Tourism. That is why I am honored to be appointed to the Board of Tourism Development."

Corroon was elected Mayor of Salt Lake County in the 2004. Mayor Corroon has an extensive background in community leadership, commercial and residential housing, civic affairs and small business development. He holds a law degree from Golden Gate University School of Law, a Master of Science degree in real estate development and finance from New York University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University.

"I am honored to represent the growing tourism industry in southern Utah, as the gateway to our spectacular national parks, great golf and other world-class destinations," says new board member Pam Hilton. "I am excited to play a role in the state's new 'Life Elevated' branding efforts launched last year to increase tourism spending."

Hilton, a Salt Lake City native, has a long background in the convention/tourism industry beginning in the 1970s with establishing the Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, now the St. George Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Utah, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Zion Natural History Association, the Utah Society of Association Executives, and the Utah Tourism Industry Coalition.

The tourism board will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 13, at the Kanab City Library, 374 N. Main St., Kanab. Board members will discuss the winter advertising campaign following the successful launch of the nationwide spring/summer "Life Elevated" program featuring Utah's outdoor recreation. Other topics will include a media update and budget report.

The state's 13-member tourism board is comprised of representatives of Utah's tourism industry from around the state.

UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

April 10 Iron Mission State Park Museum - Cedar City

50th Anniversary Program- Utah's First Capitol: Join Utah State Parks Museum Curator Carl Camp at 7 p.m. for this informative presentation. This event is open and free to the public. For more information, please call (435) 586-9290.



April 13 Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum - Fillmore

Join Doug Jolly, local artist and art teacher, as he discusses the main processes involved in creating pottery and dishes. A second presentation discusses how to identify pottery and ceramics including fine china, the history, and where they were made. Following the lectures, the new exhibit will open. For more information, please call (435) 743-5316.

April 14 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum - Blanding

Artist Reception: Join artist Leo Platero as he

speaks about his exhibit Through the Eyes of a Shepherd, which includes his artwork in oil, acrylics, multi-media landscapes and abstracts as well as pottery and sculpture. This event is open and free to the public. For more information, please call (435) 678-2238.

April 14 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins

Exploring Desert Potholes: Fairy shrimp, tadpole shrimp, clam shrimp and more*study the amazing organisms dependent on desert potholes during a two-mile roundtrip hike beginning at 9 a.m. Space is limited and registration is required. For more information, please call (435) 628-2255.

Utah State Parks celebrates 50 years as Utah's recreation authority throughout 2007. Explore the beauty and history of Utah's 42 state parks and museums with an annual pass, your passport to discovery. Visit www.stateparks.utah.gov for a list of current events.

Collegiate Shotgun Teams to Vie for National Title

Over 25 Schools to Compete in Championships, April 4-8

SAN ANTONIO -- In most sports, the story of Lindenwood University would be a classic David-and-Goliath saga: little school from St. Charles, Mo., chops down giants more than twice its size -- Texas A&M, Mizzou, Kentucky, Purdue and others -- on its way to a national title.

But in shotgun sports, it is Lindenwood who stands as the titan.

With three consecutive national championships, including a daunting performance last year when the Lions broke 1,546 out of 1,600 fast-flying clay targets, and with a deep and talented team loaded with big-match experience, Lindenwood would seem to have another collegiate title clearly in sight.

Coach Joe Steenbergen, however, downplays his team's chances as well as past accomplishments.

"A dynasty? I don't think so. Hard-working athletes? I would agree with that!" he exclaimed. Turning serious, he added, "I think it's anybody's game. I really don't think there's a favorite."

Steenbergen and his Lions aim to continue their impressive run at the upcoming ACUI Intercollegiate Clay Target Championships, April 4-8, at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio.

Standing in their way are shotgun teams from over 25 colleges and universities: Blinn College-Bryan, Central Missouri, Colorado State, Des Moines Area Community, Eastern Kentucky, Fort Hays State, George Mason, Iowa State, Kansas State, Kentucky, Louisiana-Lafayette, Maine, Midland, Mississippi State, Missouri-Columbia, Missouri-Rolla, Oklahoma State, Penn State, Purdue, Radford, Rice, Texas A&M, Trinity, Virginia, Virginia Tech, Western Ontario, Wyoming and Yale.

The championship will consist of five events, or disciplines, including international trap and skeet, American trap and skeet, and 5-stand sporting clays.

Last year, Lindenwood won four of the five events. Texas A&M won one, but the Aggies more often found themselves sharing second- or third-place slots with the Missouri Tigers. A&M finished with 1,528 targets; Mizzou with 1,505.

Individual awards, such as men's and women's high overall shooters, plus scholarships and invitations to join Olympic shotgun development teams, will be presented along with team medals.

ESPN U will televise the competition at a future date, with major sponsorship from the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).

The Association of College Unions International (ACUI) conducts the championships. NSSF, National Rifle Association, Olin/Winchester, Amateur Trapshooting Association and Hall of Fame, USA Shooting, National Skeet Shooting Association and National Sporting Clays Association provide support.

Trap, skeet and sporting clays in recent years have emerged among the fastest growing sports for young people, especially girls. Nationwide, the number of female participants age 12-17 rose 56 percent over a five-year period ending in 2004, according to a National Sporting Goods Association report.

Feeding this growth is NSSF's Scholastic Clay Target Program, a national shotgun league for students in grades 12 and under. The program last year featured some 9,000 youth shooters and a national trap championship nearly 700 percent larger than it was when launched in 2001.

- A number of today's collegiate competitors came up through NSSF's Scholastic Clay Target Program.

Preparedness Events

The News is that we have an [EVENTS calendar](#) that is up to date with programs and lectures. Be sure and check it regularly. If you are in our database and we have your zip code, you will receive an email announcement of events within a 50-mile radius of your home. Reply to this email with your zip code if you don't think we have it in our database.

The last two Wednesdays we have had more than 100 people attending each week at the Cottonwood Mall programs in Salt Lake City. There is one more scheduled for Wednesday April 4th. Jim will be presenting his program on WATER. Check the [calendar for details](#) and invite others to come.

We are talking with the event organizers about continuing after this last scheduled class is over. Let us or the event organizers know if you are interested in continuing the program in Salt Lake City. Jim hopes to see you there this Wednesday April 4th if you can make it.

News from [FoamClothing.com](#)

Hi, this is Wayne at [FoamClothing.com](#) People keep asking Jim and me about the status of materials for, and production of, the PALS foam clothing. Here's a quick update.

TJ Mesh Fabric

The equipment setup for the knitting is almost complete. I'm told that the first step of producing the grey-goods will start next week, then it will be off for dying and finishing. As soon as I have a ship date for the fabric I'll let everyone know.

Foam Adhesive

Jim has located a new adhesive for the foam. We have both tested it and it is far superior to all the other spray adhesives that he's used and recommended for years. I finally located a source for it and we'll be bringing in cases of it for those who want to make their own clothing.

FOAM !!

Jim and the consultant he hired have been going through many samples of foam as of late.

Jim has concluded that the high performance foam he is looking for (that matches the samples he has on file) simply does not exist on-the-shelf at this time. However, his consultant has put him in touch with a company that says they can make it for him, if he'll show them exactly what is wanted.

To speed the process, this coming Monday, April the 2nd he is flying off for a meeting with their development people at corporate headquarters. He is taking with him his samples of foam and his microscope so he can show them exactly what he wants them to recreate.

We'll have to buy it by the 25,000 board-foot truckload, I've got the trucking costs, so we are hopeful that we'll know the cost and availability of the foam in about a week.



Production Foam Clothing

Many are asking about the price and availability of the clothing. Once we have the foam costs we can begin in earnest to move in that direction. Stay tuned.

To order fabric, adhesive and foam as it becomes available please go to www.FoamClothing.com.

If you have not already done so and want to always be kept up to date on all materials and FoamClothing production, send me an e-mail requesting to be on the FoamClothing mail list. Send your e-mail to materials@foamclothing.com. If you have already sent an e-mail to FoamClothing.com for any reason or placed an order for fabric, you do not need to resubmit your request. We'll keep you informed.

Sincerely,
Wayne Andrews

P.S. [Click here to visit www.FoamClothing.com](http://www.FoamClothing.com)

Nature Valley Alpine Champs Set for Alyeska *Racing opens Friday with downhill*

GIRDWOOD, Alaska (March 28) - The calendar may say Spring but race course conditions are still mid-Winter at Alyeska Resort as the Nature Valley U.S. Alpine Championships get underway for the second time in four years. New champions will be crowned in at least two events.

Versus will broadcast coverage from Alyeska at 6 p.m. ET on Sunday, April 7.

Bode Miller (Bretton Woods, NH), with eight, is one national championship behind two skiers (Dick Durrance and Tiger Shaw) for the men's record while Olympic champion Ted Ligety (Park City, UT) has won two gold medals at each of the last two U.S. championships. Among the women, Olympic giant slalom gold medalist Julia Mancuso (Olympic Valley, CA) comes in with a streak of being on the podium 15 times in the last 16 U.S.

championships races and has won seven titles.

The new champions will be determined in at least women's downhill and men's super G. Three-time Olympian Kirsten Clark (Raymond, ME), the only American to win four consecutive U.S. DH gold medals, announced her retirement and said Monday she would not be able to compete following a nasty training crash in Switzerland at World Cup Finals. Daron Rahlves, the most successful U.S. men's racer (12 DH/SG victories) retired after winning his super G title last year, leaving with a victory in the final run of his much-decorated career.

Five days of racing

Following Thursday's annual FIS Downhill, which is designed on the eve of the championships to get U.S. skiers an extra DH involving the U.S. Ski Team's top speed skiers, the championships open Friday with the downhill. The schedule:

Friday - men's and women's downhill
Saturday - men's and women's super G
Sunday - men's and women's slalom
Monday - women's giant slalom
Tuesday - men's giant slalom

Steven Nyman (Provo, UT), who had a breakthrough World Cup season - including his first podium and then his first victory (in downhill in Val Gardena, Italy), is after his third downhill championship. He won the 2003 U.S. DH title at New York's Whiteface Mountain, near Lake Placid, and again in '05 at Mammoth Mountain, CA. He finished second Tuesday to NorAm downhill champion Erik Fisher (Middleton, ID) in the opening DH training run.

"There's so much snow. It feels like winter. We can go ski and have fun," Nyman said. "The downhill course is awesome. It's a good downhill - big jumps, good terrain, demanding technical sections. It will be a good race."

Libby Ludlow (Bellevue, WA), who led the women's opening training run, echoed Nyman. "It's got a little bit of everything. It's not too fast or too difficult," she said, "but there are some technical sections. It flows really well and there are some great jumps. All in all, it's awesome to be here and it's so much fun to be skiing on such an awesome hill."

Mid-winter snow conditions

World Cup veteran JJ Johnson (Park City, UT) pointed to the challenges of the speed run. "It's longer than most championship downhills. It's got a lot more terrain and it's a lot of fun," he said. "The snow was really nice today - cold snow...winter snow. They have a bunch of rolls in the middle. It's got a little bit of everything..."

Recent snows have pumped up the snow pack at Alyeska, and snow depths at mid-mountain and the summit are just under 10 feet, more than four feet at the base of the mountain.

The championships bring together the top skiers in the nation, most of them just back from the World Cup season in Europe, as well as aspiring World Cup and Olympic alpine racers from across the country. Some come into the championships after racing at the Canadian nationals in Whistler, B.C., over the last week where Fisher was bronze medalist in that super G while Tim Jitloff (Reno, NV) was bronze medalist in the GS.

The Nature Valley championships are "a big step, a rite of passage for skiers who want to be on the national team," Men's Head Coach Phil McNichol said. "We don't get to see these development-level skiers very much, so they can make a strong impression on the national coaches, men and women, by what they do here."

Ogden Nature Center Events scheduled

Following are activities happening in April at the Ogden Nature Center. The Ogden Nature Center is located at 966 W. 12th Street in Ogden. Please call 801-621-7595 to pre-register for classes and for more information.

The Basics of Square Foot Gardening

Wednesday, April 4 / 6:30 8:30 pm

\$15 for members / \$18 for nonmembers



Instructor Pat Westaway will teach everything you need to know about this simple and easy system of backyard gardening. Class includes background and history, advantages over other methods, explains savings of 80% and more of space, water and work. Next, learn location, construction, perfect soil, planting, seasons, vertical gardening, 3-season harvest and out-of-season growing. No work - No weeds - No digging - No kidding. This is a very simple, yet innovative system --perfect for beginners and experts alike.

Birdhouse Competition & Exhibit

Entries due April 2-7

Exhibit showing April 21 - September 8

Nature lovers, designers, artists, craftspeople and others who give a hoot about birds are invited to enter their hand-crafted birdhouses in the Ogden Nature Center's 14th Annual Birdhouse Competition and Exhibit. Entries will be received Monday, April 2 through Saturday, April 7 at the Nature Center's Visitor

Center at 966 W. 12th Street in Ogden. Artists of all ages may enter up to two works and there is no entry fee. The exhibit will show April 21 September 8. Come see over 100 unique, hand-crafted birdhouses including the new 2007 entries.

Earth Day Art Poster Contest Entries due April 14

Children in kindergarten through the fifth grade are invited to combine their artistic talents with their love for the earth by entering the Ogden Nature Center's annual Earth Day Art Poster Contest. This year's theme is ³Take Action.² All entries will be exhibited in the LS Peery Education Center at the Ogden Nature Center starting on Earth Day, April 21, through May 31, 2007. There is no cost to enter. For guidelines, please call the Ogden Nature Center at 801-621-7595.

Nature Babies Preschool Program

April 19th 9:30 am, 11 am, 1 pm
April 20th 9:30 am, 11 am, 1 pm
Ages 3-5 / \$3 per child / chaperones are free

Dance and sing into spring with animal antics. Listen to stories, do finger-plays, and explore the world of baby animals and plants in springtime. Please call to preregister.

Intro to the Aquatic Wildlife That Share the Weber River Watershed with Us

Aquatic Evenings: Session 1 of 4 Thursday, April 19 at 7 pm

An interactive lecture series focused on aquatic ecosystems and issues in Utah

Session 1 is Thursday, April 19 / 7 pm

Session 2 is Thursday, May 3 / 7 pm

Session 3 is Thursday, May 17 / 7 pm

Session 4 is Thursday, May 31 / 7 pm

If you sign up for all four lectures:
\$20 nonmembers / \$16 members / \$10 students

Drop in prices:
\$6 nonmembers / \$5 members / \$3 students
Ages 12 and older

April 19 Lecture by Paul Burnett, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Ogden. Paul graduated from Idaho State University in 1999 with a B.S. in ecology and attended graduate school at Utah State University where he studied the movements and spawning site selection of Bear Lake Bonneville cutthroat trout in St. Charles Creek. He completed his MS in Fisheries Biology in 2003 and began working for the State of Utah, Division of Wildlife Resources that July. Most of his work involves habitat rehabilitation, restoration and conservation within the Weber River watershed.

EARTH DAY! Come Learn and Play! April 21, 12-4 pm

\$1 per person or FREE if you ride the bus, bike or walk!

- Learn about recycling, local pathways, renewable energy & composting
- Over 30 earth-friendly exhibitors
- Rock climbing wall
- Meet birds of prey and other native wildlife
- Astronomy activities by Ott Planetarium
- Make-and-take kids crafts
- Guided nature walks by Jack Rensel
- Entertainment by local talent
- Gardening
- Navajo tacos, smoothies, Italian ice & drinks

Bookworms Book Club at Ogden Nature Center

Tuesday, April 24 / 5:30 pm

For adults / FREE

This month's book discussion will be on Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire* and for the more daring, *Monkey Wrench Gang*. Refreshments will be provided.

American Indian Dream Catcher Children's Craft

Saturday, April 28 / 10:30 am

\$5 for members / \$6 for nonmembers

Ages 6+

Some believe that a dreamcatcher filters a person's dreams, allowing only good dreams to filter through, while bad dreams stay in the net, disappearing with the light of day. Materials will be provided. Please call to pre-register by Thursday, April 26.

CLOSED SEASON FOR PRAIRIE DOGS

PRICE, UTAH—Attention hunters! The prairie dog hunting season closes from April 1st until June 15th. This news may come as a shock to sport shooters, who target the “pot guts” for recreation. Just like game animals, prairie dogs now have “open” and “closed” seasons. From April 1-June 15, all prairie dog hunting is prohibited by law across the State of Utah. This doesn't apply to landowners, who need to control prairie dogs on private property.

Seasonal protection of prairie dogs during their breeding season encourages successful reproduction and rearing of young. After June 15th,

hunting is allowed only for the whitetail and Gunnison species. The threatened Utah prairie dog, found in southwest Utah, is protected yearlong under the Endangered Species Act. The distribution of Gunnison prairie dogs is restricted to country east of the Colorado River. Whitetail prairie dogs are present elsewhere in Utah.



FEES REDUCED FOR ANGLERS AT UTAH STATE PARKS

Salt Lake -- Beginning April 1, it will cost less to fish at Utah's state boating parks with a valid 365-day Utah fishing or combination license. License holders save up to half off the regular day-use fee Tuesday through Thursday. Utah residents 62 years and older receive up to half off the senior day-use fee. Day-use fee covers up to eight people in the same private vehicle. Offer continues throughout the year, but is not valid on holidays.

Present the valid license when entering the park to receive the discount. Only one valid fishing license is required to receive the discount, however anyone planning to fish must have a valid Utah fishing license. Fishing and combination licenses are available at wildlife.utah.gov and from license agents and Division offices.

CAMPSITES AVAILABLE NOW FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Salt Lake - Even though Memorial Day is still two months away, it's not too early to reserve a campsite at a



Utah state park. The following parks have campsites available for the big weekend, but are filling up quickly: Antelope Island, Bear Lake, Deer Creek, East Canyon, Fremont Indian, Jordanelle, Kodachrome, Red Fleet, Rockport, Scofield, Snow Canyon, Starvation, Steinaker, Utah Lake, Wasatch Mountain, Willard Bay, and Yuba.

To make a reservation or for more information, please

call (801) 322-3770 from within the Salt Lake calling area and (800) 322-3770 from outside the area or visit www.stateparks.utah.gov.

UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

April 1 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Art Gallery: John Van Natter displays color photographs in the visitor center art gallery. For more information, please call (801) 725-9263.

April 3 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum - Blanding

Range Creek Exhibit: The Utah Museum of Natural History provides an informative display explaining the history of human interaction with the land at Range Creek. Once a private and protected ranch situated near the Book Cliffs, Range Creek is the site of a large complex of Fremont habitations. The area, now protected by the state of Utah, has been the recent location of excavation and research in an effort to learn more about the Fremont people. The exhibit includes artifacts from Range Creek. For more information, please call (435) 678-2238.

April 6 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Slide Program: Antelope Island State Park provides ample resources for a variety of intriguing mammal species. Join the park naturalist for an intimate look into the lives of the island's mammals. Participants should meet at

the visitor center at 3 p.m. For more information, please call (801) 721-9569.

April 7 Goblin Valley State Park - Green River

Crazy About Snakes! Join Carol at 2:30 p.m. and learn about the local gopher snakes. Face your fear, and meet live snakes. For more information, please call (435) 564-3633.

April 7 Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum - Vernal

Dippy the Dino Easter Egg Hunt: Join park staff from 9 to 10 a.m. Egg hunts available for children ages 1 to 3, and 4 to 8 years old. For more information, please call (435) 789-3799.

April 7 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Easter Events: Join the park naturalist at 10 a.m. at the visitor center for this Junior Ranger island hunt for rabbit abodes. Participants should dress for the weather conditions, wear sturdy shoes, and bring plenty of water, sunscreen, bug repellent. (801) 721-9569. At 11 a.m. visit the Fielding Garr Ranch for an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m. Other activities include a fish pond, face painting, pictures with the Easter bunny, farm ball, and gunny sack races. Prizes will be given for all activities. (801) 649-5742. And at 2 p.m. in the visitor center, join park staff for an audiovisual tour of scenic Great Salt Lake featuring the photographs of Charles Uibel and Keith Vaught. Feel the desolation, energy, solitude, and excitement of the Great Basin on this photographic tour.

April 7 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins

Spring Constellations: Bring a lawn chair and join park staff beginning at 8:30 p.m., for an evening of myth, legend, and lore. Learn the stories behind several spring constellations and how to spot them in the night sky. For more information, please call (435) 628-2255.

April 7 Fremont Indian State Park - Sevier

17th Annual Easter Egg Hunt: Children 12 and under can join park staff for an Easter egg hunt including candy and prizes. Events begin at 9 a.m. sharp. For more information, please call (435) 527-4631.

April 7 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Natural Plant Dyes: Stop by the visitor center between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to learn about various plants that can be used as natural dyes. Instead of using store-bought dyes, learn how people from ages past dyed everything from clothing to Easter eggs. Boiled eggs will be provided. There is no charge, however, donations are gladly accepted. For more information, please call (435) 654-1791.

Utah Wake Camp Offer extended

We would like to thank everyone for checking us out at the Utah Boat Show. We had a great turnout and are excited for the upcoming summer. For those who attended the boat show we are offering a \$150 discount until the end of April. If a weeklong camp does not work with your schedule, be sure to check out our morning, night and day camps. Call us with your questions or to schedule your camp. Group discounts are also available.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Utah Wake Camp

utahwakecamp@gmail.com

www.utahwakecamp.com

(801)592-5975

(801)592-9680

Quagga Mussels Threaten Utah

Destructive mussels only miles from Utah's border

Utah is working to protect its borders from an invasive, alien species. If this species sneaks into the state, it will change the way many Utahns live their lives.

This invader is called a quagga mussel. Quagga mussels and their close relative, the zebra mussel, are freshwater, bivalve mollusks that are similar to a clam.



Quagga mussels aren't native to North America, but they've found their way to the continent and have invaded many of the waters east of the 100th meridian (an imaginary line that divides the eastern part of the United States from the western part).

Recently, quagga mussels were found in the Lower Colorado River drainage, including lakes Mead, Mojave and Havasu in Nevada.

Quagga mussels usually have a dark and white (zebra-like) pattern on

their shells. When they're fully grown, they're only about of an inch across.

That may not make them sound like a serious threat, but they are.

Tiny and Destructive

Quagga mussels cluster in tremendous numbers. Clusters of more than 700,000 quagga mussels per square meter have been found in the Great Lakes.

Quagga mussels often attach themselves to hard surfaces, such as rocks, pipes, cement, anchors, cables, other quagga mussels and even the bottoms of boats. In fact, hitchhiking on the hulls of fishing and ski boats is one of their favorite ways to move from one lake to another.

Mussels are filter feeders. They draw water through their body and then use a filter inside their bodies to capture minute particles, which they digest. The same action that brings water and food into their bodies also carries waste out of their bodies and into the water around them.

Quagga mussels can reach higher densities by clinging to intake pipes where the water is always moving.

Moving water provides them with fresh water to filter their food and carry away their waste.

Under these conditions, quagga mussel concentrations can become enormous. These concentrations restrict the amount of water that can flow into treatment plants and hydroelectric facilities.

If allowed to infest and multiply in the water storage reservoirs that are so common in Utah, the effects will be disastrous. It can cost millions of dollars to remove large concentrations of mussels from pipes and restore proper water flows.

Because quagga mussels are filter feeders, they utilize the plankton that represents the base of the aquatic food chain. Quagga mussels are efficient feeders, and few animals can compete with them for food or space. Given enough time, quagga mussels out compete other aquatic species in the waters they invade, including insects, crayfish and fish.

Once they've displaced these other species, they become the dominant species in the aquatic biomass. That means the number of sport fish in Utah, such as bass and trout, and the state's native fish, many of which are on the federal Endangered Species list, will be reduced in number or completely replaced by quagga and zebra mussels.

How They Got Here

Quagga and zebra mussels are native to Europe and Asia. They were found in the United States in the mid-1980s, when they were introduced into the Great Lakes region. They probably hitched a ride to the Great Lakes in the ballast tanks of commercial ships.



These mussels quickly spread throughout the eastern part of the country, but they were not found in the West until January 2007 when they were discovered in Lake Mead.

With mussels so close to Utah, it's no wonder state and federal officials are taking actions to keep them from crossing Utah's border.

How You Can Help

You can help keep quagga mussels out of Utah by taking the following actions when moving aquatic recreational equipment from one water to another:

- Drain the water from your boat's motor, live well, ballast tanks and bilge on land before leaving the immediate area of the lake you've been boating or fishing on.



- Flush your motor and bilges with hot water that's at least 104 degrees Fahrenheit.

- After boating, completely inspect your vessel and trailer. Remove any mussels that you see. In addition, feel for any rough or gritty spots on the hull of your boat. These spots may be young mussels that are hard to see.

- If you see any mussels, scrape them off and crush them. Then wash your boat's hull, equipment, bilge and any other exposed surface with water that's at least 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Washing with water that's at least 104 degrees Fahrenheit will kill the mussels.

- Clean and wash your trailer,

and any other equipment that has come in contact with lake water, with water that's at least 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Mussels can live in small pockets in any location where water collects.

- Air-dry your boat and other equipment for at least five days before launching in another water.

- Put any natural fishing baits you've used in trash receptacles at the lake where you used them.

"There is no effective way to remove mussels from a water body once they've become established," says Clay Perschon, special aquatic projects coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

*If mussels become established, they can damage your boat, destroy the fishery at the water and can result in spending of millions of dollars to clean pipes.

"If you're a boater, your cooperation is absolutely essential to keep mussels from infesting Utah," Perschon says. "We need your help desperately to keep quagga mussels out of Utah."

For detailed instructions on how to clean your boat, please visit the following Web sites:

www.100thmeridian.org

www.protectyourwaters.net

Pheasants Forever Awarded NPABC Outstanding Bird Conservation Award

PF Recognized for Habitat Work Benefiting Pheasants and Beyond

Kearney, Neb. - April 2, 2007 -Pheasants Forever (PF) has been awarded the 2007 Outstanding Bird Conservation Award by the Nebraska Partnership for All-Bird Conservation (NPABC). PF was selected based on its outstanding leadership, ingenuity, success, partnership-building and volunteerism in the field of avian conservation in Nebraska.

"This award recognizes PF's ability to take the grass-roots enthusiasm generated by the immense popularity of pheasants and put it to work for habitat improvements that benefit not only pheasants, but a wide variety of birds and other wildlife," said Rob Ravenscroft, NPABC Steering Committee Chairman, "The Nebraska Chapters of PF epitomize how an effective group of volunteers with a common interest and great passion can have a significant impact on a broad range of bird species and their habitat."

First established in Nebraska in 1986, PF and its quail division, Quail Forever, have grown to 63 chapters and 15,500 members across the state. In that time, Nebraska PF chapters have established, maintained and improved over 1.8 million acres of habitat. "This award is a testament to PF's dedication and volunteer spirit," said Pete Berthelsen, PF's Senior Field Coordinator. "Although our name is Pheasants Forever, our habitat work extends beyond America's most recognizable upland game bird. Habitat is the key to wildlife abundance, and Nebraska's PF and QF chapters have and will continue to work diligently at establishing and re-establishing quality uplands and wetlands for the betterment of pheasants, quail, birds and all wildlife."

Since 1995, PF Nebraska has been instrumental in creating and implementing 37 different partnerships, many of which are found only in Nebraska. Among these is Focus on Pheasants, which includes agency partners and private landowners who work to improve wildlife habitat on mature grasslands by encouraging plant diversity and successional stage habitat. Focus on Pheasants also provided the funding of a research project which demonstrated that habitat improvements do improve species richness by increasing habitat and food resources for grassland songbirds.

Formed in 2002, the NPABC is a super-partnership comprised of over 100 conservation organizations and agencies, including PF, that have united to better understand and manage bird resources in Nebraska. The NPABC promotes a coordinated, science-based landscape approach to land stewardship that conserves, improves and expands habitat for all bird species within sustainable rural communities. The partnership recognizes and embraces the broad differences among its members, understanding that much can be achieved by focusing on the parallels among the missions of the various partners. For more information on the NPABC, log onto www.nebraskabirds.org/About/about.htm.

If you are interested in starting or joining a PF/QF chapter in Nebraska, contact Pete Berthelsen at (308)754-5339 or via e-mail at pberthelsen@pheasantsforever.org.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever, are non-profit conservation organizations dedicated to the protection and enhancement of pheasant, quail, and other wildlife populations in North America through habitat improvement, land management, public awareness, and education. PF/QF has more than 115,000 members in 700 local chapters across the continent.

Nationwide, PF has spent nearly \$200 million on wildlife habitat projects and conservation education since the organization's inception in 1982. Those funds have translated into 300,000 habitat projects benefiting over 4 million acres across the continent. Charity Navigator, America's charity watchdog, gives PF their highest rating of 4 stars. In fact, Charity Navigator says that PF outperforms most non-profits in America.

Got Mine Maps?

Salt Lake City, Utah -- Those old maps in your attic or garage could be handy to the Utah Geological Survey (UGS). The UGS, in cooperation with the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, has created a new digital database of the abandoned coal mines in Utah.

With funding from the Mine Safety and Health Administration, more than 400 abandoned coal mines were identified in the database, however the UGS has been able to find maps for only 58 percent of the abandoned mines. Ideally, the state would like to have a map for each abandoned coal mine.

“The information we have is not complete,” said Dave Tabet, UGS senior scientist. “In order to complete our mine map coverage, we are asking the public to dig out all of their old prospecting maps that they got from their parents or grandparents and see if they contain information about old mines that we don’t have. We would like to borrow those maps, make a digital image of them for our records, and then return the maps to the owners.”

To see what maps the UGS has collected, the database can be found on the Web at:

<http://geology.utah.gov/databases/umsh/index.html>

“This is really a public safety issue,” said Tabet. “We hope that by identifying the location and extent of the workings of all the abandoned coal mines in the state, we can avoid the kind of accidents that have occurred in the eastern U.S. where active mines have become flooded when they intersect abandoned mines and miners are trapped.”

The coal mine database is part of a UGS effort to make more services and information accessible to the public on the internet, including such information as well logs, answers to common questions on Utah minerals and geology, interactive maps about GeoSights, and Utah energy statistics. The link to the UGS Web site is:

<http://geology.utah.gov>

“We hope that this type of information is useful to miners, regulators, researchers, history buffs, and anyone interested in the geology and mining history of Utah,” said UGS Director Rick Allis.

The Utah Geological Survey is an applied scientific agency that creates, interprets, and provides information about Utah’s geologic environment, resources, and hazards to promote safe, beneficial, and wise use of land.

OGDEN NATURE CENTER EARTH DAY 2007

Saturday, April 21 from 12 noon - 4 pm the Ogden Nature Center will host their annual Earth Day Celebration. The entire community is invited to come learn and play! Earth Day is a day of education, celebration and action for the world in which we live. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and the community, admission to the event is just \$1/person, and those who ride the bus, bike, or walk will receive free admission.

Festivities include:

- * Over 30 earth-friendly exhibitors
- * Rock climbing wall
- * Meet birds of prey and other native wildlife
- * Astronomy activities by Ott Planetarium
- * Make-and-take kids crafts



- * Guided nature walks by Jack Rensel
- * Entertainment by local talent
- * Gardening exhibits
- * Learn about recycling, local pathways, renewable energy & composting
- * Navajo tacos, smoothies, Italian ice & drinks

In conjunction with Earth Day, the annual Earth Day Art Poster Contest winners will be announced at 11 a.m. that day. This year's theme is "Take Action." Entries for the contest should be two-dimensional on 9" x 12" paper. Entries are due on April 14. All children in grades k-5 are invited to enter.

This year's Earth Day Celebration is sponsored by Elliot-Hall Company, ATK Launch Systems, Ogden City Arts, Winder Farms & The Standard Examiner.

Earth day will be held rain or shine at the Ogden Nature Center, located at 966 W. 12th Street in Ogden.

For more information or questions contact the Ogden Nature Center at 801-621-7595.