

**WAIVER  
ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

I voluntarily request permission to participate in the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves Summer Paddle event for members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lee County. I certify that my level of physical conditioning is appropriate to complete the event and that there are no known medical reasons why I should not participate. I understand that it is mandatory that I wear a personal flotation device during the paddle. I understand that there are risks inherent in my participation in this event and that injuries including, but not limited to, cuts, abrasions, broken bones, quadriplegia, and even death do occasionally occur in events of this type. I recognize that it is my responsibility to follow the rules and instructions set forth by the organizers and officials of the event and that not doing so may increase the chance of injury or drowning occurring.

In consideration of permission to participate in this paddle event, I for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives and assigns do hereby discharge, release and hold harmless the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc., Gulf Coast Kayak, and Island Kayak from all liabilities arising out of or connected in any way with my participation or that of a family member in this event. In addition, I the undersigned parent and/or guardian, hereby give authorization to the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves or any medical health care facility to treat my minor child,

\_\_\_\_\_, as needed for any injury or illness occurring to said minor child. Further, under penalty of perjury, I certify that I am the father/ mother/ guardian of the above named minor. \*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature \* (If under 18 parent/guardian must sign)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**List allergies to insects, plants, or medications:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allergic to insect stings? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
Have needed meds with you? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
Contact Lenses? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
Asthma? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
Any other medical conditions? List Below.

**Friends of the  
Charlotte Harbor  
Aquatic Preserves**

**Presents the Summer 2006**

**Matlacha Pass  
Aquatic Preserve  
Paddle  
for the  
Boys & Girls Clubs  
of Lee County**



**July 9, 2006  
Matlacha, Florida**

## You are invited to join the Friends on a Summer Paddle....

Join the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lee County on a kayak paddle through the quiet backwaters of Matlacha Pass Aquatic Preserve on Sunday, July 9, 2006. The launch site is Gulf Coast Kayak, 4530 Pine Island Road NW, Matlacha.

**For more information, please call 941-575-5861 Ext. 105.**

### Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc.

The Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, Inc., (FCHAP) is a nonprofit Citizen Support Organization that assists the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the management of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and Preserve State Park. It is comprised of a Board of Directors, citizen members, and volunteers who are committed to protecting Charlotte Harbor and the adjacent public lands.

### Estuaries...Cradles of the Ocean

Estuaries occur where freshwater rivers and creeks meet and mix with salty ocean waters. They are Florida's "cradles of the ocean", because more than 95% of commercially and recreationally important fish, crustaceans, and shellfish spend a part of their lives in the protected inshore waters of our bays, harbors, lagoons, and sounds. The shallow waters support mangrove forest, seagrass beds, mud flats, and oyster bars and provide habitat and foraging areas for wading birds, sea turtles, and marine mammals.

### Paddle the Great Calusa Blueway in Matlacha Pass Aquatic Preserve

A part of the Great Calusa Blueway runs through Matlacha Pass Aquatic Preserve. In addition to kayaking open waters, paddlers will explore meandering tidal creeks along the mangrove-forested shoreline. Florida's magnificent wading birds, marine wildlife, and submerged habitats may be observed. FCHAP guides will lead the group north up Matlacha Pass. Paddlers can expect to be back at the dock by 12:00 noon.

### Registration

**Pre-registration is required.** Space in the summer paddle for members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lee County is limited, so register early and **return the blue paddle registration forms to your club's Unit Director on or before July 3.** Water, morning refreshments, and kayak instruction will be provided in addition to life jackets and kayaks. This paddle is being sponsored FREE of charge. Rain date in the event of bad weather cancellation is July 30.

### Location and Launch

The paddle starts between 8:30 and 9:00 am at Gulf Coast Kayak located at 4530 Pine Island Road NW (State Road 78), Matlacha. When driving west into Matlacha, cross the big bridge, go a short distance, and turn north into the entrance of Gulf Coast Kayak on the north side of Pine Island Road. There is a Seafood Market and a small bridge just ahead of the entrance. Drive back to the waterfront area and park there. If you overshoot the entrance, turn around at Matlacha Community Park. **Plan to arrive by 8:15 am in preparation for a 9:00 am launch.**

### Safety

A Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) must be worn while paddling. PFDs will be provided for participants. Water depths range from one to twelve feet. No flip flops or sandals; Wear old tennis shoes. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, a towel, and insect repellent. Wear comfortable clothing that may get wet. You may want to wear a swimsuit underneath shorts and a t-shirt.

### Sponsors

The paddle is sponsored by Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park, the Friends of the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves, the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, Gulf Coast Kayak, and Island Kayak.

### Mission

The Mission of FCHAP is to support the protection, conservation, restoration, management, responsible public use, and the enhancement of the resources of the coastal and aquatic ecosystems of the Charlotte Harbor estuaries including Lemon Bay, Gasparilla Sound/Charlotte Harbor, Cape Haze, Pine Island Sound, and Matlacha Pass.

### Goals

- 1) To increase public awareness through involvement in educational programs, resource-based activities, and special events.
- 2) To develop stewardship for our estuaries and our public lands.
- 3) To improve and restore the natural and cultural resources of the greater Charlotte Harbor estuaries.
- 4) To establish and maintain cooperative efforts with organizations, institutions, and government agencies involved in environmental protection.

### Registration Form

**One person per form. Please print legibly or use an address label. Sign Waiver on the back side.** Clip this portion of the registration form and return to your club's Unit Director. Photocopy if more forms are needed and trim to size. Copy waiver on the back side and sign.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

State & Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Reserve single kayak  
\_\_\_\_Reserve double kayak  
\_\_\_\_Age of participant  
\_\_\_\_Circle PFD size: S M L XL

Note: Assignment to single or double kayaks will be based on the number of paddlers registered, their age, and experience.

The paddle for the Boys & Girls Clubs is a Florida State Parks Get REAL! (Recreational and Environmental Adventures in Learning) program. Get REAL builds on the parks' broad multi-cultural, educational, and recreational programs to enrich learning and integrate the use of state parks with local community programs. Get REAL seeks to increase participation in outdoor recreation and provide opportunities for everyone from school-aged children to seniors.