



Celebrate National Estuaries Days... *Estuaries... beautiful, dynamic and biologically productive bays, harbors and lagoons where freshwater rivers and creeks empty to the sea and mingle with salty ocean tides. The shallow waters support salt marsh, mangroves, and sea grass beds, mudflats and oyster bars, which provide habitat and foraging areas for fish, crabs, shrimp mollusks, dolphins, wading birds, sea turtles and other wildlife. Estuaries also serve as nurseries. More than 95% of Florida's recreationally and commercially important fish, shellfish and crustaceans spend a part of their life cycle in estuaries, the "Cradle of the Ocean".*

Sign up NOW to...

Paddle the Estero River

Saturday, September 30 from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Join The *Estero Bay Buddies* and Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program on the Buddies third annual canoe/kayak paddle on one of three guided trips on the Estero River upstream and downstream from the Estero River Outfitters. Beginner paddlers should arrive by 10:00 for instructions and will canoe/kayak upstream for an hour leaving at 10:30. Intermediate paddlers should arrive by 9:00 and will also canoe/kayak upstream for 1.5 – 2 hours leaving at 9:30. Advanced paddlers should also arrive at 8:00 and will travel downstream to Estero Bay for a four-hour trip leaving at 8:30. Each participant will be asked to sign a waiver before the trip begins.

Registration: There is a \$10per person charge. Call 239/992-4050 by September 29 to register those who will be in your party, kayak or canoe preference and which trip is preferred. Space is limited. Please wear sunscreen, hat and bring water and light snack.

Directions: Estero River Outfitters (20991 South Tamiami Trail) is located 1/4 mile north of Corkscrew Road on U.S. 41 in Estero, Lee County.