

Please find below, Utah State Parks news for June 2:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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stateparks.utah.gov

- Operation Dry Water at Lake Powell
- Register for Utah's Personal Watercraft Course
- State Park Hosts Fishing Contest
- Plant a Tree with Your Computer
- June is Utah Great Outdoors Month

OPERATION DRY WATER AT LAKE POWELL

Page, Arizona— Utah State Parks boating rangers, in partnership with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and U.S. Coast Guard, sponsor a boating under the influence (BUI) checkpoint Saturday, June 27 at Halls Crossing Marina area on Lake Powell. Other local enforcement agencies will be assisting in the efforts.

Operation Dry Water is a coordinated, national weekend of BUI detection and enforcement aimed at reducing the number of alcohol-related accidents and fatalities and fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol use on the water.

Curbing the number of alcohol-related accidents and fatalities is a key to achieving safer and more enjoyable recreational boating. In 2007, U.S. Coast Guard statistics indicate that 21% of all boating fatalities were a result of alcohol use. This continues an upward trend in the percentage of fatalities where alcohol was the primary cause of the accident.

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators is a national nonprofit organization that works to develop public policy for recreational boating safety. NASBLA represents the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and six U.S. territories.

For more information on boating in Utah, visit stateparks.utah.gov or call (801) 538-BOAT. Wear it, Utah!

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REGISTER FOR UTAH'S PERSONAL WATERCRAFT COURSE

Salt Lake City-- As you plan your summer boating trips to one or more of Utah's lakes or reservoirs, Utah's boating officials remind you to include plans for Utah's Personal Watercraft Education Course.

Utahlaw provides the opportunity for youth 12 through 17 to operate a personal watercraft (PWC, i.e. Sea Doo, Jet Ski, and Wave Runner) if they meet the following conditions:

1. Youth 12 through 17 must successfully complete Utah's PWC Education Course and carry their certificate with them whenever they operate.
2. Youth ages 12 through 15, must also operate under the direct supervision of a person who is 18 years of age or older.
3. PWC operators who are less than 18 years of age, who have not met the above requirements, may not operate a PWC unless a person who is at least 18 years old accompanies them on board the PWC.

"Many people call with less than two days before their trip, requesting to get their child into a PWC education class," said Boating Education Specialist Ann Evans. "By planning ahead, they can avoid the disappointment of not finding an available class and enjoy a safe trip."

The course is designed for students to study materials at home, then attend a 1.5-hour class. Course includes instruction and reviewing important Utah boating laws and rules, viewing a PWC safety video, addressing common boating courtesies, identifying buoys and hazards, and passing a written test. Upon completion, PWC operators are better prepared to safely enjoy Utah's waters.

To register and enroll in Utah's PWC Education Course, contact the Utah State Parks and Recreation Boating Hotline at 801-538-BOAT (2628) or 1-800-RIDE-PWC (743-3792) from areas outside of the Salt Lake calling area, or visit stateparks.utah.gov (<http://www.stateparks.utah.gov/>). Utah Boaters... WEAR IT!

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STATE PARK HOSTS FISHING CONTEST

Millsite— Millsite State Park hosts a summer of family fishing fun from June 1 through July 31. The Division of Wildlife Resources is tagging 20 fish worth \$50 each, 10 worth \$100, and two worth \$250. There is no cost to participate, but a valid Utah fishing license is required.

For more information, please call (435) 687-2491.

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PLANT A TREE WITH YOUR COMPUTER

Salt Lake City--Help plant trees in Utah's state parks by visiting <http://www.parkvisitor.com/odwalla/>. Select Utah from the list of states and vote to plant a tree. Odwalla is donating \$100,000 and Utah is one of only 11 states eligible for the funding. Vote today and tell a friend.

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JUNE IS UTAHGREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

Salt Lake City--Governor Jon M. Huntsman has declared June as Utah Great Outdoors Month highlighting Utah's 43 state parks and museums, forests, and other public lands and waterways. Join Utah State Park staff and get outdoors this month:

June 18 - 20 Camp Floyd/Stagecoach Inn State Park Museum - Fairfield

History Camp for Kids: Experience how soldiers lived at Camp Floyd in 1861, and how the Utah War served pre-Civil War objectives. Campers meet costumed interpreters, play 19th century games, drill, march, and set up a soldier's camp, fire an 1860s period firearm, and make soldier crafts. Other activities include conducting a full-scale military exercise; and observing muskets and firing a cannon. Participants receive a 2009 history camp t-shirt, Union or Confederate cap, replica rifle, canteen, haversack, harmonica and more. This program is designed for boys and girls ages eight to 11. Each camp is limited to 24 participants and runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Reservations and \$75 camp fee are required. (801) 768-8932.

June 18 - 21 Fremont Indian State Park and Museum - Sevier

Advanced Pottery Workshop: Designed for people with some experience in pottery, this workshop helps participants develop their skills in traditional American Indian pottery. Workshop includes instruction on collecting and processing native clay and hand-building pottery using traditional tools. Registration and workshop fee required. (435) 527-4631

June 20 Rock Cliff Nature Center/Jordanelle State Park - Francis

Junior Ranger Program- Geology Rocks: Children six to 10 are invited to learn about rocks and make a pet rock to take home. Program begins at 11 a.m. at the Nature Center. Children earn a badge and certificate. Rock Cliff is located on the east side of the reservoir. (435) 782-3030

June 20 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Junior Ranger Program- Slithering Snakes: What snakes are poisonous? What do they eat, where do they live? Join the park naturalist at 1 p.m. at the campground office to learn more about these creatures. Program is geared toward children six to 12, but everyone is invited to attend. (435) 654-1791

June 20 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Evening Program: Join local historian Jerry Springer for a slideshow on the development of Wasatch Mountain State Park at 9 p.m. at the campground amphitheater. (435) 654-1791

June 20 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Star Party: Join Ogden Astronomical Society and Weber State University for an evening under the stars. Participants can expect to enjoy beautiful celestial views (weather permitting), and stellar conversation with local astronomers. Meet at White Rock Bay at 9 p.m. If you bring a flashlight, please make it a red-colored lens. (801) 721-9569

June 20 Hyrum State Park - Hyrum

Evening Program: Join staff from the Golden Spike National Historic Site at 7 p.m. for a presentation on the transcontinental railroad and how it joined our nation from east to west. Admission is free. (435) 245-6866

June 27 Palisade State Park - Sterling

Happy Campers! Bring your family for a campout and cookout at Palisade State Park near Manti. Learn how to use basic camping and outdoor cooking equipment from the experts. While you're there, play the 18-hole golf course or paddle on beautiful Palisade Reservoir. Equipment, instruction, day-use entrance fees and a fun outdoor gift are all included in the price of \$10 per group with up to eight people. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Please email rockin@utah.gov or call (801) 537-3123.

June 27 Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum - Vernal Prehistory Hunt: Search for fossils ...Jurassic Park style! Join park staff and collect fossils from the Green River Formation, formed by ancient Lake Uinta over 47 million years ago. Most fossils collected are leaves, although insects, twigs, buds, flowers and pods are also found. Be prepared for hot or inclement weather. Hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, water, snacks and sturdy shoes are required, and long, light colored pants are recommended. Equipment, instruction, day-use entrance fees and a fun outdoor gift are all included in the price of \$10 per group with up to eight people. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Please email rockin@utah.gov or call (801) 537-3123.

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