



## What Does the Missouri River Mean to You?

Hello,

June is **National Rivers Month**, and Friends of the MNRR is celebrating by highlighting the people, partners, and local businesses who care about the Missouri River!

Throughout June, we will be featuring these folks on our social media and website, sharing their reflections about what the river means to them.

What does the Missouri River Mean to You?

**NATIONAL RIVERS MONTH**

You can be featured too! Click the link above and share what the Missouri River means to YOU.

Stay tuned for our the National Rivers Month features on Facebook, Instagram, and fomnrr.org.



## What's Been Happening On The River?



### 20th Missouri River Cleanup: Continuing Two Decades of Stewardship

On May 2nd, 41 fantastic volunteers joined **MNRR** and **Friends of the MNRR** for the 20th Missouri River Cleanup!

Folks braved a chilly morning and came together to pick up litter and debris from islands, shorelines, and parks along the river near Yankton.

There were lots of strange trash finds. Volunteers also spotted a bison skull on one of the cleanup sites (and left it behind, always Leave No Trace!)



Altogether, it was a fun, productive, and meaningful day to spend taking care of our river!

Check out the link below for our cleanup totals!

[Read More about the Cleanup](#)



Thank you to the Benedictine Sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery for generously supporting the volunteer breakfast and lunch!

Thank you to KYNT, WNAX, KVHT, and Yankton P&D for helping us to promote the cleanup!



## Missouri River Speed Record: An Adventure for the Record Books



Paddling 2,341 miles with 4 guys in one canoe is not for the faint of heart.

On May 7th, the 4 paddlers attempting to break the world record for fastest paddle on the ENTIRE Missouri River showed why.

They shared about their history as paddlers, the current world record on the Missouri set in 1980, their canoe, their 30-person support crew, and more!



The amount of training, teamwork, planning, and endurance this takes is immense. It was eye-opening to learn about it.

We are incredibly excited to cheer this team on as they embark on their world record attempt **on June 23rd.**



[Read More about the Missouri River Speed Record](#)

[Check out the new trailer for their documentary!](#)



Thank you to the SD Canoe and Kayak Association for hosting the paddlers.

Thank you to City of Yankton and Yankton Area Arts for their support with our venue.

## National Safe Boating Week

May 16-22nd was **National Safe Boating Week**. A critical reminder that a safe day on the water is a great day on the water!

### Boating Safety Tips:

1. Always wear a Life Jacket
2. An Engine Cut-off Switch matters - use it
3. File a Float Plan - let a trusted contact know when and where you are boating
4. Never boat under the influence
5. Prepare for the unexpected
6. Take a Safe Boating Course
7. Always pay attention



[Learn More](#)

## Southeast South Dakota Tourism Summit

On May 12th, FOMNRR Executive Director, Caroline Ver Mulm, and new board member Hanna DeLange spent the day in Mitchell, SD (at the World's Only Corn Palace!) for the SE SD Tourism Summit. Learned lots about tourism growth in SD and saw lots of corn!



## Upcoming Programs & Events in June

### Special Events



#### **Paddle with a Purpose**

June 6, 8am-12pm | Lake Yankton to Riverside Park in Yankton, SD

Join MNRR for a guided kayak float AND litter cleanup! Celebrate **National Trails Day** by exploring and cleaning up the **Missouri River Water Trail**.

Registration is required and caps at 10 volunteers! Call 605-665-0209x21

[Learn More](#)



#### **Homestead Day**

June 13, 10am-1pm | Pierson Ranch Recreation Area near Yankton, SD

Come experience pioneer life with games, crafts, hands-on activities, and much more! A **Birds of Prey program** presented by Fontenelle Forest will run from 11am-1pm.

SD GFP entrance fees will be waived for the first 100 attendees.

[Learn More](#)



## 605 Unity JAM

June 14, 10am-8pm | Wagner Lake in Wagner, SD

The 605 Unity Jam is a Jamboree of Art, Food, & Music! The goal is to bring cultures together at an event where everyone is welcome!

Activities include: Live Music, Buffalo Art, Arts and Craft Vendors, Youth Powwow, Dance Demonstrations, Youth Fishing Derby, Blindfold Canoe Races, and more!

[Learn More](#)



## River Honoring Ceremony

June 14, 5-9PM | Clay County Park near Vermillion, SD

Come celebrate and honor the Mighty MO. Community potluck dinner begins at 5, followed by 2 speakers from the local Native community, and then 2 local bands.

Kids activities include the MNRR Mobile Ranger Station and Exquisite Cloud's Kids Art.

[Learn More](#)

---

## Weekly National Park Service Programs

- All programs are FREE to attend with equipment and supplies provided.
- Registration is required for kayak clinics and river floats. See details below.

### Kayak Clinics and River Floats

- June 10 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD
- June 20 | 8:30 AM–12 PM — **River Float with MNRR & Ponca State Park\*\*** at Ponca State Park in Ponca, NE
- June 21 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD
- June 24 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD
- June 28 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD

\*Registration required: Call NPS/MNRR at 605-665-0209x21

\*\*Registration required: Call Ponca State Park at 402-755-2284

### Youth Programs

- June 12 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Freedom 250 Friday** at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Building in Yankton, SD
- June 19 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Freedom 250 Friday** at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Building in Yankton, SD
- June 26 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Freedom 250 Friday** at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Building in Yankton, SD

### Fishing Clinics

- June 20 | 9:30–11:30 AM — **Fishing Clinic** at Chief White Crane Recreation Area in Yankton, SD
- June 27 | 9:30–11:30 AM — **Fishing Clinic** at Chief White Crane Recreation Area in Yankton, SD

[View the Full Events Calendar](#)

---

## A Sneak Peak at early July

- July 3 | 8 AM–12 PM — **Paddle with a Purpose\*** from Lake Yankton to Riverside Park in Yankton, SD
- July 3 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Freedom 250 Friday** at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Building in Yankton, SD
- July 5 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD
- July 8 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD
- July 10 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Freedom 250 Friday** at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Building in Yankton, SD
- July 12 | 9 AM–12 PM — **Kayak Clinic\*** at Lake Yankton in Yankton, SD

\*Registration required: Call NPS/MNRR at 605-665-0209x21



Follow MNRR on social media to learn more about upcoming park programs!

**Becoming a Member of FOMNRR** helps sustain and expand our work.

With your support...

- We can help more youth understand and appreciate the river and its resources
- We can organize more efforts to keep the river clean
- We can promote opportunities for visitors and locals to experience all the Missouri River has to offer

**Become a Member Today**

[About FOMNRR](#)

[Support Your River](#)

[Our Work](#)

[News](#)

[Resources](#)



PO Box 7029  
Yankton, SD 57078  
[info@fomnrr.org](mailto:info@fomnrr.org)



Friends of the Missouri National Recreational River | PO Box 7029 | Yankton, SD 57078 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!