

WATER SEEKER ADVENTURE SERIES

Warm weather brings warm water. This month we are featuring water recreation for our Water Seeker Adventure Series.

WEEK 1

LEARN!

Have you ever thought about getting in a kayak on the water? Many may have but do not know where to start. [Here are 12 Reasons To Start Paddling](#)

CONNECT!

Looking to get out on the water in a canoe or kayak at a nearby park? [Bladensburg Waterfront Park](#) located on the historic Anacostia River, is just seven miles from Greenbelt. Please make sure the rental office is open before heading off to Bladensburg for a water based adventure. If you're interested in traveling west to get on the Colorado River, or just appreciate the unique bond between a father and a son, check out this short film, winner of the Most Inspirational Film award at the 2015 5Point Film Festival [The Important Places](#) by Forest Woodward & Brendan Leonard.

PLAY!



[Print and color this dog in a kayak!](#)

WEEK 2

LEARN!

BOATING SAFETY.

Recreational boating is about having an enjoyable time while you're on the water. And it's always fun and games until someone gets hurt or has a bad experience. No matter what kind of boating activity you participate in, these five "golden rules" will go a long way toward ensuring that your trips on the water end safely.



READ!

[Boating Safety's Five Golden Rules](#)



CONNECT!

Paddle at Buddy Attick Lake! Canoes and kayaks, allowed with permit. Permits are issued from the Police Department, Monday –

Friday 9am-4:30pm, \$3, must be a City of Greenbelt resident. No swimming in the lake. No motorized boats or rafts.

PLAY!

Boat Often, Boat Safe!

WEEK 3

LEARN!

Let's talk Personal Flotation Devices or PFDs. Choosing a life jacket that fits well for all-day wearing comfort is one of the most important water safety decisions you make. Learn [HOW TO FIT A LIFE JACKET](#) in this video. Most likely, the best life jacket is the one you're wearing when you need it. Here are the [ABCs of PFDs](#)

CONNECT!

Did you know? Your dog can wear a life jacket too! Even as a strong swimmer in flat water your pup could enjoy plenty of long fetches with the aid of their own special [Dog Life Jacket](#).

PLAY! Local favorites for water dogs. (Plan Ahead! Check hours of operation, pricing, and weather before heading out!)

Greenbelt Annual Pooch Plunge

[Downs Park Dog Beach](#)

[Quiet Waters Dog Beach](#)

WEEK 4

LEARN!



This week during our Water Seeker Series, we're learning about Stand up paddle boarding (SUP). SUP offers a fun way to play on the water, with the added benefit of a full-body workout. And, since you stand at full height on your board, it gives you a unique vantage point for viewing what's down under the water and out on the horizon. If you've ever wanted to try, this [SUP Basics](#) article from REI is a great place to start.

CONNECT!

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The American Canoe Association (ACA) website is a great resource for finding water trails throughout the US. You can plan a trip today or just [Explore Water Trails](#) near you!

PLAY!

Ready to give SUP a go? Many family friendly Classes & Events are available in the area!

[REI SUP Classes & Events](#)

[Capital SUP](#) in Annapolis offers rentals, lessons, and classes

[Bladensburg Water Park](#) is a short drive from Greenbelt

[Annapolis Canoe and Kayak \(ACK\)](#) will have you ready to SUP in no time

Share your photos with us. #GreenbeltRecreation +
#GreenbeltWaterSeekers

WEEK 5

Questions about inflatable water crafts have been "popping up" (pun intended), so for our last week of the Water Seeker Series we will venture into inflatable kayaks!

LEARN!

Inflatable kayaks definitely have their advantages.

STORAGE – Requires much less space than a hardshell boat, and easier to get through tight spaces in a minimal home.

TRANSPORTATION – If a roof rack for your vehicle isn't an option, most inflatable kayaks can get stowed away in a trunk. They're also generally lighter to carry – some even come equipped with their own storage bag that can be carried like a backpack!

COST – An inflatable kayak is lower in price compared to a hardshell boat.

If you've decided an inflatable kayak is most suitable for your watercraft recreation needs, there are a wide range of options. The key is in the quality of the inflatable. You can read more about advancements in materials, design and manufacturing since 1983 in this [Inflatable Boat & SUP Guide](#) article.

CONNECT!

Get ready for Park and Recreation Month! Along with the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) we will celebrate Park and Recreation Month all throughout July!



Check back on the VRC this week for more announcements and fun. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#)

PLAY!

Happy Independence Day America!