

KDor's Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Who is putting this on? Friends of the Locust Fork River (FLFR) organizes this event with the vital help of partners such as Alabama Rivers Alliance, Alabama State Parks, Alabama Wildlife Center, Birmingham Canoe Club, Blount County Extension Service, Cahaba Environmental Center, McDowell Environmental Center, and local environmental educators.
2. How will this be organized? After checking in at the site, 10 to 12 children and their parents will gather in a group lead by a shepherd (adult volunteer and guide). Each group will attend 6 activity stations throughout the day.
3. What will my kids do? Visit 6 activity stations where they will learn by doing something or experiencing nature in an active way such as building a watershed, finding tiny life forms in the river, safely handling reptiles, and learning basic canoe safety with the opportunity to paddle a canoe on their own.
4. What age children should participate? Activities are designed with consideration of the Alabama school science curriculum and aimed at children in grades 2 through 6.
5. What if I have a child with special needs? Please email I KidsDayontheRiver@gmail.com and someone will contact you.
6. We want to come as a family. What about our younger children? This IS a family event. Although the activities are geared toward children in the 2nd to 6th grade, younger and older children may still enjoy the activities. The accompanying adults seem to have a pretty good time also.
7. What about our teens? Teens ages 14-15 may participate in our activities or be a volunteer. Teens 16 and older may prefer to be helpers in one of the stations. Send us an email if a teen wants to volunteer: KidsDayontheRiver@gmail.com
8. Can we drop off our kids and leave? No! Parents or scout leaders must stay. Your child will not be able to participate without you. An adult must be responsible for every child attending.
9. What's the parents' role in this? Parents will travel in the group and learn along with the children. Parents must keep any children below age 4 with them at all times as there will not be activities for this age group. Although we make provisions to monitor the

water and rocks for safety, parents and scout leaders are ultimately responsible for keeping up with all the children they bring, and for maintaining discipline.

10. Can we just drop-in at any time during the day? No. This is an all day event and families who arrive after 9:00 am will not be able to participate.

11. When should we arrive and when will it be over? Plan to arrive by 8:30 am. The program will start promptly at 9:00am. Kids' Day on the River ends at 3:00 pm.

12. Why can't we just register at the event? In order to have enough food and volunteers, we need to know the number of people coming, and how many children and how many adults.

13. Is there a cost? No, Kids' Day on the River is a gift to the children of Blount County by the Friends of the Locust Fork River and all its partners. It's all FREE, lunch included.

14. What should my children wear? Old clothes, or a bathing-suit under their shorts, and hats and shoes that can get wet and very dirty. Shoes that protect feet while being in the water and on rocks are important. Bring a towel and a set of dry clothes to change into at the end of the day.

15. What about lunch and water? A simple lunch of hot dogs, slaw, potato salad, water and dessert will be available for all, including parents and volunteers. There is also a vegetarian option. Children and parents will be encouraged to stay with their groups during lunch. Drinking water is available all day. Feel free to bring a reusable water bottle with you and refill as needed from our water coolers!

16. What about safety and first aid? We do everything possible to keep the children safe. Should there be a scratch or bump, please see the nurse at Central Station. Parents or scout leaders are ultimately responsible for keeping up with the children they bring & adults should not allow them to run around on the rocks recklessly.

17. Can we bring our dog and hand-held electronic games? No dogs or pets! Absolutely no cell phones or electronics with the children. Of course adults may bring cell phones for emergencies.

18. What else should we bring? Non-aerosol bug repellent and sunscreen. A hat and a comfy folding chair for the adults in your family may be a good idea too!

19. Do I need to bring any money? No money is necessary. However, you may

want to bring cash or a check to purchase t-shirts, hats or drink koozies, or even make a contribution to 'Friends of the Locust Fork River'.

20. Can parents or scout leaders also volunteer? YES. We always need more volunteers. Email KidsDayontheRiver@gmail.com or check in at the registration table to let them know you are available during some part of the day to volunteer.

21. What if the weather is bad? Should the event need to be cancelled due to bad weather, this will be posted on our website as soon as the decision is made. The event will occur with light rain. Please check online if you are unsure.

22. Is smoking allowed? No. Give your lungs a day off. Thank you for your consideration.

23. What if I have a different question? Please send any and all other questions to kidsdayontheriver@gmail.com.

24. Please please send us an email if you need to cancel!
KidsDayontheRiver@gmail.com