



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Please observe the speed limit on the access road and in camp.
2. Please park in the DESIGNATED parking areas only.
3. Dogs are not allowed at the Maine Canoe Symposium (MCS).
4. Smoking is prohibited at the University of Maine 4-H Camps & Learning Center at Bryant Pond.
5. Drinking water and bathrooms are available. See map for location of women's and men's bathrooms.
6. Parents are responsible for the safety of their children. Parents/guardians must review & sign "Maine Canoe Symposium Waiver & Health History" prior to participation in MCS and/or MCS Children's Program.
7. Do not use private canoes without permission from the owner. Please ask if you are unsure.
8. You are encouraged to bring your own canoe, PFD (Personal Flotation Device), paddle, and/or pole to the Symposium, including youth PFDs for your child/ren. **PFDs must be worn at all times while in any watercraft.** Bryant Pond has PFDs if you do not have your own.
9. Bring appropriate clothing and gear for Maine in June. If it rains, the Symposium just keeps going. Make sure you and your child/ren are comfortable in any weather.
10. Signup sheets for on-water workshops will be available from 7:00- 8:30 am; participation is limited based on safety and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
11. Some workshops may require that you bring special equipment, such as a yoga mat, towel, camera, mobile device—please check the workshop descriptions and prepare accordingly.
12. Swim only in designated swim areas and during designated swim times. Bryant Pond lifeguards will be on duty at designated times. Swimming is otherwise prohibited.
13. It is tick season in Maine. Prior to departure and then again before retiring for the evening, complete a thorough tick check for all MCS participants. For guidance on how to complete a successful tick check, please visit the Maine Centers for Disease Control at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/>.

### MCS Mission Statement

Established in 1986, the Maine Canoe Symposium is a volunteer-run, non-profit, weekend event. The Symposium encourages participants of all ages to develop an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of North American canoeing heritage and to develop canoeing and related skills through educational workshops, presentations, and hands-on instruction.

**Maine Canoe Symposium at the University of  
Maine 4-H Camp & Learning Center  
Participant Agreement and Liability Release Form**



In consideration of the services of the Maine Canoe Symposium at The University of Maine 4-H Camps & Learning Center at Bryant Pond, ("MCS"), on behalf of myself and any child(ren) in my care, I agree as follows:

1. I understand it is my responsibility to determine if I am (or any child in my care is) capable of participating in the activities safely. I certify that I have (and any child in my care has) no medical condition or restriction that prevents us from safely participating in this program.
2. On behalf of myself and any children in my care, I give MCS permission to give or secure emergency care or other treatment that may become necessary if I or a parent cannot be reached in a timely way and agree to pay for such care. I authorize the release of medical information to rescue or medical personnel.
3. I acknowledge that instructors cannot pay continuous attention to everyone and cannot be responsible for participants' safety at all times. I understand I (or a child in my care) share(s) responsibility for my (or his/her) safety. I (or a child in my care) will report to the instructors any injuries or any unsafe or dangerous situations. I also understand that MCS is not responsible for weather, terrain, wildlife, or equipment failure and that they may cause or contribute to an injury or property damage. If I (or a child in my care) elect(s) to not complete the program, I understand that the person(s) will be unsupervised and MCS cannot be responsible for their safety. MCS is not responsible for participants during free time or during activities that are not run by MCS.
4. I acknowledge that participation in MCS programs involves known and unanticipated risks, which could lead to physical injury, paralysis, death, or damage to the participants and property. The inherent risks of the program include (but are not limited to): dehydration, muscle strains or sprains, crashes or collisions with objects or other people, concussions, bone breaks, abrasions, cuts, blisters, burns, exposure to biting insects and the infectious diseases they or other people may carry, exposure to poisonous plants, drowning, sunburn, frostbite, other heat and/or cold related illnesses, cardiac arrest, eye and ear injuries, trips and falls, and instructor misjudgment or other human error. I understand MCS does not seek to eliminate all the risks of my activities because some are part of adventurous sports. **I agree to assume the inherent risks and all other risks of the activities.**
5. **I agree, to the fullest extent allowed by law, to release, discharge, and indemnify (meaning to pay or reimburse MCS for any money it is required to pay, including attorneys' fees and costs) MCS from any and all claims or liabilities brought by me, my children, or any children in my care, arising from or connected with our participation in the program as well as any and all claims or liabilities arising from or connected with our use of any equipment, the use of any third party vendors, or our presence on MCS's premises, or on any property owned by others where MCS programs' activities are conducted. This release and indemnity include any claims arising during free time and any claims for negligence, breach of contract, wrongful death, or any other type of suit but not gross negligence. The indemnity includes any claims brought by other parties based on my acts/omissions or those of children in my care.**
6. **I do \_\_\_ or I do not \_\_\_** consent, and consent on behalf of any children in my care, to be photographed/filmed while participating in this program and for MCS to use any such films, photographs, testimonials, likenesses, or photos I provide for any purpose, including training, advertising, catalogs, displays, media publications including newspapers and magazines, and social media without compensation or prior approval.
7. Any portion of this document deemed unlawful or unenforceable is severable and may be stricken. The remaining provisions will remain in effect.

**Maine Canoe Symposium at the University of  
Maine 4-H Camp & Learning Center  
Participant Agreement and Liability Release Form  
(continued)**

8. I understand that I am completely responsible for any and all personal equipment that I (or the children in my care) bring on this program or any equipment I use, the damage or theft of it, any personal damage it may cause me, the children in my care, or others and any damage to other property owned by myself or others.

**I have read, understand, and agree to the above terms and warnings. I agree for myself and any children in my care, to be bound by these terms and understand they apply to each of our heirs, insurers, successors, and assigns.**

**If participant is under the age of 18 at the time this document is signed, a parent or responsible adult must sign the release for any participating minor and agree that they and the minor are subject to all the terms of this document, as set forth above.**

Participant Signature	Date
Printed name of minor participant	Printed name of minor participant