

Enriched Learning Center: One Day Family Rafting

The Pontook Dam Section of the Androscoggin River is an exciting Class II-III section of whitewater that is dam released Friday, Saturday, and Sunday all summer. It is an appropriate trip for families with younger kids, and groups and organizations looking for adventure but not the “extreme.” The guides work hard to tailor the trip to each guest’s expectations, and we can adjust the ride from “mild” to “wild” depending on the comfort level of each boats crew. The guides will share stories about the Androscoggin and its rich natural and human history, ranging from the great timber drives, and the osprey or bald eagles which we may encounter.

Each trip will begin with an orientation to rafting, a safety talk, a warm-up on water, and then the trip down river. We run the river twice, with a break for snack and water between the two laps. The trip concludes with a picnic lunch and refreshments at the takeout.

Guests meet the guides at **9:15 am** at the Boffinger Conservation Area along Route 16. After a brief orientation, changing, and loading into ELC vans we will depart on the short shuttle to the put-in at the Pontook Dam.

Guests will be in the middle of the safety talk and orientation as the horn sounds at the Pontook Dam, letting us know that the dam is releasing water. As the river fills up, we will ready our crews and gear for the trip.

With the first run finished, the crews grab a snack and drink while the guides load the rafts for a second run. Now that the crews have some experience, the guides can “spice things up” for crews that want to take it to the next level.

Guests will be able to change into dry clothes while the guides prepare a picnic lunch, with vegetarian options, and hot or cool drinks depending on the weather. It is a great time to relive the day, take pictures, and wrap up the experience.

Custom afternoon runs: meet the guides at 12:30 at the Boffinger Conservation Area.

Please note: No previous whitewater experience is needed to enjoy this trip. Guides, rafts, lifejackets, helmets, etc. are provided. We will make every attempt to honor specific dietary considerations or customize your trip to best suit your needs. Age requirement is six years old and up.

Available Dates: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday all summer long.

Fees: **Adults \$59, Youth \$45;** Transportation from your accommodations may be arranged, call for rates and schedule.

Call for group discounts!