

# RUTABAGA OUTDOOR PROGRAMS



## Do you have the skills to get you where you want to go?

Whether you want to kayak the Apostle Islands, canoe the Boundary Waters, or stand-up paddle at the family cabin, Rutabaga Outdoor Programs will help you get there.

For a small investment of time and money, quality instruction pays dividends for the rest of your paddling life, no matter where you're at in your journey. You'll learn techniques to be more in control of your craft. You'll gain confidence and efficiency. You'll be better able to manage risk. You'll learn how to avoid putting undue stress on your body. And, you'll have a good time!

Whatever your skill level, whatever your reasons, take a class with Rutabaga Outdoor Programs. We want to get you out and exploring and enjoying your waterways.

See you out there!

## Why take a class with Rutabaga?

Here's what some of our students had to say...

### Best. Instructors. Anywhere.

*"The instructor was delightful! Great, patient, and personable, with comprehensive knowledge of kayaking."*

*"I really enjoyed the instructor's encouragement and demonstrations. She blended us into a team. The focus and sense of fun made for an excellent course!"*

### Relaxed vibe.

*"Fun, non-threatening, non-judgmental learning environment. Thank you!"*

*"Relaxed atmosphere, simple instructions, lots of time to practice. Great time and I learned a lot!"*

### Small classes.

*"The small class size allowed for lots of individual attention. Very helpful one-on-one feedback when needed."*

### Risk management.

*"Great coverage of safety protocol. The instructor made me feel comfortable and unafraid. A great program!"*

### Great value.

*"Instruction was amazing - worth the trip from Stevens Point and more!"*

### Classes are FUN!

*"Loved the camaraderie, having new experiences, and learning lifelong skills. Fun!"*



I love that our classes help people enjoy and appreciate being active outdoors. A big part of Rutabaga's mission is to connect people to their environment. We love helping paddlers of all ages get out on the water and experience the wonders of our lakes and rivers. Our hope is that being on the water and in nature will help people develop an awareness of the importance of our environment and its protection for future generations.



As the youth programs coordinator I love being able to get the next generation out paddling. I truly believe that introducing young people to physical activity, the outdoors, and water safety skills early on is really important, and that's what we do! Whether a student is really excited or somewhat hesitant about paddling, it's really cool that our kids camps and group programs provide opportunities for so many young people to grow in new ways.



## Getting Started

*“Outstanding! Feel much more comfortable paddling. Clear instruction on all the basics and learning the proper techniques. Loved it!”*

## Canoeing Classes

Whether you're interested in **Solo Canoeing** or **Tandem Canoeing**, we have the class for you! Learn efficient paddling strokes, maneuvers, and safety protocol to better enjoy your time on the water!



## Stand-Up Paddling Classes

Learn to SUP! Stand-up paddling is fun, a great workout, and easy to do. Learn about board types, basic strokes, proper technique, and board recovery in our **SUP Basics** class.



*“The course was great and the instructor was very patient. I learned a lot. I was very nervous and now I’m excited! Thank you.”*



## Kayaking Classes

Take a **Recreational Kayak** class and learn how these stable boats are easy for anyone to enjoy. Or, if you are looking for a bit more technical skill and safety protocol, sign up for a **Sea Kayak** class. Both are great for beginners or those wanting to improve their skills. We also offer **Kayak Rolling** in the warmth of an indoor pool, and new this year, a session on **Greenland Rolling**!



## 15% OFF Canoecopia Special\*

Purchase your class (or two, or even three) at Canoecopia and receive a 15% show discount.

*\* does not apply to Wilderness First Aid, ACA Instructor Certification courses, private lessons, or the Door County Sea Kayak Symposium*

## RUTABAGA'S COMMITMENT TO KIDS

Rutabaga's Josh Kestelman Scholarship fund is a central part of our ongoing commitment to make paddling accessible to all. Each year Rutabaga partners with community groups to get local youth out on the water. The money in the scholarship fund goes directly to support community youth programs and individual families, covering up to half their costs. We really appreciate members of our community and paddlers from near and far who have contributed to this effort. Every donation, large or small, is a chance for more kids to get out on the water.

Help support this program at Canoecopia by purchasing our popular Jolly 'Baga stickers or by donating at the registers. Thank you! —Amelia Musser

## Campers Overcome Fear and Have Fun

It's been a busy summer of canoeing and swimming for Lussier Community Education Center (LCEC) campers - those who love the water, and even those who think they don't. This is Maya's story about the real-life impact of adventuring with Rutabaga...

It's a warm July day, and LCEC summer campers climb into canoes, ready to head down the Yahara River. Everyone is excited...well, not everyone. Fear of the water is real and heavy for some of the children...and none more than Maya.

She cries for five minutes before agreeing to get in the canoe. Apprehensively, she sits down. After a short paddle, the group stops for a swim, and kids clamber overboard.

Not Maya. She sits rigid and refuses. No one pushes her. She watches the fun. A few minutes later she sticks one toe in the water. Minutes later one wet toe turns into a foot. Still later it's a leg. And then she's in!

As she frolics with friends, staff members celebrate. Maya is not only overcoming her fear of water, she's also getting to experience a rare moment of the unburdened joy of just being a kid. And when it's time to head back to Rutabaga, who do you think is the last one back in a canoe? Maya!

This extraordinary day was made possible by the enthusiastic staff of Rutabaga Paddlesports, owned and operated by canoers and kayakers. Here's a big thanks for years of partnership to get kids on the water - and years of adventure yet to come.

—Claire Baker, LCEC Afterschool Teacher and Development Assistant

**Enjoy Madison's Waterways this Summer!**  
**Rent a canoe, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard from**  
**Rutabaga Paddlesports.**



[www.rutabaga.com/rentals](http://www.rutabaga.com/rentals)

### Two locations:

Rutabaga Paddlesports - 220 W Broadway, Monona WI  
Olbrich Park - 3527 Atwood Ave, Madison WI





## Get Out and Paddle

Explore Wisconsin with us!



### Evening Paddles

A relaxed, no-pressure 2-hour evening paddle is a great way to relax after the work day is done. Bring your friends and make some new ones as we explore waterways near Rutabaga!

### Full Moon Paddles

Paddling “by the light of the silvery moon” is a magical experience. We’ll paddle away before dark and enjoy dusk and darkness on the water. Don’t forget to bring a light!



### Day Trips

Once you have a few basic skills, put them to use on a day trip! Enjoy the beauty of Southern Wisconsin’s rivers and lakes as you spend the day with folks who love the water as much as you do.

*“Very informative and instructional. Nice pace. I enjoyed learning things I thought I already knew. This was a lot of fun and no matter what the experience it was not intimidating at all. So much fun!!!”*

## Private Lessons

Focus on your specific needs



Do you have specific skills you want to hone and refine? Or are you a little apprehensive about getting started as a paddler? Or maybe our schedule just doesn’t match yours. A private lesson with Rutabaga Outdoor Programs is an effective way to learn what you want to learn at a time that is convenient for you. Email [classes@rutabaga.com](mailto:classes@rutabaga.com) to schedule a lesson! Please give us at least a week of lead time so we’re sure to be able to meet your request.

## Corporate Outings & Group Courses



Monona State Bank Lake Clean-up

Spice up a company outing, host a family reunion or get together with some friends to try something new. Being out on the water together is an awesome way to spend time together! Whatever your need, let us create an adventure for you! E-mail us at [classes@rutabaga.com](mailto:classes@rutabaga.com).

*“Great course to prep for my September trip!”*

# RUTABAGA OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

## Help Kids Enjoy Paddling

Rutabaga keeps the next generation paddling.

*"I loved the kayaking, all the games we played, seeing the capitol, and the instructors were really NICE! :)"*



## Youth Camps

Our youth programs encourage kids to learn new skills, make new friends, and explore Madison's lakes and rivers - plus have a ton of fun! We offer canoeing, kayaking, and stand-up paddling camps for kids entering 3rd to 8th grade.



Rutabaga's 2017 Youth Staff

## Junior Leadership Development Program

Have a positive influence on young people and enjoy a fun and rewarding summer as a Junior Leader. No previous leadership or paddling experience is required. For teens entering 9th-12th grade. Contact Amelia to apply - [ameliam@rutabaga.com](mailto:ameliam@rutabaga.com).

*"Another program very well done. We were so pleased with your instructors and the programming, along with our destinations on the trips. These programs are great for our kids."*

*- Aldo Leopold Nature Center*

## Community Organizations, Scouts, School Groups, Birthday Parties

Paddling can add a whole new level of excitement and team building to your organization's spring, summer, or fall schedule. Let us create a unique and memorable experience for your group! Email [ameliam@rutabaga.com](mailto:ameliam@rutabaga.com).



Madison College Rec Management Class

## Family Classes

Paddling is a great way to create family memories and is a lifetime activity that everyone can enjoy together. We offer family canoe, kayak, and SUP classes for adults with kids 6 years and older.



Lussier Community Education Center

## Josh Kestelman Scholarship Fund

Rutabaga provides scholarships to help youth community agencies and individual kids attend our summer programs. Call us for details or to make a contribution. You can also donate at the Canoeopia registers!



## Paddling & Safety Certifications

### American Canoe Association (ACA) Instructor Certification

Share your passion for paddling with others by becoming an American Canoe Association instructor! In these certification courses you'll learn and demonstrate effective teaching strategies, safety and rescue techniques, and group management skills. You love to paddle - so help grow the sport by helping other paddlers develop the basic skills they need to be safe on the water!



Ivan Bartha

### Level 1-2 Essentials of River Canoeing ICW June 29-July 1, 2018

This certification is geared toward helping your students learn about river hazards and features, stressing strokes and basic skills such as catching a large eddy or doing a gentle ferry. Ivan Bartha, Instructor Trainer.

### Level 1-2 Essentials of Kayak Touring ICW June 15-17, 2018

This course works on teaching introductory kayak skills in a variety of kayaks (sea, river, recreational, sit-on-top) in a protected and calm water location. John Browning, Instructor Trainer.



John Browning



Trey Rouss

### Level 1-2 Essentials of Stand Up Paddleboarding ICW June 22-24, 2018

This course will help you teach about the differences between boards, how to launch and land in different situations, and how to maximize your stroke efficiency. Trey Rouss, Instructor Trainer.

### Why I Take Certification Courses (even though I'm not an Instructor)

I'm just an everyday, ordinary uncle. I have taken numerous certification courses even though I'll never have a job that requires them. Well... except for trying to keep my nieces and nephews as safe as I can. Advanced certification courses help me predict what could go wrong and act in a timely manner. And, if things do go wrong, I'm ready. That peace of mind alone is worth it, both for me and their parents. -Jim P

### Wilderness First Aid May 5-6, 2018

If you spend time in the backcountry, it's important to be prepared for the unexpected. This fun, hands-on NOLS course will help you be more confident in providing effective first aid treatment for injuries and illnesses common in the outdoors, managing environmental emergencies, and making appropriate evacuation decisions. Upon successful course completion students will earn NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications: *Wilderness First Aid* and *Epinephrine Auto-injector*.



# RUTABAGA'S SEA KAYAK SYMPOSIUM

**Our 15th annual summer camp for adults  
(and their kids too)!**



## INSTRUCTORS

You'll love our experienced, fun, and dedicated instructors who are passionate about helping you get to the next level. Come learn from the pros!



## STAFF

Our staff is helpful, friendly, organized, and willing to bend over backwards for you! We want to make your weekend pleasant and easy — and of course *fun*.

**July 13-15, 2018**

**Rowleys Bay Resort  
Door County, WI**

**Space is limited. Register now!**

**[www.everyonepaddles.com](http://www.everyonepaddles.com)**



**DOOR COUNTY**  
**sea kayak symposium**  
**July 13-15, 2018**



## CLASSES

Quality on-water classes and land-based workshops will help you develop and improve your sea kayaking skills. We offer a beginner track, women-only classes, and specialty courses at all levels. Work on boat control, forward stroke, rolling, Greenland paddling skills, rescue techniques, and more. Whether you're just beginning, more advanced, or somewhere in the middle, we have classes that will help you learn and grow as a kayaker.



*"Another wonderful event. I learned, I practiced, I remembered I'm part of something bigger, I stretched myself. Most enjoyable was sharing it with the friends I've met here."*





DON'T PACK UP AND LEAVE.

# STAY WHERE YOU ARE IN TOTAL COMFORT.

**Bring it with you, almost anywhere.** No more need to overload vehicles or to leave equipment behind. The Rockwood ESP camper features ProRac Systems, Inc. permanent cross bars that provide a load-bearing surface for a wide variety of outdoor sports equipment. It is easy to reach and adjustable to provide unmatched cargo carrying flexibility. The 15" Mud Rover Radial Tires with Aluminum Wheels provides a huge 12" ground clearance allowing you to get your gear where it needs to go.

The Rockwood ESP models have a resilient yet refined appeal while providing spacious comfort and features important to you.

**Providing more than you expect.** The Rockwood Hard Side models are the perfect blend of the towing and storage advantages of a tent camper with the amenities found in today's travel trailers. Constructed with a smooth, vacuum-bonded fiberglass exterior that is quick and easy to set-up, this camper has the interior comfort you're used to.



**Rockwood Geo Pro:** your Base Camp for the day, weekend or all week. A lite weight camping trailer with some of the same features you get in the larger, heavier camping trailers but with the capability to tow it with a car, SUV or small truck.



**GEO PRO**

**ROCKWOOD  
ESP**

**JERRY'S CAMPING CENTER** 4506 E. Broadway, Madison, WI 53716 "Wisconsin's light weight camper specialist"  
(608)222-1507 | [JERRYCAMPINGCENTER.COM](http://JERRYCAMPINGCENTER.COM)

Stop by the Jerry's Camping Center Wing at the Canoecopia Show to see the kayak and canoe carrying capable Rockwood ESP tent trailers, the accommodating Rockwood Hard Side camping trailers and more.





## COMMUNITY

This is what makes our symposium so special! Build a community with other paddlers on and off the water. Social happenings off the water include group meals, evening campfires, free beer wagon, sunrise yoga, slide show, auction to benefit the Door County Land Trust, and ice cream social. Make new friends and see the familiar faces of people who have been coming back for years. It's a comfortable, family-friendly environment that you are sure to enjoy. The fastest way to make new friends is to go paddle with them!



## TOURS

Enjoy guided trips to the rocky coves, rugged cliffs, and sandy beaches of Door County. Whatever your skill level, we have a tour for you. Paddle with a naturalist, glimpse a sunken shipwreck, decipher pictographs, spot lighthouses, ride the waves, and more. Discover the beauty of Door County and put your skills to use!



*"I liked the networking and social aspects, as well as challenging myself in larger waves and stronger wind conditions. Really enjoyed it all!"*



## REFLECTIONS FROM 2017

"Great experience, well run and organized, fun but safe atmosphere. S'mores were fun on Thursday night at the fire. I gained a TON of knowledge and skills in the classes. The fun and friendly atmosphere of everyone here and the highly skilled instructors were the most enjoyable. Loved, loved, loved this experience and we've already booked our room for next year! Thank you!! I never would have believed how much I could do and improve in just a weekend!"

-first year participant

"Lots of information geared seemingly just for me but valuable and specific to all. Excellent instructors - I even had one of the same ones as last year so we were able to build on and expand my knowledge base and technique. Great vendors - they shared their equipment prior to purchase. This is my favorite weekend of the year! Not enough can be said for how well run this symposium is. Thank you ever so much."

-second year participant



"I improved my techniques, and gained some large water experience. Most enjoyable are the people, both staff and participants. You have excellent instructors and great behind-the-scenes people working to make it all run smoothly—and adjusting to the variance of wind/weather. Thank you!"

-third year participant

## BRING THE KIDS!

Parents and Grandparents—the Door County Sea Kayak Symposium is a fun-filled, family-friendly event, so bring the kids and share the experience together! Youth classes and tours teach paddling skills and safety through play and exploration. Or bond over boats on a family tour. Create lifelong memories this summer in Door County! For kids ages 8-16.



## Supporting the DOOR COUNTY LAND TRUST



Each year Rutabaga's Door County Sea Kayak Symposium raises money to benefit the Door County Land Trust (DCLT). Our signature fundraiser is the always-entertaining auction on Saturday evening. Folks bid on a wide range of items and experiences donated by our paddling vendors and local Door County artists and businesses. Not only do we have a lot of laughs, this high-energy event has helped raise \$83,000 over the past 14 years!

And it gets better! Every dollar the DCLT receives is matched by \$4 of federal and state land acquisition grants. This means the DCSKS contributions have been matched for a total of \$415,000 that the Land Trust has used toward the purchase and protection of over 7,000 acres of critical lands in Door County. Thanks, kayakers!

