

Three Flag Races

Choose your distance from 1.5, 3.5 or 6 miles. Participants paddle up river to a designated turnaround point, grab a prize, and return down river to the finish.

Turn Around Prize and Sponsor



The Course

All races begin and end at the Midtown Dam South Boat Ramp at Dike East (100 2nd Street South, Fargo).

Rent a Canoe or Kayak

\$15 rental includes paddles and lifejackets. Limited number available.

Unloading and Parking

Carpooling is Encouraged!

Drop off your vessel between noon-4 pm. to help with traffic congestion and receive a small prize. River Keepers staff will be on site to ensure security. Allow plenty of time when unloading right before the race. Drop off vessel near the Midtown Dam South Boat Ramp, then park.

Entry Fee

- Early Bird Fee is \$20/person
- Entry fee is \$25/person after June 29 at 4 pm
- River Keepers members receive code for a 15% discount to be used by July 9 at 4 pm. Aren't a River Keepers member? Use the QR code to become one today!



Course Map and Parking



Inclement Weather Policy

The race will be postponed if the forecast predicts lightning, high winds, flooding, or the current is too fast. The race will go on as planned if rain is predicted (dress accordingly). A decision will be made by noon the day of the race. Mark your calendar for the back up weather date just in case. Check your email or River Keepers Facebook Race the Red event page for the latest news.

Categories

Canoe: Solo, Male Team, Female Team, Co-ed Team

Solo Kayak: Male, Female

Tandem Kayak: Male Team, Female Team, Co-ed Team

Non-traditional: Rowboat, hydrobike, SUP, hobie, and any other watercraft that is not a canoe or kayak using a paddle in a traditional way. Example: a solo canoe with a kayak paddle is nontraditional. Solo, Team



Credit: Kellan Benson

Awards

1st place awards in each category.



Rules to Remember

- Fun is the primary intention of this event!
- Life jackets must be worn AND fastened at all times.
- All vessels must be manually propelled.
- No tipping, bumping or splashing others.
- Alcohol is not permitted.

AIS/ANS Precautions

The Red River is host to zebra mussels. To prevent the spread of AIS/ANS (Aquatic Invasive/Nuisance Species) to other waterbodies, racers should make sure to drain water from the inside of their vessels and remove any plants or debris from equipment.

Additional recommendations:

- Spray with high-pressure water
- Rinse with very hot water (120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds)
- Dry for at least 5 days



RiverKeepersFM
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RiverKeepersofFM

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OUR MISSION:

We are dedicated to connecting our community safely to the Red River of the North through education, stewardship, and engagement.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Start/Finish Line Sponsor - \$1000

1.5 Mile Turn Around Sponsor - \$750

3.5 Mile Turn Around Sponsor - \$500

6 Mile Turn Around Sponsor - \$250

Depending on level, benefits could include:

- Logo on the Race the Red brochure.
- Logo River Keepers website with a link to company website.
- Company mentioned in news releases, social media and River Keepers E-news.
- Company banner or sign at start/finish line or turn around locations.
- Provide company swag to all participants and attendees.
- Have employees volunteer at start/finish or turn around locations.
- Provide an activity, demonstration or display at the start/finish.

To sponsor and for more information, go to Eventbrite or contact Christine at 701-235-2895 or christine@riverkeepers.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We need a lot of volunteers to help make Race the Red successful. Time of shifts vary. Tasks include:

- Transport canoe/kayak trailer
- Registration
- Photographer
- Activity Assistant
- In and Out Assistant
- Hand out turn around prizes
- Parking
- And more!



Sign up using this QR code

or

by contacting Kim at kimberly@riverkeepers.org or 701-356-8915.

MORE FUN FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND PARTICIPANTS

- Bike/run/walk along the entire course on the Fargo Park District's trail system to watch paddlers.
- At the start/finish there is a photo booth, buoy toss and more.
- Participants are encouraged to decorate their watercraft. All decorations must be securely fastened and collected immediately if they fall off.
- Check Facebook or Eventbrite for more details.



Credit: Kellan Benson

NOTABLE RACERS



Dan Pullen paddled the entire Red River, participated numerous Race the Reds, and served six years on River Keepers board of directors promoting the Red River.



Fred Hector had a lifelong love for water and felt a connection to the Red River. His tenacious nature kept him kayaking into his 80's and he was training for another Race the Red just a few weeks before he passed away.

34th ANNUAL



DIKE EAST, FARGO
6:30 PM
JULY 13, 2026
(backup date August 3)

