

Saturday, Oct 19, 2024

Fri-UB Upper Tampa Bay Kayak trip

Address is 8001 Double Branch Rd, Tampa, FL 33635

12:00 noon—3:30 pm. Fee \$60 (plus registration)

Limited to 10 participants. Park entrance fee \$2 per car, up to 8 occupants.

Leader: Ashley Martin, (813) 365-5275 , Carol Cassels, 863-640-4495

Bring water, snacks, hat, insect repellent, sunscreen. There are restrooms in park. Wear shoes that can get wet because you might have a wet step or two into your kayaks. Long sleeves and pants are advisable since you'll be sitting without shade most of the time. **BE THERE AND READY TO GO BY 12 PM NOON. THE KAYAKS LEAVE THEN!**

Experience a celestial event – the changing of the tides - and the habitats at Upper Tampa Bay Conservation Park during this three and a half-hour kayak adventure! Kayak out Double Branch Creek to Old Tampa Bay with the ebb tide, explore the open bay during the slack, and return to the launch site with the incoming tide. Pass mangrove forests, oyster bars, sand and mudflats, and seagrass beds. Look for American Oystercatchers, herons and egrets, Ospreys, and shorebirds and perhaps manatees and dolphins. Your leaders are County Park Managers and bird experts.

Directions from Tampa:

Go West on Hillsborough Ave.

OR: if coming from further south, take I-275 to exit for Rt 60/589. Stay on 589, do not enter Veterans Pkwy or take 60 toward Clearwater.

Take Independence Pkwy on left, then bear left onto Memorial Hwy, then left again onto Hillsborough Ave.

Continue 4 miles from intersection with Memorial to Double Branch Rd.

Turn left/south onto Double Branch Rd. Continue half mile to entrance to park on right.

Pay entrance fee, enter park, continue on main road to Nature Center. Park where space is available.

Meet leaders on deck in front of Nature Center to sign release forms and pick up paddles, etc.

