



## Hello Guide Candidate!

**Thank you for your interest in Wilderness Voyageurs!** Our 2015 whitewater season is just around the corner with our commercial rafting trips beginning in April. We are looking for an outdoor staff with the following interests: whitewater raft guides, safety boaters, historic float trip guides, kayak and canoe instructors, rock climbing instructors, & mountain bike guides. We also have a need for photographers, guest services employees, retail positions, bike mechanics, restaurant staff, and let us not forget BUS DRIVERS. Employment for new staff is generally full time during the summer months with the spring and fall having predominately weekend work. The completion of the training program does not guarantee a candidate a position on our outdoor staff. Qualified individuals with only part time availability through the summer months are always welcome to participate in the training program. Please remember that this training program is offered only to those individuals who are serious about **raft guide employment** with Wilderness Voyageurs. Those seeking employment for retail or guest services positions do not need to attend guide training, but please fill out the application and submit it to us.

**Required Guide Training Dates:** The guide training for 2015 begins on Saturday, April 11, 2015 in Ohiopyle, Pennsylvania. The guide training will be conducted on the following 6 weekends (both Saturday and Sunday), and it is highly recommended that you attend all required weekends:

**April 11 & 12**

**April 18 & 19**

**April 25 & 26**

**May 2 & 3**

**May 9 & 10**

**May 16 & 17**

**Cost:** There is a one-time fee of \$75 cash to enroll in the guide-training program. This fee is required for all guide candidates and must be paid on the first day. This fee covers equipment use, transportation, & river trips.

**Guide requirements:** Ohiopyle State Park requires that all river guides meet basic requirements before working on the Lower Youghiogheny River. Wilderness Voyageurs requirements are more stringent than those of the State Park. Wilderness Voyageurs requires all guide candidates to go through a guide-training program, have a minimum of 20 commercial trips on the Lower Yough (or comparable river), and have current First Aid and CPR certifications. This may sound like a lot of time on the river, but don't worry, some days we will do 2 trips on the river, so they add up fast. Our main concern is that each candidate has a clear understanding of what the job entails before becoming responsible for the safety and enjoyment of Wilderness Voyageurs' guests. **All guide candidates must complete a CPR and First Aid Class by their own arrangement.** Basic First Aid and CPR is the minimum requirement, but the more First Aid the better. The American Red Cross offers classes at a nominal fee. Many universities and vocational educational centers also offer classes.

**Guide Training Procedures:** We begin each Saturday and Sunday at 8:00 a.m. at Falls City

Restaurant & Pub on Garrett Street (It is located just beyond Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitter store, which is next to the railroad tracks). There will be a classroom session discussing whitewater terminology, skills and general information. Following these sessions we will head out to the river to practice what we have learned in the classroom. We will try to wrap-up each Sunday by 4:00 p.m. so you can journey home. A majority of the training is completed on the Lower Yough, but we do travel to other rivers during the training weekends. Advance notice will be given and we will help to coordinate travel arrangements via carpool. Be prepared: guide training takes some time, but those that have commitment will prosper by learning not only whitewater paddling and rescue technique, but also valuable communication and leadership skills.

## Other Details

**Where Do I Stay?** Tent platforms will be available to set up tents. We encourage you to come early and begin familiarizing yourself with OhioPyle. Many of our staff will arrive on Fridays to paddle, hike, bike, and socialize. Hot showers are available at our bathhouse.

**Clothing and Weather:** Guide training occurs when most are just putting away their skis, so yes it can be cold, but it can also be very nice. The temperatures can range between 30 and 80 degrees, with sun, rain, snow, or sleet. Clothing will be very important. I would not rush out and spend hundreds of dollars on gear at this time. Wilderness Voyageurs will have its retail store open for any last minute items you may need. We will provide neoprene wetsuits and nylon paddling jackets at no charge during the guide training weekends. After April 28 you will be required to have your own clothing because of wetsuits being rented to our guests. The most difficult body parts to keep warm are your hands and feet. If you are a hearty individual, wool socks and tennis shoes may be enough, though I would strongly encourage having neoprene booties (or neoprene socks). Fit the booties so that you can get a wool sock into them. You don't want the booties loose so your foot sloshes around inside, but also not so tight that the blood circulation is restricted. Hands are difficult. The best item you will only find in whitewater stores. They are called pogies or river mitts. A good alternative will be neoprene gloves. Again, if you are a hearty individual, gloves will probably not be needed. Other layers may be necessary. Wool, poly pro, fleece or other synthetics are great. **DO NOT BRING COTTON LAYERS!**

**Pets:** Please leave your pets at home through training and through the season.

**Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitters:** WVO is a true outdoor outfitter store and a great resource for you. It is open year round and will offer a 10% discount to all guide candidates during training. (The discount does not include bicycles or boats). You can also check the store out online at [gearfetch.com](http://gearfetch.com)

**What do I need to bring to Guide Training?** These are the items I would bring if I were going through guide training.

- \*Sleeping bag and pad
- Toiletries
- Your food
  - \* Small camp stove to cook on
- \$75 cash for guide training
- Drivers license for deposit for wetsuit and paddle jacket use
- \*Wool hat
- \*Cap with bill (baseball hat) for rain
- \*Long underwear (polypro, or comparable synthetic, **NO COTTON**)
- \*Polar fleece jacket (or wool sweater, synthetic shirt)
- \*Cold water footgear
- \*Cold water hand gear
- \*Paddle pants and paddle jacket (unless you are using a wetsuit)
- \*Wetsuit if you have one
- \*Clothes for off the river (bring extra in case those get wet. We spend a lot of time outside.)

\*Rain gear for off the river (gore-tex jacket, rain slicker...)

\*Walking shoes / hiking boots for trail use

\*Kayaking gear (if you own it)

**Note:** Remember; do not plan on using cotton clothing for wet, outdoor activities. You may have adequate clothing at home.

(\*) Indicates all items that may be purchased at Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitters at a 10% discount.

Once employed guides will be given lifejacket, first aid kit, knife, whistle. Guides will receive a greater discount on all items at the outfitters store, and will receive a discount at the restaurant.

**Kayakers:** Please bring your kayaks because there is time for recreational paddling after the training runs. All candidates will participate in formal kayak instruction during the training process.

**Equipment Wilderness Voyageurs Provides:**

Rafts

Paddles

Helmets

Lifejackets

Wetsuits and paddle jackets (through May 5<sup>th</sup>)

**Restaurants:** [Falls City Pub & Restaurant](#) located just beyond the Wilderness Voyageurs Outfitter Store has a variety of food & is a great social dinner option. Rapid Java offers breakfast sandwiches, donuts & muffins along with great coffee and espresso drinks & is located on the porch of the store. Falls Market and the Fire Fly Grill in town are other dining options. There are a number of other restaurants within a short drive from Ohiopyle. Candidates are responsible for their own lunch. We will break for about 30 to 45 minutes for lunch each day. Power Bars or other quick fixes are recommended.

**What do I do now?** If you have **not** yet completed your application please fill out the Wilderness Voyageurs application and mail it back to Wilderness Voyageurs as soon as possible. Please include the following:

Resume & Application (available to download from our website)

Cover Letter (please include any river, outdoor or camp / group experience)

Photocopy of your driver's license

Photocopy of your First Aid **and** CPR certifications

**Questions:** Please e-mail me at [bens@wilderness-voyageurs.com](mailto:bens@wilderness-voyageurs.com) or call 1-800-272-4141 if you have any questions. Fax your application & information to 724-329-0809 or mail it to Wilderness Voyageurs PO Box 97, Ohiopyle, PA 15470 Attn: Ben Scoville.

**See you on the river!**

Ben Scoville

Wilderness Voyageurs  
PO Box 97  
Ohiopyle, PA 15470  
1-800-272-4141



Wilderness Voyageurs, Inc and Falls City Pub & Restaurant, Inc  
**EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION**



PO Box 97 / 103 Garrett St.  
Ohiopyle, PA. 15470  
724-329-5517 (office)  
724-329-0809 (fax)



www.wilderness-voyageurs.com or www.fallscitypub.com

With the following application, please include your resume, a cover letter, copy of your driver's license and copies of any first aid /CPR certificates

**Applicant Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone:( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone:( ) - \_\_\_\_\_  
Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Driver's License: ATTACH PHOTO COPY TO APPLICATION - Required for Insurance Purposes

**Education**

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Graduated \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_  
College \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_  
Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
School Activities, Offices, Clubs, Sports, Etc... \_\_\_\_\_

**Previous Employment**

1. Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Held \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
Duties Performed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_  
May we contact for a reference? Yes  No

2. Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
Duties Performed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_  
May we contact for a reference? Yes  No

3. Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
 Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Duties Performed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_  
 May we contact for a reference? Yes  No

**Availability**

**For Training**

Weekends From : \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weekdays From : \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**For work**

Full Time From : \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Part-Time From : \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Part Time Days Available: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Reference**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

**General Information**

1. Do you have any medical or physical conditions which might limit your participation in strenuous activities? Is so, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Do you have any specific allergies or necessary medications? \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Who should we contact in case of an emergency? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Certifications**

A First Aid & CPR certification is required of all guides (Lifesaving cert is valuable as well) and recommended for all staff. If you already have one or more of these certifications please attach copies (both front & back) of your cards

Type of Certification _____	Type of Certification _____
Valid Through _____	Valid Through _____
Type of Certification _____	Type of Certification _____
Valid Through _____	Valid Through _____

### **Skills**

Please use the following scale to rate yourself:

**1** = Expert    **2**= Somewhat Experienced; can perform without supervision  
**3**= Familiar with, but limited experience    **4**= No Experience

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raft Guiding    | <input type="checkbox"/> Retail Sales    | <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant     | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kayaking        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Register   | <input type="checkbox"/> Work           | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Repair  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing        | <input type="checkbox"/> Office work     | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Prep      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mtn Biking      | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Bar Service    | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing        | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Design      | <input type="checkbox"/> Waitstaff      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skiing          | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography     | <input type="checkbox"/> Host / Hostess | <input type="checkbox"/> Customer        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Back Packing    | <input type="checkbox"/> Digital         | <input type="checkbox"/> Bouncer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Service         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography     |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping         | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design  |   |  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming     |   |  |

### **River Experience**

If you have experience on any of the following rivers, indicate how much

1= a lot, 2 = some, 3 = a little

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheat     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ocoee        | <input type="checkbox"/> Nantahala | <input type="checkbox"/> Youghiogheny  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New River | <input type="checkbox"/> French Broad | <input type="checkbox"/> N. Branch | <input type="checkbox"/> Rio Grande    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gauley    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nolichucky   | <input type="checkbox"/> Potomac   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other River's |
- \_\_\_\_\_

**What position are you applying for?** Whitewater Guide\_\_\_ Family Trip Guide\_\_\_  
Historical Float Trip Guide \_\_\_ Kayak Instructor\_\_\_ Climbing Instructor\_\_\_ Mountain Bike  
Instructor\_\_\_ Trip Leader (must have experience)\_\_\_ Bike Mechanic\_\_\_ Retail Sales\_\_\_ Fly  
Fishing Guide & Retail Sales\_\_\_ Guest Services & Reservations \_\_\_ Photographer\_\_\_ Intern-  
ship\_\_\_ Management Position\_\_\_ Sales & Marketing\_\_\_ Grounds Maintenance\_\_\_ Cleaning \_\_\_  
Waitstaff\_\_\_ Barstaff\_\_\_ Food Prep\_\_\_ Line Cook\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Being a Wilderness Voyageurs staff member requires a great deal of public contact; therefore the ability to interact with a wide variety of people is very important. Please indicate any social skills or experiences that you feel are relevant to your employment with us. Include your definition of customer service. Also, please tell us why you are interested in becoming part of our team and why you will be a great addition. Use the space below or attach a separate piece of paper if necessary.

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How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_