

AUSABLE RIVER FLOAT TOUR

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

MEMBERS ONLY!

Join your Ann Arbor Ski Club friends (first 40 to sign up) for a fun-filled weekend adventure in Grayling, MI.

Hosted by Jan Nelson (734-417-1396) and Nancy Marcotte (734-355-6273)

Itinerary:

Friday, meet at Jan's house on the lovely Lake Margrethe, just 3 miles from town, for swimming, pontoon boat ride, bonfire, snacks (please bring a small dish to pass), drinks (BYOB), conversation and frivolity. I also recommend bringing a lawn chair. We will firm up plans for Saturday's float trip.

Saturday, breakfast on your own. Float down the AuSable River, probably from Burton's Landing to Stephan Bridge Road. Bring a packed lunch and we will stop along the way for a picnic. BYOB. Enjoy swimming at the whirlpool. After a time for a rest, we will plan to meet at a local restaurant for a group meal.

Sunday, do what you want. Suggestions: paddle or tube down the Manistee River (about 8 miles from town), hike several trails in the area including Hartwick Pines, the Mason Tract, or Hanson Hills. Bike from town to Hartwick Pines and back on a paved bike trail (about 14 miles round trip). Go mountain biking at Hanson Hills. Visit Hartwick Pines and tour the exhibits. Visit the fish hatchery and feed the fish. Try local beers at three Grayling breweries or do wine tasting at a local wine shop. Shop downtown and go to the art galleries. Golf at the local courses. Hang out at Jan's place and enjoy the lake.

Accommodations—on your own. You can pitch a tent at Jan's place (first 10 to respond) or in one of the local campgrounds (Hartwick Pines State Park, Lake Margrethe State Park across the lake from Jan's, etc.) You can stay in a local hotel. There is a Ramada Inn, formerly a Holidome, so it is complete with a pool, hot tub, on-site restaurant and bar. There is also a Days Inn and several mom and pop places. Motel 72 is a less expensive alternative, located about halfway between town and Jan's home. Rooms are clean and relatively large, bathrooms are small but adequate, beds are comfortable, locally owned. There is a restaurant/bar next door.

Kayaks and canoes: Many of you have your own. However, if you need to rent one, there are three liveryies available in Grayling and one on the Manistee. Jan has about 10 kayaks and 2 canoes available to use on a first come, first serve basis. Once numbers are known, we can determine the best alternative for renting. We will need to spot cars to use our own.

Please let Jan (nelson006@comcast.net) and Nancy (nmarcotte2003@yahoo.com) know by **AUGUST 1** if you plan to attend this event, if you have your own kayak or canoe that you will be bringing or if you will need one, and if you plan to camp at Jan's. Thanks. More info will follow for those who sign up.

ALL EXPENSES ARE YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. NO MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED BY THE CLUB.