

Riverbend Boat Use Procedure

1. **Please virtually sign-in through ipswichriver.org/riverbend or with [this link](#).** If you forget, no worries, you can sign in after your paddle, just add the day and time you paddled in the note line. **Boat code will be provided when you sign-in.**
2. Park in the upper lot, outside our Riverbend headquarters. Pick up a paddle (canoe or kayak) by the garage. **Until further notice, we ask that you provide your own PFD.** We apologize that this may be an inconvenience, but please be safe.
3. Grab a disinfectant wipe (or paper towel sprayed with disinfectant). Wipe down paddles.
4. Follow the trail down the hill to the boat area; give paddlers walking downhill the right of way.
5. Feel free to chat or say, “Hi!” to your fellow friends of the River, but please keep a minimum of 6 ft distance from other individuals or family/social isolation units.
6. Maintaining social distance from anyone not in your family/isolation unit, choose and transport boat(s) to the dock.
7. *When getting in boats from Riverbend’s dock, we suggest putting a towel down on the dock close to your boat and sitting on it. Then bring your legs into the boat, brace your hands on either side of the boat to hold it steady, and shift your hips over to sit slowly into/on the seat. Then grab your towel and use the hand holding it to push off.*
8. After putting in, quickly move your boat away from the dock so others may use the area.
9. After your paddle is complete, disembark after waiting for other individuals and social isolation groups to clear the dock first. Remember the towel tip; it works in reverse, too!
10. Replace boat upside down on rack so as not to collect stagnant, mosquito-breeding water. **Please remember to lock-up boats after use.**
11. Please dispose of any paper towels or wipes used to disinfect boats and paddles in the trash cans provided. These are for wipes and paper towels only; Riverbend has a carry-in carry-out policy for all other waste.
12. Return kayak/canoe paddles to area by garage when you are finished with your paddle.

Follow **these safe paddling guidelines** on and off the water to keep yourself and everyone else safe and having a great time on the river. As always, enjoy paddling the beautiful Ipswich River and please share your photos, videos, and stories with us by email irwainfo@ipswichriver.org, Twitter and Instagram [@ipswich_river](#) or on Facebook [@Ipswich River Watershed Association](#).