



Team Building Through Kayaking Adventures

Navigating the Waterways of the First State

BY COLIN HEFFINGER

THE NEED FOR A REWARDING ESCAPE has become significantly more important than ever as we move forward in our recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the pandemic, businesses have endured and adapted to constant changes to stay afloat in a world facing a “new normal.” What better time to take a business retreat and explore the natural waterways of Delaware? What better opportunity to bond with your staff and embrace new adventures together?

Kayaking is an excellent way to get outside and experience the dozens of rivers channeling throughout the state, while also bonding with members of your team through a moderately challenging exercise. Delaware provides kayaking opportunities for beginners and experienced paddlers alike. One of the most indispensable tools available for kayaking is a project created by a team of dedicated kayaking enthusiasts for Sussex and Kent County. This collaboration strived to build an easily accessible system of maps that show waterways and access points all in one place.

Ed Luendowski is the Coastal Communities Development Specialist at the University of Delaware and one of the masterminds behind the kayaking maps project for Sussex County. “The maps provide a unified, one-stop post for paddling locations,” Ed explains. “We created Paddle Coastal Delaware as a resource for 16 unique trips throughout Sussex that provide ecology, fishing and kayaking to everyone interested.”

Kayaking has become a growing tourism opportunity for Sussex and Kent Counties. Individuals throughout the Del-Mar-Va region travel to Delaware to experience its unique waterways. There are opportunities to dock at businesses from the water, where kayakers can grab a bite to eat or a drink during their kayaking trip. Businesses can take employees out kayaking together or individuals can kayak alone or with friends. The possibilities are endless and up to the kayakers.

Dave Wilson, a paddling enthusiast from Maryland, has used the Sussex County maps and paddlecoastaldelaware.com to help him in his

