FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Office of Community Outreach at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Offers ‘Introduction to Kayaking’ Course Beginning April 30
Classes will be held the last Saturday of every month through October

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – The Office of Community Outreach at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will begin offering the eight-hour “Introduction to Kayaking” course on Saturday, April 30, to teach beginners how to become a proficient kayaker in one day and provide advanced techniques to experienced kayakers.

Other scheduled courses are Saturday, May 28; Saturday, June 25; Saturday, July 30; and Saturday, August 27. The classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the last Saturday of every month through October, weather permitting. Participants must be 18 or older; or 14-17 if accompanied by a parent.

Kayakers will learn about the proper selection and use of safety equipment; kayaking terminology; how to identify and reduce risks; trip planning; kayaks and paddles; carrying, launching and boarding a kayak; maneuvering and controlling a kayak on the water; “rules of the road;” and rescue and safety. Beginning paddlers will receive instruction on how to safely kayak on lakes, calm protected ocean environments and other flat-water settings. Experienced kayakers will learn advanced paddling techniques and other skills to help enhance their enjoyment and safety on the water.

The first half of the “Introduction to Kayaking” course will take place at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi’s Moody Sustainers Field House pool, where participants will learn the basics and practice handling a kayak in a safe, controlled environment. After lunch, participants will be transported to the Lighthouse Lakes Paddling Trail, near Port Aransas, where they will be guided on an afternoon paddling tour of the area. According to lead instructor Joe Miller, who has been kayaking the waters of South Texas since 1995, Lighthouse Lakes, is considered one of the

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preeminent natural environments in the state, an ideal place for kayak touring and is renowned among bird watchers, nature tourists, and anglers on the prowl for redfish and trout for its richness and abundance of wildlife.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi kayaking instructors have been conducting educational kayaking programs since 1998 and are fully certified by the American Canoe Association, the national leader in paddle sport education and instruction.

Participants will need to bring a swimsuit, water shoes (or shoes you are prepared to get wet), a towel, a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, a water bottle and lunch money. A small waterproof daypack with other items that can be secured to the body may also be brought.

The cost is $100 per person, which includes the use of top quality boats, paddles and lifejackets for the day. To register online, go to [http://outreach.tamucc.edu/kayaking/](http://outreach.tamucc.edu/kayaking/).

For more information, call Joe Miller, director of Education and Youth Issues, at 361.825.5967; or e-mail [joseph.miller@tamucc.edu](mailto:joseph.miller@tamucc.edu).