



Paddlers should bring their own kayak, dress for the weather, bring water shoes and a water bottle as well as change of cloths to the Paddle Quest.

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the quest.

The Paddle Quest is a bring your own paddling craft event. The quest will start at the Netul Landing kayak launch which is one and a half miles south of the Fort Clatsop visitor center. All participants must wear a personal floatation device while on the water during the quest. It is also recommended to dress accordingly to the weather, bring water shoes, appropriate clothing for paddling, a change of clothing and drinking water.

Getting batty

After the paddle quest ecologist Dr. Tara Chestnut will hold a discussion about bats of the Pacific Northwest.

"I'm not a bat expert, but I am not a huge fan of mosquitoes taking over the world and I know bats can really help with that," Freeman said. "On a practical level they are great for insect control, are great

pollinators and are a mammal that can fly. Plus, Batman has some pretty great movies and comics."

All National Parks will have no entry fee on Aug. 25 in honor of Founders Day celebrations.

Freeman said she's noticed over the years that a lot of Americans don't understand that these parks, which are federal public land, are theirs, too.

Starting Sept. 1, fourth grade students can get free national parks passes from them and three adults, Freeman said. The Every Kid in a Park initiative aims to allow every fourth grade student to experience federal public lands. Sign

up and learn more about the program here: everykidinapark.gov.

"As citizens, and kids that are future voters who want places to recreate, we want future generations to be aware of that and aware that this park is theirs too," Freeman said.

If You Go

Paddle Quest

5-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24

Netul Landing at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, 92343 Fort Clatsop Road, Astoria.

Bring your own paddling equipment, solve a puzzle and learn about bats after the quest. This event is free.

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