



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CRWD offers weekly photo contest for summer

Part of district's 10th anniversary, entries will have chance for free kayak

AUSTIN, Minn. – Thursday, June 8, 2017 – As part of its 10th anniversary, Cedar River Watershed District is launching a weekly photo contest throughout the summer to encourage the public to help showcase the local waterways.

CRWD, formed in 2007, is offering weekly prizes for the best submitted photo from the previous week as part of its new “Cedar Scenes” contest. The 16-week photo initiative (June 12 to Oct. 1) aims to get people to take and submit photos showing the Cedar River or one of its tributaries in the watershed district’s boundaries.

Each submitted photo – a weekly limit of two photos per person – will be an entry into a grand-prize drawing for a free kayak sponsored by the Austin Runnings store. CRWD will do the drawing in October after the contest.

Submitted images must be the submitter’s own photo and must show water from a local waterway. Entries also must include the submitter’s name and the photo’s location and date. All ages are encouraged to participate.

“Selfies, group pictures, nature scenes – whatever the type of photo, we’d love to see how people are enjoying the local waterways,” said Tim Ruzek, CRWD outreach coordinator. “We hope this gives everyone another reason to get outside and explore the outdoors locally.”

This Saturday, June 10, is Austin’s Cedar River Awareness Day, which first was designated in 2013 by mayoral proclamation at the request of Austin resident Brian Pirmantgen, who, along with his wife, Dorothy, owns Cedar River Canoe & Kayak Rental Service.

Saturday also is National Get Outdoors Day as well as, for the entire weekend, the annual Take a Kid Fishing weekend in Minnesota in which anglers can fish without licenses if they take children age 15 or younger fishing.

For the first week of “Cedar Scenes,” the prize for best image – as determined by CRWD staff – will be a \$15 gift certificate for Cedar River Canoe & Kayak Rental Service, which rents canoes and kayaks while also providing drop-off and pickup services for paddlers.

Most other weeks of the “Cedar Scenes” contest will offer a prize of \$10 in Chamber Bucks that can be used at numerous local businesses.

Photos can be submitted via CRWD’s Facebook page – www.facebook.com/cedarriverwd – by posting on the page or tagging CRWD in a personal post. Images also can be emailed to tim.ruzek@mowerswcd.org or brought to the CRWD office at 1408 21st Ave. N.W. in Austin behind Runnings.

Weekly winners will be announced on CRWD’s website and Facebook page; with prizes picked up at the CRWD office.

Aside from the Cedar River State Water Trail – which includes Austin Mill Pond and Ramsey Mill Pond – other creeks within the Cedar River Watershed District’s boundaries include Dobbins Creek (nature center and East Side Lake) and Wolf (stream at Todd Park), Roberts, Ramsey, Rose and Orchard creeks, among others. Not included, however, is Turtle Creek, which has its own watershed district.

The grand prize winner of the kayak will need to be age 18 and older or come with a parent or guardian to get the kayak.



Cedar River Watershed District weekly photo contest

Who: Cedar River Watershed District.

What: Offering weekly photo contest this summer, with weekly prizes for best photo. All entries will be put into a drawing for a free kayak sponsored by Austin Runnings.

Where: Cedar River and other local waterways that are part of the CRWD’s boundaries.

When: Entries can be made from June 12 to Oct. 1.

Why: Part of CRWD’s 10th anniversary, the project aims to get the public outdoors and helping to showcase the beauty and recreational opportunities of local waterways.

How: Each person can submit two images per week. Each image must be the person’s own picture and must show the Cedar River or one of its tributary creeks in the watershed district. (*Turtle Creek not included as there is a separate watershed district for it*).

CONTACT

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Cedar River Watershed District

In 2007, state and local officials formed the Cedar River Watershed District in response to the Cedar River Watershed’s worst-known floods occurring in 2000 and 2004. CRWD’s top priorities are aimed at reducing flooding and improving water quality within the Cedar River Watershed.



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www.cedarriverwd.org

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