Manistee River Currents

From The Banks At Chippewa Landing





Newsletter #34

We are going to skip the spring newsletter and go right into the first newsletter for the summer. After all we didn't have much of a spring around the here this year. We went right from snow on the ground to 80 degrees in two weeks. Elizabeth and her friends were the first to take a raft down the river and enjoy that 80 degree heat wave and a river trip a full month before anybody else has gone rafting before in the spring. We had canoers and kayakers too. And campers started to show up on the weekends in early April.

The last winter storm of the season dumped 18" of heavy, wet, damaging snow that brook many limbs and toppled trees. The livery and Oak Grove Camp was a mess. Many of the roads were blocked, but no damage to buildings or equipment.

Because of the storm and all the trees and branches that got knocked down along the river it will not look the same to many of you. New log jams, new sand bars, big white pines crumpled and a lot of new fish habitat.

There were a few spots that trees almost blocked the way down the river but the high water during the spring run off cleared them away. We are fortunate that we can leave the river in its natural state and we almost never have to cut trees that threaten to make the river impassable.

With the new fishing regulations this year letting you fish year round it was a great excuse for us to get out on a few more river trips. We actually canoed at least once every month during the winter with trips from Rainbow Jim Bridge to Missaukee Bridge and Missaukee Bridge to Chippewa Landing. And a two day trip downstream in April with some of the crew was a perfect time to catch up with them. We talked about the up coming season at Chippewa Landing, had a huge fire to keep warm, good stories and good food, and all of us caught fish.

We will be adding caches this year along the river for the growing geocaching fans. For those of you scratching your head look it up on the web and you'll be surprised how many people geochache. There have always been caches around bridges and at the end of lost two tracks but ours will have to be accessed only from the river and will have items worth going for. Keep watch for coordinates on the web and on the next newsletter.

Chippewa Landing

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