



River Pool at Beacon 22nd Annual Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim Kayak Escort Fact Sheet for Sat Aug 1, 2026

Your primary responsibility is to insure safety and well being for ALL swimmers. Your help keeps swimmers and kayakers “on-course”. The key to a successful, safe swim is communication.

During the swim, circumstances may change according to:
The weather, the water conditions, and the needs of the swimmers.

There will be a required Kayaker Safety/Instruction Meeting on Wednesday, July 29, 2026 at 7PM in person at 1 Arquilla Drive, Beacon, NY and simultaneously via Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/>



ALL KAYAKERS MUST WEAR LIFE VESTS DURING THE SWIM

- If you own a marine radio, please bring it (fully charged).
- We provide whistles and foam noodles to use during the swim.
- Please return these items at the end of the swim.
- Check riverpool.org the night before the swim for event status and updates.
- Kayak check-in at LONG DOCK Park/Scenic Hudson (Beacon) 7:30 am to 8:45 am. Cross to Newburgh is 8:00am to 9:00am. (Rain date: check-in is 8:00 to 9:15am. Cross to Newburgh is 8:30 am to 9:30 am)
- Kayak escorts assigned to a specific swimmer are marked with a ribbon. Tell us when you register if you are with a particular swimmer.
- Do not leave kayaks on docks in Newburgh before the swim.
- We will paddle to Newburgh, in “pods” of 15-20, as kayakers arrive.



- Wait for directions and the go-ahead before paddling to Newburgh. Do not travel across the river on your own.
- Please guide the swimmer. Do not let the swimmer guide you! Keeping eye and verbal contact with swimmers is necessary if any reason occurs for redirection or assistance.
- Kayaks not escorting/assigned to a swimmer receive a number. The number correlates to a group of swimmers (1, 2, 3...).
- Kayaks form an “alley” on the north and south side of where the swimmers enter the water, and then head across the river with the swimmers in their designated groups.
- Kayaks partnered with a swimmer will depart with the group that swimmer is in. Swimmers with arranged kayak escorts, may all be in the same splash-in group.
- The swim finish is at the floating dock (not the ferry dock or dock where kayaks entered). There will be kayaks stationed to help differentiate.
- After the midway point, kayaks should start to key into the finish area.
- Kayaks escorting/assigned to a swimmer, please keep an eye on other swimmers in your vicinity and help/advise other kayakers of any issues.
- Some swimmers will need a break; they may rest on your bow or stern. This is a swim not a race. A demonstration of the technique will happen before the swim on the Newburgh side.
- Swimmers in need of assistance should hang on the bow of your kayak. The stern is the second choice. Always avoid port or starboard.
- To alert boaters that a swimmer is in need of emergency assistance:
 - Raise your paddle (straight up) and blow your whistle loudly three times at the nearest boater until acknowledged. Each kayak will have a swim noodle to use for reaching out to a swimmer in need of assistance.
 - This gives the swimmer something to hold on to and rest until help arrives. Stay as close to a swimmer in trouble as possible.
- If you cannot get the attention of a swimmer, blow your whistle one time loudly.
- There will be “lead” kayaks on the river that may ask for your assistance in a specific area or with a specific swimmer. Please, follow the direction of “lead” kayaks to help ensure safety for everyone.
- When your swimmer or group of swimmers reaches the floating dock in Beacon, double back to support other swimmers; the back of the pack needs the most kayak support at this time.
- Predicted swimmer Splash-in time: Sat August 1th, approximately 10:10 am.
Swim to Beacon approximately: Sat August 1th, 10:10 am - noon am
- (Rain date, Sun Aug 2. Splash-in: approximately 10:45 am. Swim to Beacon-approximately 10:45 am - 12:35 pm)

**Thank you for your assistance and support
This swim could not happen without you!**