

Race Packet

October 4, 2025



Hello Greens Bayou Racers!

Thank you all for joining us for this year's Regatta. We truly value your contributions and participation in this great event. Be sure to read the **entire race packet** and review the park maps.

Start: Brock Adventure Park, 8201 John Ralston Rd, Houston, TX 77044

Finish: Thomas Bell Foster Park, 12895 Greens Bayou Street, Houston, TX 77015

(GPS will take you to both parks. And look for the Regatta logo signs at park entrances!)

BEFORE THE RACE: IMPORTANT TIPS

Safety

All boaters must wear a USCG approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) on the racecourse. Inflatable vest-style PFDs are allowed. If anyone in your boat is not wearing a PFD during the race, your boat will be disqualified from the final results.

TEXSAR will provide water safety personnel on the course, and EMT at the finish line.

PLEASE BRING WATER! We recommend at least 1 quart per person per hour. Water will be available at the finish line; a single bottle of water will be available in your goody bag.

Clothing

Wear comfortable clothes (tech fabrics perform better than cotton). Wear old running shoes or sport sandals that you do not mind getting wet and muddy.

PARKING

Brock Adventure Park has ample parking. Once the main lot fills up, please park in the grass along the main entrance road within the park.

Thomas Bell Foster Park has minimal public parking. If you have family or supporters who want to join you at the finish line festivities (and they are welcome!), please ask them to park at Brock and use the METRO shuttle. It begins running at 10:30am.

CHECK-IN: Opens 7:30 AM

Located outside the Brock Adventure Park building. Port-o-cans will be provided. **Check-In will close at 8:30 AM** in preparation for the Opening Ceremony.

1. Check-in by your Last Name

Every racer must sign waivers before receiving a boat decal.

Collect boat decal (adhere to the front of the canoe/kayak, as high from the water as possible, on

the **FRONT RIGHT** side—starboard bow; clean and dry the spot before applying the sticker or it won't stick!)

2. Pick up event T-Shirt and "swag" bag. If competing for the **Styrofoam Cup** (most trash picked up along the course), inform these volunteers and bags and grabbers will be provided.
3. Proceed to ID Check table for a wristband to receive two complimentary beers at the finish line.
4. Next, either proceed to the boat rental area (for Corporate Cup or Kayaking Texas or please move your boat to a staging zone near your preferred "Put In".

CORPORATE CUP CANOES & KAYAK RENTAL PICKUP

If you are in the Corporate Cup, canoes, paddles, and PFDs are provided to you. Please pick them up in the "Rental Pickup" Area. You're looking for aluminum canoes on trailers courtesy of Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4

If you rented a kayak through KAYAKING TEXAS, please pick up your boat at the "Rental Pick-Up Area."

Rental reservations must be made in advance (Outdoor Adventures Kayaking Training and Touring: Phone: 832.686.3231; www.oakgeosciences.com)

OPENING CEREMONY: 8:35 AM

Opening remarks at the Start Line: Announcements and a race briefing afterwards.

RACE SCHEDULE: Race Start – 9:00 AM

All boats will start in the water. The Brock Launch affords plenty of room for all. The location is depicted on the site map. It is a short walk. Race start may be split into two or more waves if deemed necessary by the race director. Any changes to start sequence will be announced to all preregistered competitors via email the night before the event, and at the start location on race morning.

RACECOURSE DESCRIPTION

You will be sharing the waterway with dozens of other boats and paddlers just like you. Please be sportsmanlike and considerate. The Greens Bayou course is 7.7 miles downstream. The bayou banks are wooded all along the course. Normally, there is very little current, but Greens Bayou is tidal, and there is often a headwind towards the finish line. You will need to paddle and make steady progress to complete this racecourse before the awards ceremony. **It can take anywhere between 1.5 and 3 hours to complete.**

DRINK AND FOOD

You will get thirsty on the course and there is no substitute for bottled water or athletic drinks. **Bring your own for the race. Limited supply of water at the start.**

CLOSING CEREMONY/AWARDS

Lunch and beverages will be available at 11:00 AM. The closing ceremony will begin around 12:00/12:15 PM. (*It may be possible that all racers have not crossed the finish line before the ceremony begins). Food and drink will be served until 1:15 PM, as supplies last.

The winner of the Corporate Cup will take possession of the Greens Bayou Corporate Cup, to be displayed in the offices of the Corporate Sponsor, after the winner's name is engraved on the base. The trophy will be returned two months prior to the next Greens Bayou Regatta. Paddlers of the Corporate Cup winning canoe will also receive medals. Medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of every other division.

The Styrofoam Cup will be awarded to the boat that returns having collected the most trash during their trip along the bayou. Trash shall consist of **floatables ONLY** that fit into the bags given at the start. ***Please do not attempt to retrieve tires, shopping carts or other large items as this can prove extremely dangerous.***

SHUTTLE

METRO is graciously providing free shuttle service from the finish line back to the start at Brock Adventure Park. Shuttles will run between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM and cycle every 15-20 minutes.

PLEASE NOTE: Boats are not allowed on the shuttle, therefore, please stage your boat in the "Boat (waiting) Area" near the entrance of Thomas Bell Foster Park until you're able to return and pick it up.

PHOTO AND VIDEO NOTICE

By participating in the Greens Bayou Regatta as a paddler, volunteer, spectator or by entering the premises of Brock Adventure Park, Thomas Bell Foster Park and the race route of the Greens Bayou Regatta, you are granting permission for the Greens Bayou Coalition and its Regatta partners to photograph, record, broadcast, and otherwise use in any media, including web pages, you or your child's participation in this Regatta and to use your name and voice concerning you in connection therewith.

THANK YOU!!!

We greatly appreciate your participation in this year's Greens Bayou Regatta. This race is meant to raise awareness of Greens Bayou as a hidden recreational gem in Houston, and Greens Bayou Coalition as an advocate of the watershed. Thank you for being a part of this event. We are so excited for you to experience Greens Bayou!



Don't hesitate to contact Colleen Gilbert, colleen.gilbert@greensbayou.org if you have any questions. We will see you on the Bayou bright and early Saturday, October 5, 2024.