



# WHITEWATER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

The 43rd annual Bigfork Whitewater Festival is May 25-27. Here's a rundown of all of the weekend's races and other events around Bigfork:

## FRIDAY, MAY 25

**5:30 p.m.** – Boater Cross competition

**6-9 p.m.** – “Welcome Boaters” Pint Night at Flathead Lake Brewing Co. and Boater Cross awards

## SATURDAY, MAY 26

**8:30-10 a.m.** — Registration for kayak, stand-up paddleboard and raft races in front of the Garden Bar

**10 a.m.** — Lower Slalom Race. This beginner-level race features kayaks, canoes and stand-up paddleboards navigating up to 10 gates through the calmer Class II and III rapids.

**11 a.m.** — Stand-up Paddleboard Race. A new competition this year, the race will be held on the flat water of Bigfork Bay and cover 1 1/4 miles.

**12:30 p.m.** — Upper Slalom Race. This expert-level competition forces boats to weave through 15-20 gates in the midst of 250 yards of continuous Class IV whitewater rapids.

## SUNDAY, MAY 27

**8-9 a.m.** — Registration for rafts and triathlon competitors in front of the Garden Bar.

**9 a.m.** — Bigfork Whitewater Triathlon. Twenty-two miles of racing begins with 4-mile paddle, followed by a 14-mile bike ride and closing 4-mile run.

**9 a.m.** — Down River Race. This one's all about speed on the Wild Mile, with canoes and decked kayaks racing through the Class IV rapids as quickly as possible with no gates to worry about.

**11 a.m.** — Head-to-Head Rafting Heats. Four-man boat teams will square off against each other in this International Rafting Association competition that is not open to amateurs.

**11:30 a.m.** — Giant Slalom Race. The final leg of the overall whitewater competition, this race combines the gates of the Upper Slalom with the rugged waters of the Wild Mile.

**2:30 p.m.** — Head-to-Head Rafting Finals. Heat winners from earlier in the day square off for the four-person team rafting championship.

**TBD** — After all racing is complete, meet the competitors at the Garden Bar and stick around for an awards ceremony.