



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are the Salmon River Adventure Programs?**

River Discovery programs are weeklong adventures spent rafting and camping on the Salmon River where participants can meet peers who have been facing similar challenges from cancer. Programs are age appropriate; participants can enjoy just being themselves.

### **Am I required to be physically fit?**

As long as your doctor signs your release, you will be able to participate. You will have to be fit enough to camp outdoors. Any fitness level is welcome; activities are customized to accommodate each participant.

### **Is this program a medical camp?**

No, River Discovery programs are not a medical camp. Attendees are required to have a medical release signed by their doctor.

### **What kind of medical support does River Discovery provide?**

At least one medical professional is included on the staff of each program. All medical forms are reviewed prior to program start and careful attention is paid to each participant's individual needs. Dr. Jeff Hancock, a pediatric oncologist from Rexburg, Idaho, is the medical advisor to the program and has served as a staff member on the teen adventure.

### **What does it cost to attend River Discovery?**

A small fee (\$50) is required with your application; the program is cost free.

### **Do I need to have rafting and camping experience?**

No experience is required; you will be taught rafting and camping techniques throughout the program. River Discovery contracts with a licensed outfitter who employs licensed professional guides and provides all rafting and camping equipment. The outfitter and guides are accustomed to teaching clients who have had no previous experience.

### **Do I need to bring my own camping equipment?**

No, sleeping bags, sleeping pads and tents are provided.

### **Is transportation to and from River Discovery programs provided?**

Not at this time. Angel Flight, a nonprofit organization of private pilots, has donated flights to and from River Discovery in the past. They strive to fly each participant who applies. The Angel Flight application and paperwork is included in the River Discovery application packet. If Angel Flight is unable to schedule you for a flight, you will be responsible for your own transportation.

### **Can you provide directions for those who are providing their own transportation to the meeting location in Salmon?**

Yes. Please contact River Discovery at (208) 303-0040 or [riverdiscovery@gmail.com](mailto:riverdiscovery@gmail.com) and we will provide you with directions from your hometown.



**Do you have a pack list of what I should bring?**

Yes. There is a gear list included in the application packet; you can also download it from the website. You will find it on the Adventure Program page you are registered for.

**Do participants get to talk about their cancer experience at River Discovery?**

Absolutely! A licensed mental health professional is included on the staff of each program and daily informal meetings give participants the opportunity (*if they want to*) to talk about their feelings and experiences in a safe and supportive environment.

**What is the ratio of participants to staff?**

River Discovery's adventure program client to staff ratio is 5:1.

**Who makes up the River Discovery program staff?**

Our participant's safety and well being is our first priority at River Discovery. Our community of volunteer staff comes from all professions: social workers, college students, nurses, doctors and retirees are just a few of the varied backgrounds represented. These dedicated staffers offer support and encouragement 24 hours a day. They are committed to providing a safe, comfortable environment for all participants to flourish in. All prospective staff participates in a comprehensive application, background check and training process.

**How do I apply?**

Applications are available on the website at [www.riverdiscovery.org](http://www.riverdiscovery.org), or call the office at (208) 303-0040 to have one sent to you. You are encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible. Open recruitment and pre-registration for this trip open until April 15, 2012. If we have more pre-registrations than spots, we will select participants via lottery. The lottery selection is dependent on the number of new participants requests received -- Return participants will be wait listed until a spot opens up and then selected via lottery. Once selected each participant will be notified and asked to complete and return appropriate paperwork to secure his/her spot. All paperwork will be due to River Discovery by noon on June 1, 2012.