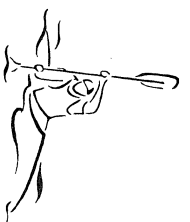


# SAVE THE DATE



## RISKS, REWARDS, AND RECREATIONAL LIABILITY



The liability conference is scheduled for April 16, 2010, 8:30 AM—4:00 PM, at the Headquarters of Northeast Utilities in Berlin, Connecticut. Breakfast and lunch is included. A summary of the proceedings will be published and distributed to attendees.

Admission through April 8, 2010: \$50      *After April 8, 2010:* \$60  
Students: \$25

Sponsorship opportunities start at \$350. Contact Rivers Alliance for more information.

### **To register:**

#### *Standard Mail:*

Please detach this form and mail with check to:  
**Rivers Alliance of Connecticut**, 7 West Street/P.O. Box 1797,  
Litchfield, CT 06759

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Online:*

[www.riversalliance.org](http://www.riversalliance.org)

*Or Contact Rivers Alliance of Connecticut:*  
[rivers@riversalliance.org](mailto:rivers@riversalliance.org) or (860) 361-9349.

Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, in partnership with the American Canoe Association, Connecticut Forest and Park Association, The Appalachian Mountain Club, and The Sierra Club-Connecticut Chapter is presenting a conference on liability issues relating to hiking, paddling, and other forms of outdoor recreation or outdoor volunteer work. The conference was inspired by many questions as to whether individuals, their groups, companies, or towns could be sued and held financially liable for outdoor recreation or volunteer work that they organize, support, publicize, or permit on their properties.

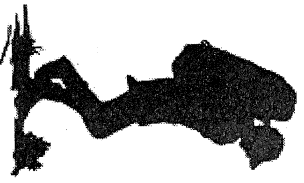
***The mission of the conference is to encourage outdoor recreation and volunteer work, by helping to understand and minimize the risks of accidents and exposure to litigation. The organizers of this conference believe that important individual and social benefits arise from enjoying and restoring the great natural resources of Connecticut and New England.***

#### **This conference is for:**

- Organizations, clubs, and educational institutions that support, organize, or lead outdoor events.
- Municipalities and land trusts that support outdoor events or permit land or waters to be used for recreation.
- Individuals who participate as leaders or sponsors of outdoor events.
- Individuals, private corporations, and land-holding utilities that permit their land or other property to be used for recreation.
- Insurers and lawyers who would like to promote better understanding of recreational liability.

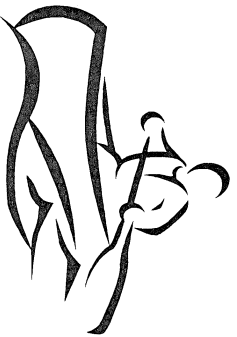
# April 16, 2010

## Fear of risk need not imprison us indoors. All life involves risk. But risk can be understood and managed.



This conference will provide guidance on identifying, minimizing and making informed decisions regarding risks related to hiking, paddling, river clean-ups, and overnight trips. The conference will also explore shortcomings of state law which discourage outdoor recreation, and possible legal fixes. It will answer questions such as:

- Do waiver forms protect my group from litigation if there is an accident on one of our outings?
- If my organization publicizes and supports an outdoor event, can we be held partly responsible in case of an accident?
- My land trust/corporation/municipality allows camping by scouts on our property and sponsors a fishing derby once a year. What if a child has an accident?
- What kind of insurance really protects against litigation involving outdoor activities?
- What does a risk manager do? Do we need one?
- What if my organization helps to publicize someone else's event, and an accident occurs?
- Is there any guidance document that explains how an organization or event leader can take practical steps to reduce risk of being sued?



# April 16, 2010

## Partner Organizations



Rivers Alliance of Connecticut is the statewide, non-profit coalition of river organizations, individuals, and businesses formed to protect and enhance Connecticut's waters by promoting sound water policies, uniting and strengthening the state's many river groups, and educating the public about the importance of water stewardship. [www.riversalliance.org](http://www.riversalliance.org)

American Canoe Association is a national nonprofit organization serving the broader paddling public by providing education related to all aspects of paddling; stewardship support to help protect paddling environments; and sanctioning of programs and events to promote paddlesport recreation. [www.americancanoe.org](http://www.americancanoe.org)



Connecticut Forest and Park Association protects forests, parks, walking trails and open spaces for future generations by connecting people to the land. CFPA directly involves individuals and families, educators, community leaders and volunteers to enhance and defend Connecticut's rich natural heritage. CFPA is a private, non-profit organization that relies on members and supporters to carry out its mission. [www.ctwoodlands.org](http://www.ctwoodlands.org)



The Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment and stewardship of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of the Appalachian region. We believe that mountains, forests, and waters have intrinsic worth and also provide recreational opportunities, spiritual renewal, and ecological and economic health for the region. Because successful conservation depends on active engagement with the outdoors, we encourage people to experience, learn about, appreciate, and understand the natural world. [www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org)



SIERRA CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892  
The Sierra Club—Connecticut Chapter is a non-profit member-supported, public interest organization that promotes conservation of the natural environment by influencing public policy decisions—legislative, administrative, legal, and electoral. [connecticut.sierraclub.org](http://connecticut.sierraclub.org)