

NEWS RELEASE

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Fifth annual Creek Fest takes place this Saturday

MOBILE, Alabama — The fifth annual Creek Fest is just around the corner. The event will be Saturday, May 11, at Tricentennial Park alongside Three Mile Creek (TMC) in Mobile. The time is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The festival has been a major success the last four years, and another large turnout is expected. Construction of the initial segment of the TMC running/biking path at Tricentennial Park has been completed. This is just a part of the planned trail that one day will run from Langan Park to downtown Mobile, eventually connecting with the Crepe Myrtle Trail that will extend south to Dog River.

"The final touches on the launch for kayaks and canoes at Tricentennial Park were not completed in time last year," said Kelly Warren, who oversees the Mobile County Health Department's public health advisory board called Women Making A Difference. "So, this will be the first Creek Fest to have the launch available for the free canoe rides that will be offered. Those attending Saturday are also invited to bring their own kayaks to try out the launch which is a prototype for the launches that will provide access at other points along the trail."

Creek Fest is a celebration of TMC, which was the city's first source of drinking water. It affects many local communities as it flows through six of Mobile's seven districts, parts of Prichard and all three of Mobile County's districts.

The event will again include a cane-pole fishing tournament for ages 16 and under, along with other family-friendly activities. Several special events are being added this year, including a children's fun run. We will also want to recognize the recent improvements at Tricentennial Park, such as additional benches, a bicycle repair station, a special water dispenser for water bottles and the workout equipment area.

Area civic groups, environmental organizations and entities that promote healthy exercise have been invited and will be available to tell the festival attendees about their mission. Merit badge classes for Boy Scouts will take place.

Discussions for a path along TMC began in the 1980s. Women Making a Difference got things rolling in 2013 by applying for and receiving a \$218,650 grant from the Sybil H. Smith Charitable Trust. This money was used to complete the 0.8-mile section now in use at Tricentennial Park.

For more details, please visit www.creekfest.org/ and www.facebook.com/ilovecreekfest/