



Canoehead

*paddling advice from
Souris River Canoes*



Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of *CanoeHead*, the Souris River Canoes e-newsletter. Every month we will send you valuable canoeing information, and news about Souris River Canoes. We'd like to know what you think. Please [e-mail](#) us with your comments.

Wintering your Canoe

While many hardy souls will still be getting some paddling days in, the time is approaching when we must store our canoes for the winter ahead. Before you store it for the winter, this is a good time to perform any minor maintenance. Here are some things to look for:

- **Scratches.** A few scratches won't hurt the canoe. (We think they're like wrinkles: they're a sign of a life well lived!) If you want to clean them up, though, there are a couple things you can do. For most scratches, just wipe a thin coat of exterior polyurethane. If you are coating a large area, sand it first with 220 grit sandpaper. (Don't try this on other manufacturers' Kevlar. Our canoes have a four-ounce fiberglass layer on the outside, which can be sanded, unlike Kevlar.) For deep scratches, sand around the edges of the scratch to feather it. Then apply a thin layer of epoxy resin. (West System, East System and Mas Epoxy are all good products.) [Click here](#) to download more information on scratch repair.
- **Trim.** Check your seats, thwarts, handles and yokes to ensure everything is still firmly attached. Ensure all wood components are in good shape. You may want to sand them and apply a light coat of polyurethane varnish, especially if your canoe has full wood trim.
- **Ribs.** Look carefully at your ribs, and you will find small holes drilled in each. These allow the ribs to vent on very hot days. If the vent holes become plugged with dirt, and air is not able to escape, the hull could bulge slightly under the ribs. Simply take a paper clip or small wire, and clean out each hole.

Other damage or wear? Send us an [e-mail](#), and we'll help you out.

Here are a few things to consider when you store your canoe:

- Try to keep your canoe out of the direct sunlight. (This applies in summer, too.) Some canoes are more susceptible to UV rays than others, but all canoes benefit from a shady environment.
- If you cover your canoe with a tarp, leave some air space between the tarp and the canoe.
- Store your canoe upside down on a rack, or hang it upright by the handles. You can also hang it upright (inside a shed or garage) using straps about three-four feet from each end.
- Do not let too much snow pile on top of your canoe. This could cause structural damage to the hull.

Paddling in Israel

This Spring, we sold a canoe to Eliyahu Shiffman, Israel. This week, we received photos of him paddling his red Quetico 16, on the Sea of Galilee. He is with his dog Angel, and the photos were taken by his wife Sara Shiffman. The Golan Heights are in the background.



Souris River Canoes Tradeshow Tour

We are booked to attend four tradeshows this winter. Find the one nearest you, and come pay us a visit. If there is a canoe model you are particularly interested in, let us know in advance and we'll do our best to bring one with us.

Chicago Boat, RV & Outdoors Show

January 13-17 2010 at McCormick Place – North in Chicago
www.chicagoboatshow.com

Minneapolis Boat Show

January 20-24 2010 at the Minneapolis Convention Center
www.minneapolisboatshow.com

The Outdoor Adventure Show

February 26-28 2010 at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario
www.outdooradventureshow.ca/toronto/

Toronto Sportsmen's Show

March 17 – 21 2010 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.
www.sportshows.ca/Toronto

Refer a Friend

Know someone who might be interested in receiving this e-Newsletter? Forward them this copy, and refer them to our [website](#) to sign-up.

*Until next time,
Happy paddling
from the folks at Souris River Canoes*



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