

Hi Fellow Sweepers! I am your site leader, Camille Richards.

I hope you are ready for a full day of cleaning, fun, kayaking, and good times. As the Mafia say (Central MS Paddling Mafia, that is), "Any day on the water is a good day"; and a day to make the water cleaner is even better!

If you are receiving this e-mail, you and/or others you have registered for signed up to clean from Ratliff Ferry Trading Post to Tommy's Trading Post. The addresses are below. This is a long section (10 miles; see map at the bottom of the page) and some may not be able to make the entire length of the trip. If not, no worries, you can clean as far as you like and make the trip back to Ratliff Ferry.

There are other options listed below for take-outs in case of emergency or if you are unable to complete the trip:

- **River Bend Park**- off of [Natchez Trace Parkway 2](#) miles from Ratliff Ferry- not an official boat launch but could take out at the bottom of the parking lot.

- *TENTATIVE- **American Legion clubhouse** about 4.5 miles down on the right. Address: [136 Liberty Rd, Canton, MS 39046](#). I have not been able to reach anyone with the American Legion to get permission to use this location, but I'm sure we could in case of emergency.

I know some of you are planning on meeting us at Ratliff Ferry at 8am to pick up supplies then driving down and putting in at Tommy's to paddle up towards Ratliff Ferry. This is perfectly fine, just keep an eye on the currents as you will be going against it.

We have 3 (possibly more) motor-powered vessels that have signed up to help! Lori Voss will be meeting up with us on her pontoon boat that we can put extra bags and coolers on to stay hydrated! Philip and Landon will have a John boat to help carry trash for us, and Karen Horne will be on a jet ski. Brent Bailey may be heading upriver from Ratliff Ferry or down river from Coal Bluff, so we may be seeing him on the water too!

Addresses for our locations: Start Location: Ratliff Ferry Trading Post, [1275 Ratliff Ferry, Rd, Canton, MS](#) Take-Out Location: Tommy's Trading Post, [4238 MS-43, Brandon, MS](#)

If you haven't already looked at it, please click below for a checklist you will need for the day. I want to stress that we are cleaning up the Pearl and do NOT want to bring items that could contribute to the mess! Please try to bring a re-usable water bottle to keep the plastic out of the landfill! I will have water to re-fill your bottles with on the shore and on our boats.

<http://www.pearlriverkeeper.com/volunteer-checklist.html>

Don't forget to SIGN THE WAIVER on the website. If you have not signed a waiver by the Saturday, I will have some printed to sign before we get on the water.

And last, but not least... the after parties! Here is the list of festivities that will be occurring at the end of the day on Saturday. You are welcome to attend any or all of them. At this time, I am unsure of what the admission is to prove you are a registered

“Sweeper”, but I will have that information for you on Saturday. I think the Pelahatchie Shore park party may be the largest and most of us will be returning there since it is closer to home.

Rick's Cafe [319B Hwy 182](#) East Starkville, MS 4:00 pm, Drinks provided **Ratliff Ferry Trading Post** [1275 Ratliff Ferry Rd](#) Canton, MS After cleanup Plenty of TVs to watch the football games Flag Island Hawg Cookers will be cooking up hot dogs for registered participants **Pelahatchie Shore Park** [478 Pelahatchie Shore Drive](#) Brandon, MS (After turning onto Pelahatchie Shore Drive, take your first left towards the pavilions on the water) 5:00-7:00 pm Live music from Jonathan Alexander Capitol Coney Island and Hog Heaven BBQ food trucks Free beer courtesy of Capital City Beverage, Sweetwater Brewing, and Terrapin **Bring chairs or a blanket
Important numbers you may need:
Abby Braman [540-419-7567](#)
Camille Richards [601-672-0396](#)
Maintenance, Steve Clark: [601-421-4658](#)
Goshen Springs Campground: [601-278-1637](#)

I will keep everyone posted if there are any weather concerns but hoping for a nice day that day.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns! It's not too late to encourage your friends or family to sign up too! Just have them go to www.pearlriverkeeper.com to get registered! See you all on the water!

