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Explore Berlin waterway on kayaks

BY CHARLENE POLK • FOR THE BEACHCOMBER • APRIL 29, 2010

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BERLIN — Ocean City visitors looking for a quieter way to enjoy the water need not look any further than Ayers Creek, thanks to a new local business.

Ayers Creek Adventures, located on Ayers Creek in Berlin, is open and offering kayak and canoe tours of the scenic waterway. Suzy and Steven Taylor, who live on site, opened the business they'd been thinking of for years this spring with their return to the Eastern Shore from New Jersey.

"It's something we've always been interested in," Suzy Taylor said.

She said that Ayers Creek Adventures, based in the family's backyard, was a way of turning a hobby into a business and at the same time providing others with the chance to explore the not-so-accessible Ayers Creek.

With their fleet of 29 boats (made up of kayaks, tandem kayaks and canoes), the Taylors will offer a variety of tours on Ayers Creek as well as rentals. Customers can rent a kayak to explore the creek on their own at a rate of \$15 an hour or \$45 a day, while tours range in price from \$40-70.

"The Adventure Tour" is a five-hour trip to Chincoteague Bay, gourmet lunch included, while the "Forested Wetlands Exploration Tour" — ideal for school groups — gives paddlers the chance to explore Ayers Creek and participate in hands-on activities such as water quality testing. During the tour, Steven Taylor, who previously worked for the Environmental Protection Agency and served as a former director of the Maryland Coastal Bays program, will also point out local species of wildlife and their habitats.

There is also a full-moon paddle and wine-tasting for adults, along with custom tours that can be set up for groups of six or more.

"It's fun and it's a great learning experience," Steven Taylor said. "It's more than just a roller coaster ride."

The Taylors have also installed a "Yak-A-Launcher," a sort of kayak dock, complete with handlebar, which enables paddlers to get into their kayak easily without getting wet.

"We're really pleased with it," Suzy Taylor said. "It makes it very easy. They're very stable."



Purchase this Photo

Suzy and Steven Taylor recently realized a longtime dream when they opened Ayers Creek Adventures, offering guided canoe and kayak tours on Ayers Creek in Berlin. (Laura Emmons photo)

IF YOU GO...

WHAT: Ayers Creek Adventures
WHERE: 8628 Grey Fox Lane, Berlin
CALL: 888-602-6288
WEB: www.ayerscreekadventures.com

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