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DURHAM, N.H. -- It’s summertime on the coast of Maine. The sun is reflecting off the cold water, the air is warm and there is a light ocean breeze. A flotilla of brightly colored kayaks explores inlets and breaks for lunch on a sandy beach. It’s all part of a unique sea kayak event hosted by Northeast Passage in southern Maine.

The second annual Point Paddle to benefit Northeast Passage will be held June 25 and 26, 2006 at Winslow Park in Freeport, Maine. This two-day adventure includes camping, kayaking and an ocean side lobster bake. There is a “one day only” option available for all paddlers (Sunday, June 25).

Participants will enjoy recreation and relaxation while raising money and awareness for Northeast Passage’s adapted sports programs. The event is designed for people of all abilities, including families, advanced paddlers and people with disabilities. Some paddling experience is required to participate. Each participant is asked to secure pledges or donations.

“This is an exceptional opportunity for outdoor enthusiasts, with and without disabilities, to come together for a memorable experience on the water,” said Jill Gravink, director of Northeast Passage.

The Point Paddle is part of Mountains to Marshes, a trilogy of fundraising events to benefit Northeast Passage. Mountains to Marshes is New England’s premier three-sport, three-season outdoor adventure for people with disabilities, their families and friends. Mountains to Marshes also includes cross country skiing in February and cycling in September.

The Point Paddle is sponsored by Martin’s Point Health Care and Liberty Mutual.

Northeast Passage is a self-funded program of the University of New Hampshire’s School of Health and Human Services and is an affiliate of Disabled Sports USA. Northeast Passage develops and delivers innovative, barrier-free recreation and health promotion programs. All proceeds from these events directly benefit Northeast Passage’s programs.

To participate in the Point Paddle or any of Northeast Passage’s programs, call 603/862-0070, email northeast.passage@unh.edu, or visit www.nepassage.org.