

Pike River Rendezvous on Simmons Island August 6-7, 2016

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KENOSHA- The Pike River Rendezvous returns to Kenosha for its 19th annual event on August 6 and 7. The Colonial through Western Fur Trade era of the 1740s through 1840s will come alive at Simmons Island. Highlights of the event including storytelling, musical entertainment and pirate battles -- along with more than 300 reenactors adding to the atmosphere.

Access to Simmons Island will be limited to non-motorized traffic beginning Wednesday, August 3 as set-up begins. No activities are scheduled Friday, August 5, but people are welcome to visit the site as reenactors set up camp.

A full schedule of entertainment is slated at the rendezvous from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Saturday, and 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Sunday. Opening ceremonies take place at the flag pole at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Throughout the event, visitors will be able to go back in time to an era when Native Americans and fur traders gathered to exchange goods and services and to celebrate. Costumed reenactors talk about what life was like during the fur-trading era and will demonstrate the crafts and trades of the time. Food, snacks, and souvenirs will be available from vendors, and people are welcome to participate in games, create crafts, and try their hand at period household chores.

The Pike River Rendezvous is located on Simmons Island (50th Street at Kenosha's Lakefront). Free parking is available at Kennedy Park (40th Street and Fifth Avenue). Park your car at Kennedy Park and climb aboard a horse-drawn wagon for free shuttle service to Simmons Island from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public.

Saturday's schedule: Camp opens at 9 a.m.; knife & hawk contest for all ages at 9:30 a.m.; opening ceremonies at 10 a.m.; pirate battle at 11 a.m.; Col. Webb's Band of Musik 11:30 a.m.; Remembrance Ceremony 1 p.m.; Andre St. Pierre storytelling at 1:30 p.m.; Col. Webb's Band of Musik 2 p.m.; primitive archery at 2:30 p.m.; camp closes at 5 p.m.

Sunday's schedule: Camp opens with church service at 9 a.m.; opening ceremony at 10 a.m.; Brent Towle drumming at 10:30 a.m.; pirate battle 11 a.m.; Andre St. Pierre storytelling at 12:30 p.m.; Col. Webb's Band of Musik at 1:30 p.m.; fire starting contest 2 p.m.; camp closes at 4 p.m.