

▶ CITIZEN-TIMES.com ▶ Weather ▶ Jobs ▶ Cars ▶ Real Estate ▶ Rentals ▶ Shopping ▶ Classifieds ▶ Dating

CITIZEN-TIMES.com/outdoors  
**WNC Outdoors**



53°F « 57 / 29  
 Partly Sunny  
 AccuWeather  
 Forecast »

Local News | Your News | Nat'l/World News | Obits | Sports | Business | Living | OpEd | Columnists | Entertainment | Blogs  
 | Podcasts | Health

Home  
 Local News  
 Your News  
 National / World  
 Obituaries

Obituaries Help

Sports  
 HS Sports  
 Outdoors  
 Business  
 Living  
 Opinion / Editorial  
 Politics  
 Staff Columnists  
 Entertainment  
 Newcomer's Guide  
 Photos  
 Blogs  
 Podcasts  
 Health & Fitness  
 Mobile/PDA Site  
 RSS Feeds  
 Databases  
 Technology  
 Travel  
 Lottery  
 Subscriber Services  
 Customer Service  
 Search Asheville

## Outdoors

### Outdoors gift guide

#### Presents for every enthusiast in your life

by **Johnny Buck**, JBUCK@CITIZEN-TIMES.com  
 published November 29, 2007 12:15 am

Comment e-mail this Print this

ASHEVILLE — Need a gift idea for the outdoors enthusiast in your life? We've got you covered, from kayaks to GPS units, backpacking stoves to clothes. Following are some of the latest gear, gadgets and gizmos for outdoor recreation.

Whether you're looking for the perfect gift for a hard-core fisherman or a simple stocking stuffer, the answers are in front of you.

#### Paddling

A winning entry in 2006 National Paddling Film Festival for best instructional video, the "Kayaker's Toolbox" is full of the tips you need to improve your whitewater kayaking. Shot entirely in high definition with more than 2 1/2 hours of

CITIZEN-TIMES.com  
 ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES • VOICE OF THE MOUNTAINS

Visit our ultimate Guide  
 for holiday gift-giving **GO**



credit: Stephen Miller, SMiller@CITIZEN-TIMES.COM

[Enlarge this photo](#) | [Purchase a reprint](#)



**Nurses Golden Living Center has positions available for Part-tim**

Nurses Golden Living Center has positions...

**AUDITOR II The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is seeking**

AUDITOR II The Eastern Band of Cherokee ...

**Seeking Creative Employees to provide Part-time support for adult**

Seeking Creative Employees to provide Part...

**Accounting Position Asheville based franchisee of a national**

Accounting Position Asheville based franchisee...

**Kearfott Guidance and Navigation, a large manufacturer**

Kearfott Guidance and Navigation, a large...



Your news now  
Where you need it  
When you need it

m.CITIZEN-TIMES.com  
ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES • VOICE OF THE MOUNTAINS

The WRSI Current Helmet is a multi-impact helmet built to provide maximum protection. The result of intense work by the Whitewater Research and Safety Institute and Johns Hopkins University, it's headgear designed to remain in place in the swiftest water conditions, built in multiple layers and priced affordably. The helmet can be adjusted to fit most head sizes. \$69.95 at the Nantahala Outdoor Center.

The Werner Side Kick paddle features a large down-turned blade ideal for stronger paddlers. The fiberglass shaft flexes to cushion your shoulders and elbows, while reduced blade area at the throat diminishes contact with the side of your kayak. Available in regular, small-shaft and bent-shaft options. \$230 - \$305 at the Nantahala Outdoor Center.

Liquid Logic has unveiled a 2008 version of the Remix kayak. Available in four sizes ranging from the kids' 7-foot-3 inch version to 8-foot-11 inches, this whitewater boat is long and versatile. "It's a river runner, but it was created with different groups of instructors, so they're billing it as a great beginner and instructor boat," said Ross Ryan, the general manager at Diamond Brand Outdoors in Arden. Ranging in price from \$729 to \$1,049, it has various limited-edition graphics packages and has been described as stable, comfortable and fast. Also available at the Nantahala Outdoor Center.

**Backpacking/hiking**

The Vasque Mantra kids shoe is equally at home on the trail and the playground. Features water-resistant suede, nylon mesh upper and a contoured EVA foot bed. Starts at \$50.

Leave the filtration pump at home and carry the iodine tablets for an emergency only, because the SteriPEN has been tweaked and updated. In 90 seconds, this water purifier uses ultraviolet light to make water safe for drinking. Starts at \$79.95 at Diamond Brand Outdoors. Sediment filters are \$12.95.

The Altis TI altimeter is constructed with a titanium body and a scratch-resistant,

instruction, it's five videos in one: boat control, water reading, river running, the Eskimo roll and safety. Available at the Nantahala Outdoor Center for \$30. If you're looking for a more entertaining DVD, check out "The Green Race Movie," a narrative documentary on the WNC's legendary Green River Race, created by local kayaker Chris Gallaway, and available for about \$20 from Diamond Brand and the NOC.



Your Local Real Estate Marketplace



Search Over  
1,828,418  
Homes  
for Sale

Search by City,  
Neighborhood or ZIP

Find a home now!

**Reader Toolbox**

- [Subscribe to the Asheville Citizen-Times](#)
- [View our Newsroom Ethics Policy](#)
- [Write a Letter to the Editor](#)
- [Submit a News Tip](#)



**Holiday Gift Guide**

Click to start shopping

**Sensibilities Day Spa**  
BILTMORE PARK  
Two Town Sq. Blvd.  
828.687.8760  
sensibilities-spa.com

Tag Cloud: select a tag to find related articles.

avail black dome featur ideal  
kayak line outdoor sport water

What is a Tag Cloud? »

**Related News from the Web**

» Find it online at [Topix.net](#).

[All Top Jobs](#)
[About Top Jobs](#)

mineral glass lens. Suitable for numerous outdoor activities, the Altis TI features "24 Hour Active Memory" that offers real-time data on current elevation, total ascent rate, total descent rate and traveling rate per minute. This watch can also show altitude change from a given starting point at any time. Equipped with a ski chronograph, compass and weather station. \$300. Available online at

[www.highgear.com](http://www.highgear.com).



The new MSR Reactor is the "fastest, most efficient, all-conditions stove system" on the market, according to Matt Gentling, an employee at Black Dome Mountain Sports. If you haven't seen this backpacking stove yet, think of a bigger Jet Boil. Highly efficient, the Reactor separates itself from its peers in extreme cold or wind. Comes with a 1.7-liter pot, making it ideal for two-person trips. \$139.95.

## Clothes

Mizuno's new line of Breath Thermo apparel is ideal for winter exercise. Each time the fabric gets damp, an exothermic reaction takes place that actually warms the wet cloth. That means that you won't get chilled in the winter from breaking a sweat. Mizuno has a large array of Breath Thermo products, such as socks, gloves, hats, ear warmers, pants, tights and shirts. The gloves, available at FootRx, are \$19.95.

Mountain Khakis continue to be a popular buy for all types of outdoors enthusiasts. These durable pants use heavy cotton and triple-stitched seams. Recently, the company has added corduroy and twill to its lineup. Starts at \$70 at Mast General Store.

The Vibram FiveFingers Surge

is an athletic foot covering that protects your entire foot like a glove — literally. Each toe has an individual sleeve in this bootie, which is designed for water sports such as kayaking and fishing. Made with a performance rubber sole and an abrasion-resistant, polyamide upper. \$110 at Diamond Brand Outdoors.

## Fishing

Orvis recently redesigned its popular entry-level fly-fishing rod. The Clearwater II is said to be lighter and more responsive, and comes in two- and four-piece models for \$159-\$189. Pair it with the Ross Fly Reel Outfit (about \$60), a reel available in two sizes, which comes with fly line and leader, for an excellent entry-level combo. Available at Hunter Banks Co.

Orvis ZG Helios fly rod (about \$765) is the "lightest and most durable fly rod that has ever been made," according to Shane Buckner, shop manager at Hunter Banks Co. It comes in freshwater and saltwater models. For an elite combo, pair it with the popular Battenkill Bar Stock reel (\$99-\$119) and the brand-new Sharkskin line (\$99.95) from Scientific Angler. Buckner said Sharkskin line has zero memory, casts well and lasts up to four times longer than traditional lines.

The Native Manta Ray is perfect for the kayaking fisherman. Ranging in size from 11 feet to 14 feet 5 inches, it's a ride-on-top vessel with surprising stability thanks in part to a rockered hull. It's easy to paddle, tracks well and offers great

maneuverability. "You can get into spots that you can't normally," said Ross Ryan, general manager at Diamond Brand Outdoors. A large stern recess and ample hatches offer plenty of room for gear. Accommodates three rod holders easily. Good for lakes and gentle rivers. Starts at \$649.

## Cycling

Innovations' Tire Repair and Inflation Wallet is a self-contained kit with everything you need to fix a flat. It includes two 16-gram CO2 cartridges, two tire levers and a small patch kit, and comes in a zippered pouch measuring 4-by-3.5-inches. \$27.98 at BioWheels.

The revamped Pedro's Mini Pit Kit has everything you need in a bucket to keep your bike clean. Includes brushes, biodegradable cleaner and lubricant. \$29.98 at BioWheels.

Light & Motion's Stella is a lamp designed with the cyclist in mind. This new product features a bright, long-lasting LED bulb, rechargeable battery and a handlebar or helmet mount. It's also extremely light and compact, and retails for \$199.99. "You can spend that much money on another light that weighs three times as much," said Eric Krause, the co-owner of BioWheels.

## Running

Headlamps: Petzl's Zipka Plus is a bright, powerful headlamp that provides up to 150 hours of light on one set of batteries. It's ideal for trail running at night and costs about \$40. Road runners might prefer the smaller Petzl E+ Light, which has 45 hours of burning power from a watchlike battery. Great for cyclists, too, and ideal for the diminishing daylight of winter. Starts around \$30.

Want to use your iPod without exposing it to the elements? If so, try the Timex i-control watch. This fully functional sports watch allows you to adjust settings like volume and song tracks wirelessly. Keep the iPod in your backpack or pocket, and make changes on the fly. \$125 at FootRx.

Garmin Forerunner 205 is a GPS unit designed with the outdoors enthusiast in mind. It can tell you how far or fast you're traveling, give information on ascent and descent, and retrace your steps if you want to turn around. Ideal for runners, cyclists or hikers, it retails for \$267.95 and works even under dense canopies. Add \$100 to the price tag if you want the Forerunner 305, which features a heart rate monitor. Available at FootRx.

## Snow sports

Black Dome Mountain Sports also has several affordable snow goggles for sale. The Anon Helix is \$50 and offers a clear, scratch-resistant lens. The Anon Realm has a spherical, convex lens for even better sight lines and costs \$120. Both offer comfortable, fog-resistant eye protection.

The Burton Starter Kit includes everything an entry-level snowboarder needs to get tuned up. Includes a cable lock, miniscraper pads and bullet tool. \$34.95 at Black Dome Mountain Sports.

The Burton Cruiser Insulator Pant is designed with female snowboarders in mind. With 60 grams of Thermacore synthetic insulation, it's among the warmest in Burton's catalog. Inseam vents zip open for warmer days, while Storm-lite 3.0 fabric keeps the moisture out at all times. \$179.95 at Black Dome Mountain Sports.

The Arc'teryx Stingray Snow Jacket is the latest garment for the slopes. Featuring a Gore-Tex Softshell outer layer and laminated zippers throughout, this jacket also boasts a laminated powder skirt with elastic and snap closures. \$499.99 at Black Dome.

The Burton Custom X is a top-of-the-line, all-terrain snowboard. It's stiffer, faster and lighter than the Burton Custom board, according to Matt Gentling, an employee at Black Dome Mountain Sports. \$649.95.

### Stocking stuffers

The Pro Bar is a vegan meal-replacement bar. Blended, not baked, to maintain the integrity of 15 whole food ingredients, this certified organic product is available in seven flavors and sold locally at Greenlife Grocery and Earth Fare. Suggested retail: \$3.29.

Nalgene has added a Christmas twist to a classic product. In this red container, you'll get the same 32-ounce capacity with the world's most famous reindeer depicted on the front. Fill it with trail mix for a great gift. \$9.50 at Black Dome.

The Camelbak Brush Set helps keep your Camelbak in tiptop shape year round. The two brushes remove and prevent bacteria or fungus from collecting in the feeder tubes. Combine this with Camelbak's cleaning tablets, made of Chlorine Dioxide, to keep the water reservoir pristine. About \$20, and available at [www.camelbak.com](http://www.camelbak.com).

The Amphipod Xinglet is a highly reflective strap that goes around the waist and over the shoulders. It's more comfortable than wearing a full reflective vest, but serves the same purpose. Ideal for runners and cyclists, one size fits all. \$20.95 at FootRx.



Contact Johnny Buck at 828-232-5922, via e-mail at [jbuck@citizen-times.com](mailto:jbuck@citizen-times.com)

Type in your comments to post to the forum

Name  
(appears on your post) You are currently logged in as . **Not ?**

Name  
(appears on your post)

**Registration** Welcome to Topix Forums! Please fill out the form below to set up an account and post your comment. If you are a returning user, [click here to log in](#)

• Topix Username

Will display with your forum posts

• Email Address

Will never be shown to other users

• Password

At least five characters (letters and numbers)

• Confirm Password

• Birthdate

Required by [COPPA](#)

**Login** Sign in with your existing Topix account and write your comments below. [Don't have an account?](#)

Email Address

Password

[Forgot your password?](#)

## Comments







Type the numbers you see in the image on the right:



Please note by clicking on "Post Comment" you acknowledge that you have read the [Terms of Service](#) and the comment you are posting is in compliance with such terms. **Be polite.** Inappropriate posts may be removed by the moderator.

### Quick Links to Other Headlines

- » [Runner or biker? Maybe it doesn't matter as long as you exercise](#) (Nov. 24, 2007)
- » [Fly fishing is guide's life](#) (Nov. 23, 2007)

Partners: [Jobs: CareerBuilder.com](#) • [Cars: Cars.com](#) • [Apartments: Apartments.com](#) • [Shopping: ShopLocal.com](#)  
Your Top CITIZEN-TIMES.com RSS Feeds  [Local News](#)  [Sports](#)  [Business](#)  [Entertainment](#)  [Opinion](#)  [Living](#)  
[Customer Service](#) • [Terms of Service](#) • [Send feedback about CITIZEN-TIMES.com](#) • [Subscribe Now](#) • [Jobs with us](#)

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

Copyright © 2007 Asheville Citizen-Times. All rights reserved.

[USA Today](#) • [USA Weekend](#) • [Gannett Co., Inc.](#) • [Gannett Foundation](#)

