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Moundville Archaeological Park Hosts First High Intensity Foot Race with Black Warrior Riverkeeper

Moundville, Ala. – Black Warrior Riverkeeper and Moundville Archaeological Park will present the Warrior River Run at 8 a.m. on Saturday, September 21, at Moundville Archaeological Park. The first race of its kind at Moundville Archaeological Park, the Warrior River Run will feature a full mile flat-track race, a physically demanding sprint to the summits of Mounds A and B and two surprise obstacles of an ancient origin.

Moundville Archaeological Park's distinctive terrain and history inspired the competition, and its location along the Black Warrior River solidified the union with Black Warrior Riverkeeper. The river is named after Chief Tushkalusa, also the namesake of Tuscaloosa. In Choctaw, *tushka* means "warrior" and *lusa* means "black."

Black Warrior Riverkeeper is a nonprofit clean water advocacy organization whose mission is to protect and restore the Black Warrior River and its tributaries. The group supports public health, recreation and wildlife by holding polluters accountable in the Black Warrior River basin, which includes parts of 17 Alabama counties.

Both organizations are active in community education and well-being through the multitude of programs they offer. With the launch of this event, Moundville Archaeological Park and Black Warrior Riverkeeper will unite with a demographic untapped in the past. Both groups will contribute prizes for the race's winner and runner up.

"We are proud to work with Moundville Archaeological Park for this exciting new event," said Charles Scribner, executive director of Black Warrior Riverkeeper. "We hope the Warrior River Run will become an annual competition at this unique riverside attraction."

Competitors may preregister at blackwarriorriver.org/news/warrior-river-run.html for \$25 or register on site the day of the event for \$35. All spectators pay general park admission and are welcome to explore all of Moundville Archaeological Park (13075 Moundville Archaeological Park, Moundville, AL 35474) including the recently renovated Jones Archaeological Museum, for the duration of the day. For directions, visit: moundville.ua.edu/visitor-information/

"All in all, we just want every racer to challenge themselves, have a great competitive experience and enjoy what Moundville Archaeological Park and Black Warrior Riverkeeper have to offer," said Jordan Bannister, on-site AmeriCorps VISTA and event coordinator.

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[Moundville Archaeological Park](#)'s mission is to maintain, preserve and interpret the Moundville site while fostering research and providing recreational experiences. The park's education office strives to preserve Native American culture through sharing knowledge.

[Black Warrior Riverkeeper](#)'s mission is to protect and restore the Black Warrior River and its tributaries. The citizen-based nonprofit organization advocates for clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation and public health in our patrol area, the Black Warrior River watershed. This river basin is entirely contained in Alabama, America's leading state for freshwater biodiversity.