



# **DRENCHED FUR 4**

Your guide book to  
*The Best Little Run For Fun!*

**April 4 - 6, 2008**  
**Erie, Pennsylvania**

## Welcome to DF4!

So it's finally here. Funny how time goes by quickly. Scratch that—it goes by FAST when you're focusing on so many things at once. I'm really pleased to see the arrival of this year's version of Drenched Fur. And I am glad to have been a part of it for all four years so far. My, how things have changed from the first 80 attendees to this year's 200+ registrants!

This year is by far no exception to the continued effort to improve upon what we've done in the past. I'm looking forward most to see all the smiling faces this weekend, proving that Drenched Fur truly is the *The Best Little Run For Fun!*

And it goes without saying that I'm incredibly proud of the work the committee has put forth this year. In the past, we would pull the run together in just 90 days. This year we started earlier than ever and I think it shows. Thru unexpected curves in the road and adventures in new arenas, we have achieved so much. So when you spot one of them in a tie dyed tee shirt, say 'Thanks!' please.

**Gary aka GarBear73,  
Run Coordinator**



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## Meet The Committee

During the course of the weekend, you might just see the fuzzy faces below working in front or behind the scenes. These are the men who have helped make DF4 what it is today for all of us to enjoy. When you see one of them, feel free to take a moment show them your appreciation for the work they've accomplished - just a simple thank you can go a long way and is always welcome. :)

**Chris aka  
NWPABearCub**



**Jack aka  
LeatherJack**



**Michael aka  
UberGeek to  
the Stars**



**Nick aka  
JabberJaws**



**Uncle Pete aka  
BerryBear**



# DF4 FAQs

After months of planning, it's here: Drenched Fur 4. So let's kick back, relax and have some fun while we're together. And just in case you're wondering, here are some answers to a few questions you might have about the run:

## Where do I get supplies?

Feel free to check out our map we've included on page 14 for info on locations to do some shopping for things like necessities as well as alcohol. Also included in your run bag is a map of downtown Erie with establishments listed that you are welcome to visit.

## Where the heck is everything?

Well, on Page 14 we have a map of local points of interest in the city of Erie for those who care to go out adventuring. Inside the back cover you will also find directions for driving around in the city to get yourself to/from each run activity place. The majority of places are in the main city itself.

## How do we get around?

During your weekend with us, shuttle service will be provided for attendees to get from the main points back and forth. As an example, for Friday's Splash Lagoon event, folks can hop on our shuttle bus out front of the Avalon lobby and come and go as much as they like. Keep in mind that the shuttle will only be running until 1:30 AM however. The Saturday afternoon casino trip and winery tour will also have transportation.

## Can I drive myself?

The Winery Tour is only with the shuttle service provided. As for Splash Lagoon and Presque Isle Downs and Casino, guests are welcome to drive themselves if they like. Please be sure to read over the information on pg. 15 for directions.

## What's included again?

Paid registrants will receive a DF4 Name Badge and goodie bag. Remember to wear your name badge as it gives you access to all DF4 events: Friday night's Splash Lagoon, the Casino Trip or the Winery Tour, not to mention it also gets you into the Greet 'n Grope and After Hours parties; which leads us to the next item, food. Remember: **Bear Your Badge!**

## What about meals?

This year's run cost was kept low with, some meals during the weekend provided. Those that are not included are Friday's Dinner and Saturday's breakfast/lunch. We do suggest Benjamin's Pub on the first floor for folks who would like a sit down meal without traveling.

If folks are in the mood to enjoy the eats and treats along the lines of diner fare, we highly recommend the Zodiac Diner, located at 26th and State Streets, just a quick drive south on State Street (away from the lake). Look for their promotional insert for a discount for DF4 folks!

At Friday night's Splash Lagoon event, the Laguna Grill will be open and provides various food and beverage items to purchase for your enjoyment. Both AfterHours functions will provide some food items as well.

On Saturday morning, coffee service will be available in the Vendors Mall. Later that evening, we will enjoy a cocktail hour and buffet dinner service in the Niagara Ballroom. On Sunday morning we have the Breakfast Buffet with the Charity Silent Auction before everyone leaves.

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## Saturday Afternoon Events

This year we're proud to offer full run package participants two options. We are very excited at the return of our visit to wine country after last year's successful event. Registrants enjoying this option will be stopping at four local wineries in the Northeast, PA and Westfield, NY areas. The winery tour bus will be leaving promptly from in front of the Avalon Hotel at 12:30 PM. Each destination will allow for some time to taste and/or tour the operation as well as making purchases and returning around 5:30 PM.

Those folks who are going on the Casino Trip will have a non-stop shuttle loop from the hotel to Presque Isle Downs and Casino starting at 1pm. Pick up your Players Club card for use in the casino when you arrive. The shuttle bus will leave the casino for the last time at 5:30 PM sharp.



# HIV

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**STD Testing Hours:**  
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Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM  
Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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# MARK THE DATE!

## LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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# Friday's Splash Lagoon Info



After three years of invading Splash Lagoon for water slides, soaks, some relaxing and smiles, we're BACK to have even more fun as our own party! Splash Lagoon is a family-fun facility, which means it goes without saying that our track record from the past three years has allowed us to return and enjoy all that Splash Lagoon has to offer its guests. We know how we all love to have fun, especially with the bears getting wet 'cause that's what Drenched Fur is about!

Please keep in mind that we need to

behave appropriately for the environment we will be in. It makes sense that we show our appreciation for each other when we have the chance. 'Woof'-ing aside, let's not get carried away while we're there with our public displays of affection. We would love to return again next year and you can help us insure our future admittance. In other words, we're not in a bath house guys, so please keep your weiner in your trunks. ; ) ***Inappropriate behavior offenders will be removed from Splash Lagoon and the entire run without refund!***

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## ***Tips and Reminders for Splash Lagoon:***

***'Access Pass' Wristbands will be distributed on the shuttle bus for each person attending Splash Lagoon.***

### **How do we get to Splash Lagoon?**

There will be non-stop shuttle service on Friday night from in front of the Avalon Lobby (10th Street) looping up and back to Splash from 9:30 PM til 1:30 AM.

### **Can we drive to Splash Lagoon?**

Parking for the facility is both in the front and to the right side of the Holiday Inn with more parking around back of the building. Entrance to the park is right at the front main entrance. Directions are on the inside back cover to the run guide.

### **What should I bring?**

Your DF4 Beach Towel, personal items such as shampoo, soap, hairdryers, money etc. Towels are not provided by Splash Lagoon. DF4 Beach Towels are the individual attendees' responsibility to bring with them to Splash.

### **Where do I put my stuff?**

This year since we're the only ones in

the park, you have the option of picking/reserving a table space to drop off your stuff. Keep in mind that this is your own responsibility choice without security.

Another option is to place your personal items in a secure locker at Splash. Lockers are available to all guests for a rate of \$8/small and \$10/large including a returnable \$5 deposit. (i.e. when done, the cost comes out to \$3 for a small & \$5 for a large) Lockers are limited and first come first serve. General seating is available on the Mezzanine Level and on the main floor.

### **How do I shower/change?**

ONLY use the men's changing area with shower facilities located on the lower level near the lockers. Please do not leave any personal belongings in this area.

### **What about food & drink?**

Outside food and beverages are not permitted in the park. Guests can purchase items from the Laguna Grill.

**Inappropriate Behavior (aka sexual activity)  
WILL NOT be tolerated at Splash Lagoon.**

Participants taking things too far will be removed from the run completely without refund. We have a good track record of 3 years with the waterpark resort thus far. Please don't ruin a good, clean, fun time for everyone who is attending this event.

Thank You,  
The DF4 Committee



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# DRENCHED FUR 4 EVENTS SCHEDULE

## Thursday

**7 PM til ?:** **Early Arrival Social** - Raphael's Tavern, 363 W 8th Street.

## Friday

**3 PM til 12 AM:** **Run Registration/Check-In** - 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room.

**7 PM til 10 PM:** **Greet 'n Grope & Vendor Mall** - Sponsored by Bears of Toronto, 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room. Cover charge for all non-run attendees.

**9:30 PM til 2 AM:** **Splash Lagoon Constant Shuttle Service** - Lobby. Bring your towel! Also see pages 6 & 7 for more details.

**10 PM til 1:30 AM:** **Splash Lagoon Private Event Activity**

**1:30 AM til 4 AM:** **After Hours I** - Sponsored by the Burgh Bears, 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room. Cover charge for all non-run attendees.

## Saturday

**9 AM til 12 PM:** **Run Registration/Check-In** - 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room.

**10 AM til 12 PM: Vendor Mall and Coffee Service** - 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room.

**12:30 PM til 5:30 PM: Bears Being Wine-ohs Tour** - Lobby. Departure at 12:30 PM sharp. See page 5 for more details.

**1 PM til 5:30 PM: 'Show Me The Money' Casino Tour Shuttle Service** - Lobby. Bring your badge and coin change! Also see page 5 for more details.

**6 PM til 7 PM: Cocktail Hour Social & Vendor Mini-Mall** - Niagara Ballroom. (No outside containers allowed.)

**7 PM til 8 PM: Buffet Dinner Service** - Niagara Ballroom.

**8:30 PM til 9:30 PM: Entertainment Event: Opening Act ~ Uncle Pete, Headliner ~ William Brown** - Niagara Ballroom. Cover charge for all non-run attendees also includes DJ'd dance.

**10 PM til 2 AM: Wet 'n Wild Dance with DJ Tony Ruiz** - Niagara Ballroom. Cover charge for all non-run attendees.

**1:30 AM til 4 AM: After Hours II** - Sponsored by ARKTOS, 2nd Floor, Hospitality Room. Cover charge for all non-run attendees.

## Sunday

**9 AM til 12 PM: Goodbye Belly Rubs Breakfast Buffet & Charity Silent Auction** - Niagara Ballroom. Cover charge for all non-run attendees.

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Michael Egdes photo by Michael Murphy.

# Saturday Evening's Entertainment Events

After last year's successful run, the committee decided to repeat the convenience of an in-house all-in-one event evening. We're bringing back together some of the things everyone enjoys best; food, laughs and music. We're proud to have a great cocktail hour starting at 6 PM, followed by the buffet dinner service.

After dinner, it is the continuation of Drenched Fur's desire to bring you new and different entertainment. In supporting our focus on bringing Erie enjoyable gay entertainment, we're incredibly excited to have two familiar faces join us this year as our entertainment. Our opening act this year is none other than Erie's own **Uncle Pete**. Some of you may recognize him from years past as a member of our run committee.



*Uncle Pete*

Not only is he helping us again, he's doing stand up comedy too!

Then it's on to our headlining act for the evening, **William Brown**. Last year our special guest made a great impression as our DJ BearCub for Drenched Fur 3. Later in the summer months, some of the committee members witnessed his now infamous performance in Columbus, Ohio for BearCamp 2007.

William is very well known in the bear community, for his DJ'ng skills. This year,

though he's returning not to spin tunes, he'll give a but gusting performance as one of THE funniest out and proud comedians we've ever seen! During the run William will also be making available his much anticipated DVD!



*William Brown*


After the laughs, it's time to get the boogie on during our Wet 'n Wild DJ'd dance. So from last year's DJ becoming this year's comedian, we're incredibly proud to bring one of the world wide bear communities most popular DJs, **Tony Ruiz**. We don't know if Tony will be turning to comedy any time soon, but he has been making the Bear Community dance since 2001. Today he holds club residences in the Pines of Fire Island, New York City, Pittsburgh, DC, Philadelphia and Rehobeth Beach. Dance music is his passion, and he has been



*DJ Tony Ruiz*

traveling the world sharing his love of dance music with Bears everywhere with appearances at the London Arches, Bear Pride, Bear Trek, San Diego Pride, W.O.O.F. and New York City Pride. retro tunes, and bear friendly hits.

With exciting anticipation we are looking forward to a great dance for everyone here at Drenched Fur 4!



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# Sunday Morning's Charity Silent Auction



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children™**

In continuing to help support those that make a difference in the community, this year DF4 will once again raise money to pay it forward. We have chosen The Shriners Hospital here in Erie, PA as this year's charity focus.

Shriners Hospitals for Children is a one-of-a-kind international health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing specialty pediatric care, innovative research and outstanding teaching programs.

Children up to the age of 18 with orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord

injuries and cleft lip and palate are eligible for admission and receive all care in a family-centered environment at no charge – regardless of financial need.

This year we are looking to bring a wonderful donation amount to improve the stay time for the children who will be at the Erie Shriners Hospital. This improvement in their time at Shriners will be in the way of having Build-A-Bear animals created as desired by the children who will be staying at Shriners. So please help us make a positive impact in the lives of these children with your donations and charity purchases.



**Say What?! Productions is proud to be a sponsor of Drenched Fur 4**

**Our shirts provide those cheeky things some of us have thought and never said. Then again, maybe you never had these ideas cross your mind, but no matter what, they give people a reason to pause and perhaps - A BIG OL' SMILE AND A LAUGH!**

**All proceeds from the sales this weekend will directly benefit Drenched Fur 4! Stop by the vendor mall for a great deal: Get any 3 items for only \$20!**

**Have YOU turned heads lately?**

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# DF4 Points of Interest Map



## Map Legend

A - Avalon Hotel .....	16 W 10th St.....	814.459.2220
B - Modern News (Adult Bookstore) .....	1113 State St.....	814.453.6932
C - Eastern Books (Adult Bookstore).....	1313 State St.....	814.459.7014
D - Wine & Spirits Liquor Store .....	105 W 18 <sup>th</sup> St .....	814.871.4785
D - The Zone Dance Club .....	133 W 18 <sup>th</sup> St .....	814.452.0125
E - The Zodiac Dinor .....	2516 State St.....	814.455.3543
F - Raphael's Tavern.....	363 W 8 <sup>th</sup> St .....	814.454.1879
G - Millcreek Mall (Shopping).....	Interchange Rd and Peach St	
H - Splash Lagoon Water Park.....	8091 Peach St .....	814.217.1111
I - Presque Isle Downs (Slots Casino).....	8199 Perry Hwy .....	866.374.3386

# Weekend Directions

## **Driving from The Avalon Hotel (A) to The Zone Dance Club (D):**

Head south on State Street (which runs along the Avalon on the left/west side) to the intersection at 18th Street. Take a right onto 18th go through the next intersection at Peach and 18th (Erie Downtown Motel will be on the right). Get in the immediate left lane to turn left into the plaza parking lot. The Zone has the large black and white sign.

## **Driving from The Zone Dance Club (D) to The Avalon Hotel (A):**

Head out of The Zone's parking lot and take a right onto 18th Street. At the first intersection at the corner of 18th and Peach (Erie Downtown Motel will be on the intersection far left corner), follow Peach Street left all the way down to 10th Street. Peach St. goes past the Avalon Hotel on the West (left of front) side of the facility. The Avalon's underground parking garage can be entered from 9th St. behind the building.

## **Driving from The Avalon Hotel (A) to Splash Lagoon (H):**

Head south on State St. to the intersection at 26th (Country Fair will be on your left). Take a right onto 26th St. get in the immediate left lane to turn left at the next intersection. This intersection is Peach and 26th. On the angle, you will head south on Peach St. Follow it all the way up past I-90 (approx 5 miles up Peach St). Splash Lagoon will be on the left after the underpass.

## **Driving from Splash Lagoon(H) to The Avalon Hotel(A):**

Head out of Splash's parking lot and take a right onto Peach St. Follow Peach St. North (approximately 6 miles) all the way down into the city proper. Peach St. goes past the Avalon Hotel on the West (left of front) side of the facility.

## **Driving from The Avalon Hotel(A) to Presque Isle Downs (I):**

Head south on State St. for approximately 1 mile to the intersection at 26th Street (Country Fair will be on your left). Just after going straight thru this traffic light, take a slight right onto what becomes Glenwood Park Avenue/PA-505. Follow for approximately 2.9 miles past I-90. Presque Isle Downs will be on the left.

## **Driving from Presque Isle Downs(I) to The Avalon Hotel (A):**

Head out of the Casino's parking lot and take a right onto PA-505/Route 97. Follow it North (approximately 3 miles) all the way down to Stop Sign just before 26th Street. Glenwood Avenue joins onto State Street here. Follow State St past the Avalon Hotel on the East (right of front) side of the facility.

## **Walking from The Avalon Hotel (A) to Raphael's Tavern (F):**

Head North on Peach St. (left side of the Avalon facing front) for two blocks to 8th Street. Follow 8th Street left for three blocks. Raphael's is on the corner of 8th and Myrtle.

## **Walking from Raphael's Tavern (F) to The Avalon Hotel (A):**

Head right on 8th St for three blocks when leaving Raphael's. At Peach Street, turn right and follow for two blocks to 10th Street. The Avalon is on your left.

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# WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS FOR MAKING THIS WEEKEND SUCH A SUCCESS:

The Avalon Hotel and Conference Center  
Splash Lagoon Water Park Resort  
Erie Gay News   CBandC Tours   Grise A/V  
First Student Educational Services  
Dog Tags Inc.com   UMX Inc.   PayPal Inc.  
Scott Enterprises   Erie Federal Credit Union  
Yahoo Groups   BearCiti   Bear 411   BearGuide.net  
Gaudenzia/Shout Outreach   The Erie County Health Dept.  
ARKTOS   Bears of Toronto   Burgh Bears  
A Bears's Life   Bear Party Magazine   Pantheon Productions  
The Drenched Fur 4 Committee and all of the clubs whose  
members are represented here this weekend!

