

WHEN RIVERS RISE, BE WISE

Rising river flows along the Boise River can increase the risk to public safety, especially for those who recreate near or on the river. The public should use extreme caution or even avoid activity altogether near the river banks.

- Currently the Boise River is **deep, cold, and fast** and the river banks may be **slick and unstable**.
- It only takes **6 inches** of moving water to knock someone down, and only **12 inches** to sweep a vehicle away.
- Fast water flows can **push debris** downriver, which can **cause injury** or even **trap** an individual.
- Some areas along the Greenbelt may become **submerged** as river levels rise. **Do not** walk, swim, ride, or drive through flood waters. **Turn Around. Don't Drown!**
- **Never** go through barricades, these have been put up to **prevent** individuals from **flooding hazards** that may or may not be apparent.
- Check if you live within the **floodplain** by calling your city or county flood plain administrator. If you live within the flood plain, consider buying **flood insurance**. Typical waiting times for insurance can be up to **30 days**.

For more information regarding flood preparedness, please visit:
adacounty.id.gov/emergencymanagement/how-to-prepare-resources/flood/

References

- Ready.gov (2021) Floods. Retrieved from: <https://www.ready.gov/floods>
- USBR (2017) Canal Safety Program. Retrieved from: <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/about/otto/facts.pdf>

CANAL SAFETY

Canals are **NOT** for public use:

- During irrigation season, water in canal systems can be deep, cold, and fast.
- The sides of canals can be very slick, which can make it impossible to climb out of. Never swim, fish, or recreate in any way in canals. Adults, children, and pets drown in canals annually.
- Chutes and siphons in the canal system should not be used as slides to play on or tunnels to explore. They can have hidden hazards such as concrete blocks and other objects that can seriously hurt you.
- The US Bureau of Reclamation provides a canal safety coloring book as part of their canal safety program. Download it here: <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/about/otto/graphics/coloringbook.pdf>

