



Plan safer floats with local knowledge. River shuttles help you avoid flooded take-outs and unsafe access points.

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North Santiam River Safety Checklist

For Kayakers, Rafters & Anglers

Before You Go

- Check river flow and recent rainfall
- Tell someone your float plan and return time
- Confirm launch and take-out locations
- Check daylight hours and float duration
- Wear a U.S. Coast Guard–approved PFD
- Dress for cold water immersion
- Pack dry clothes in a waterproof bag
- Bring a whistle or sound-signaling device

On the River

- Stay alert for downed trees and strainers
- Avoid hugging outside bends in fast water
- Watch for bridge pilings and hydraulics
- Keep feet up if floating through current
- Never stand up in fast or knee-deep water
- Avoid flooded banks and submerged roads

Angler-Specific Safety

- Wear a wading belt at all times
- Shuffle feet to avoid foot entrapment
- Use a wading staff in moving water
- Avoid crossing swift or murky water

High Water Warning Signs

- Muddy or debris-filled water
- Flooded access roads or boat ramps
- Logs floating downstream
- Strong current pushing into banks

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If You Fall In

- Stay calm
- Float on your back, feet up
- Angle toward shore
- Get warm immediately after exiting

