

# River Rules for Fun & Safety!

## Floating Etiquette (rafts, kayaks, SUPs)

- Wear a lifejacket. Always. Things can happen quickly on a cold, fast moving river.
- Be equipped with safety knife and whistle.
- Carry a First-Aid Kit.
- Respect private property.
- Know the river, have a map, talk to local outfitters for guidance and daily conditions.
- Pick up and pack out all trash.
- Don't crowd other river users.
- Wade anglers downstream have the right of way. Quietly move around them or communicate otherwise.
- Be organized, fast and efficient on the boat ramp when putting in and taking out. Be courteous to other river users and limit ramp time to 5-10 minutes.
- Follow the golden rule – treat others as you would like to be treated – both on the boat ramp and on the water.

## Fishing Etiquette

*In addition to Floating Etiquette:*

- Obtain a valid Colorado Fishing License.
- Learn and follow local fishing regulations.
- Land fish quickly, do not play them to exhaustion.
- Keep fish wet and in the water. Minimize fish handling.
- Release fish gently in clear water, allowing fish to swim away after recovery.
- Barbless hooks - all the time.
- Anglers give other anglers plenty of room.



## Safety First!

- life jacket
- whistle
- safety knife
- first aid kit
- medications
- patch kit
- plan
- phone

## Before you get on the water, ask yourself:

- Am I capable of navigating the river in its current state?
- Is the river at a safe level for me and my guests?
- Do I have a plan?
- Does someone know where I am floating and when I plan to be back? (*Remember to make contact when float is finished and take-out is reached safely.*)

## Be a STEWARD of the River

- S**hare the river - with everyone
- T**read lightly and leave no trace
- E**tiquette is for ALL river users
- W**ait your turn and be patient
- A**dhere to closures & regulations
- R**espect all life - wild and human
- D**o your part to protect the river



Explore  
Value  
Protect

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