



Grand County

Colorado

CONTACT

Christine Travis, Communications Director

CTravis@co.grand.co.us

Mobile: 970-531-0554

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRAND COUNTY, COLO., May 22, 2024 — As Memorial Day weekend approaches, officially kicking off summer in the mountains, together with our Learning By Doing partners, Grand County offers a few reminders for enjoying our many lakes, reservoirs, rivers and streams.

Spring Runoff and High Water Flows

Grand County Learning By Doing, in partnership with local authorities, closely monitors river flows and reservoir levels. This year, all of our area reservoirs are anticipated to reach capacity and spill, resulting in a prolonged spring runoff season. As a result, the Colorado River is expected to see higher-than-average flows. Due to constraints on the Moffat Collection System, the Fraser River and its tributaries will also see increased streamflow. The increased flows can create dangerous conditions for those recreating on or near the water.

Visitors and residents enjoying Grand County's rivers and reservoirs are encouraged to follow important safety reminders:

- **Wear a personal flotation device (PFD).** The Christopher Mullinix Water Rescue Fund maintains several life jacket loaner stations throughout Grand County. Those in need of a PFD are encouraged to borrow one instead of going without.
- **Stay alert and informed.** Higher flows can create strong currents – even in areas that are normally calm. Unstable river banks, unpredictable storms and quickly changing conditions are to be expected this time of year.
- **Avoid flooded areas.** Do not attempt to drive through flooded roads or areas. This includes roadways in the East Troublesome Fire burn scar areas that frequently experience mudslides. [Learn more about being Flood Ready.](#)

Fishing and Boating

Colorado is a mandatory boat inspection state. All trailered and/or motorized (gas or electric) watercraft are required to be professionally inspected for Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) by state-certified personnel prior to launching, upon exiting and any time an inspection is requested. Prior to launching in Colorado, watercraft must have an ANS Stamp, which can be [purchased online](#).

Additionally, boaters are required to clean, drain and dry their boat, trailer and equipment every time they enter or exit waters. [Learn more about ANS inspections and boat ramp hours of operation.](#)

Throughout the summer, anglers are encouraged to be responsible, and stay aware of flows, stream temperatures and changing conditions. The public can subscribe to the [USGS WaterAlert service](#) to receive real-time emails and text message alerts with current conditions and water data.



Grand County

Colorado

Emergency Alerts

Whether visiting for a few days, the summer, or a life-long resident, everyone staying in Grand County is encouraged to [sign up for CodeRED](#) to receive emergency notifications for things like evacuation notices, fires and flooding. Notifications are sent via text message, phone call and email. For more mitigation and preparedness tips, visit GCEmergency.com.

###

Established in 1874, Grand County lies in the north-central Rocky Mountains. It is named after the Grand River, an early name for the Colorado River. Encompassing 1,868 square miles, The County's major geographic feature is Middle Park, a large mountain basin that includes the headwaters of the Colorado River. Grand County is home to two world-class ski resorts, the west entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park, and boundless adventure in thousands of acres of public lands.