
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Residents Reminded to be Cautious Around Creeks and Streams

As the spring freshet continues, the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) is urging residents and visitors to use extreme caution around creeks, rivers, and streams.

Recent warm temperatures, ongoing snowmelt, and forecasted precipitation are causing water levels to rise rapidly. Fast-moving, high water can create dangerous and unpredictable conditions near local waterways.

To help reduce the risk of injury, the RDNO reminds the public to keep the following safety tips in mind:

- **Stay back from stream edges:** High water flows can erode and destabilize banks without warning. Keep a safe distance and avoid walking or playing near the water.
- **Respect the power of moving water:** Even calm-looking water can conceal strong currents. Swift water can knock a person off their feet in seconds - even in shallow areas.
- **Follow all warning signs and advisories:** Signage and public notices are posted to alert people to hazardous conditions. Respect these warnings and avoid waterways until it is safe to return.
- **Be prepared when outdoors:** If you're heading out to recreate, carry a cell phone, let someone know your plans, and pack essentials such as appropriate clothing, sturdy footwear, and a first aid kit.
- **Use proper equipment on the water:** If participating in activities like kayaking or canoeing, ensure you have the appropriate skills and equipment. Always wear a properly fitted personal flotation device and follow your watercraft's safety guidelines.

"Swift-moving water can pose a serious risk, even for experienced swimmers and boaters", says Alastair Crick, RDNO Protective Services Manager. "Taking simple precautions can help prevent accidents and keep everyone safe during this time of year."

For updates and more information on flood preparation, please visit the [RDNO Flood Preparedness webpage](#) or [PreparedBC.ca](#).