

Snohomish County is home to some of the most beautiful rivers and mountains in the Pacific Northwest. The Sauk, Stillaguamish, Pilchuck, Skykomish, Sultan, and Snohomish Rivers have created canyons and flatlands. They present amazing recreational opportunities—fishing, kayaking, floating, rafting, and many other amazing, memorable activities!



[Sultan/Skykomish River w Flood Debris under the Traffic and Pedestrian Bridges]

Rivers can be **extremely dangerous**. With each high water, flood, or summer melt, trees, branches, and debris are moved around in the river, creating snags and strainers. Some, you can't see at all and can change given the season and weather. Cold water and people don't mix well for very long, and our rivers stay **extremely cold** even in warm weather on sunny days!

A person caught in a **snag** (single tree or root ball) or **strainer** (multiple trees and branches) will be pinned by the force of the river current. You can get your **foot entrapped** between rocks when walking across shallow water and be unable to stand up with the power of the current. This can occur even in just mere inches of calm looking water.

Each year multiple people drown in Snohomish County Rivers. Nearly 100% of these drownings are preventable! Many do not realize they are in a dangerous area—many people do not perceive the danger of a “quiet” river until it's too late!

Wear a PFD, don't drink alcohol while on the water, know your area and your own limitations!

Do you need a life vest?

Just Ask!

PFDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Sportsman Park
HWY US-2 & Albion St, Sultan

**Snohomish County Fire
District 5—ST 51**
32905 Cascade View Drive, Sultan
360-793-1179

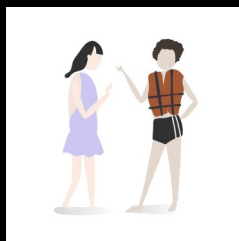
Sky Valley Fire — ST 54
42013 State Route 2, Goldbar
360-793-1078

**Snohomish Regional Fire &
Rescue— ST 31**
163 Village Ct, Monroe
360-794-7666



[Life Vest Kiosk @ Sportsman Park]

DID YOU KNOW?



You can return a borrowed PFD to any of the above listed locations if in good condition, regardless of where you initially obtained it from!



**32905 Cascade View Drive
Sultan, WA 98294
(360) 793-1179
www.snofire5.org**

WATER SAFETY INFORMATION



[Hovercraft 51 Responding to a Rescue]

STAGES OF COLD WATER IMMERSION



1. COLD SHOCK

- Gasp Reflex
- Panic
- Hyperventilation
- Increased Heart Rate



2. MUSCLE FAILURE

- Loss of muscle coordination
- Difficulty swimming, if you're able to swim at all



3. HYPOTHERMIA

- Body temperature drops to dangerous levels
- 75% of victims don't survive to this point



4. RESCUE DANGERS

- Being removed from cold water can have short and long term effects on your body



Produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

SafeBoatingCampaign.com

HAVE THE RIGHT LIFE JACKET?



Right Style

Be sure it's U.S. Coast Guard-approved.
(Check the label printed on the inside of the life jacket)



Standup Paddlers
(Belt-pack inflatable)



Anglers & Open
Motor Boats
(Suspender inflatable)



Personal Water Crafts
& Water Sports
(Inherently buoyant)



Kids
(Adult life jackets
don't fit kids)



Pets
(Harness with
lift handles)

Right Fit

Snug fit and fastened.
You don't want your life jacket too large or too small.



Right Care

Refer to OWNER'S MANUAL and LABEL for specific maintenance requirements.

All Life Jacket Care

- Use properly
- No rips, waterlogging or mildew
- Dry after use
- Hand wash in warm, soapy water
- Store in a dry place when not boating



Inflatable Life Jacket Care

- Test: Orally inflate & holds air for 16-24 hours
- Inspect cartridge (not discharged & no corrosion)
- If it holds air, repack & use

