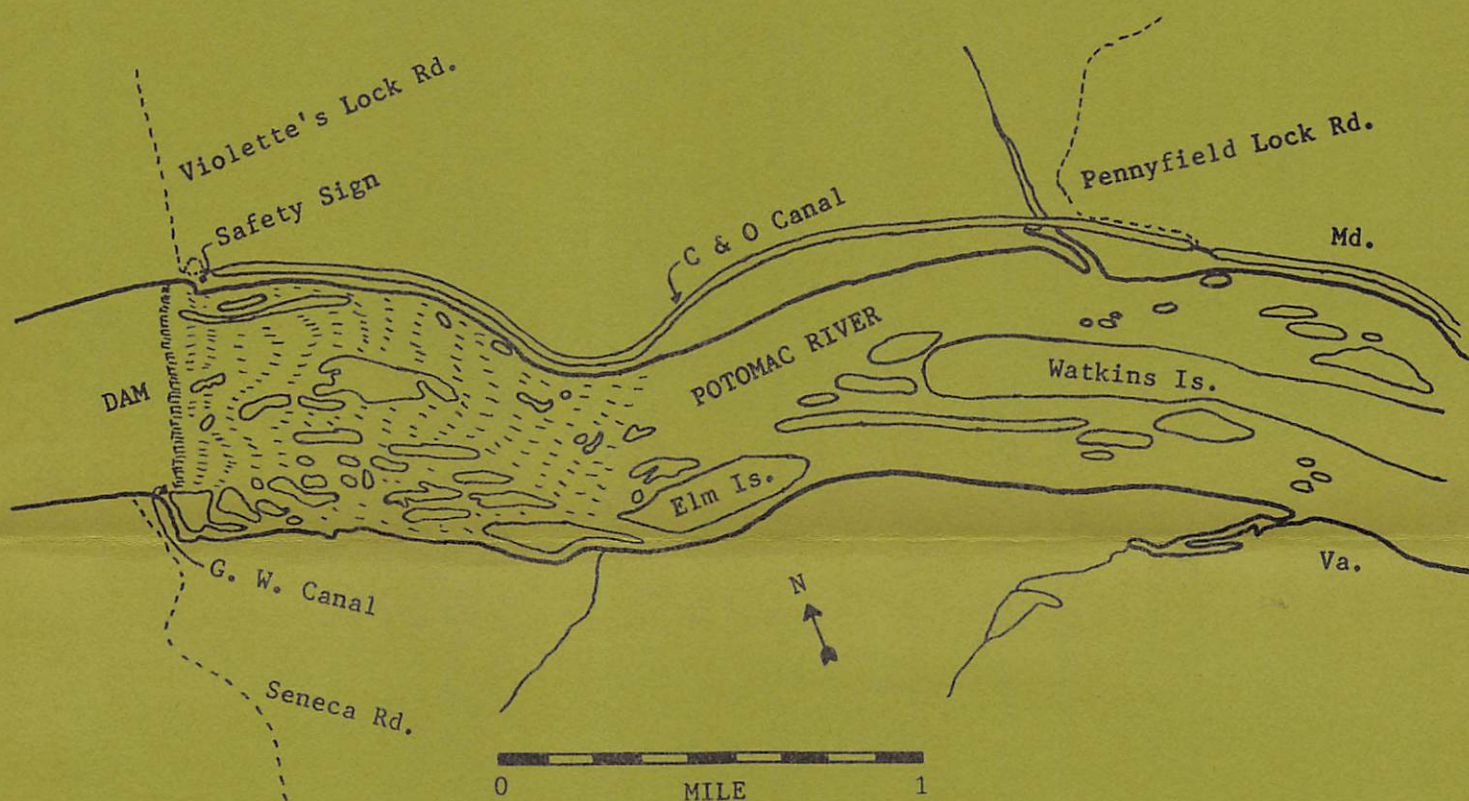


VIOLETTE'S LOCK

The Potomac River downstream from Violette's Lock is somewhat of an anomaly in that predominately placid water flows with quickening pace through an area of numerous small islands and rock outcroppings, forming small chutes and areas of conflicting currents. Upstream, the river is unobstructed for several miles and is used extensively for powered craft recreation. The only danger point is the rocky LOW WATER DAM directly across from the lock and extending across the river.

Located along the Virginia shore, the George Washington Canal is a delightful section with the river intruding upon the historic canalway at several points to form intriguing channels for exploration. Waterfowl, wildlife and wildflowers abound during the spring and summer.

Water levels: At moderate (4.2 feet) to low water conditions, the rocky dam requires tight maneuvering to avoid the rocks and shallow sections. Above 4.2 feet, trees and snags become a definite hazard. The Potomac River should be judged hazardous at levels in excess of 6.0 feet. River level recordings are available in feet, tenths and hundredths by dialing 899-3210.



Most incidents of drowning or what will at best be a harrowing experience are caused by ignoring a few basic tenets of safe boating. An awareness of these concepts will enable you to enjoy and appreciate one of the last bastions of personal adventure, the solitude of tranquil waters or the power of a raging wilderness river.

WEAR A LIFE JACKET !

BE A COMPETENT SWIMMER !

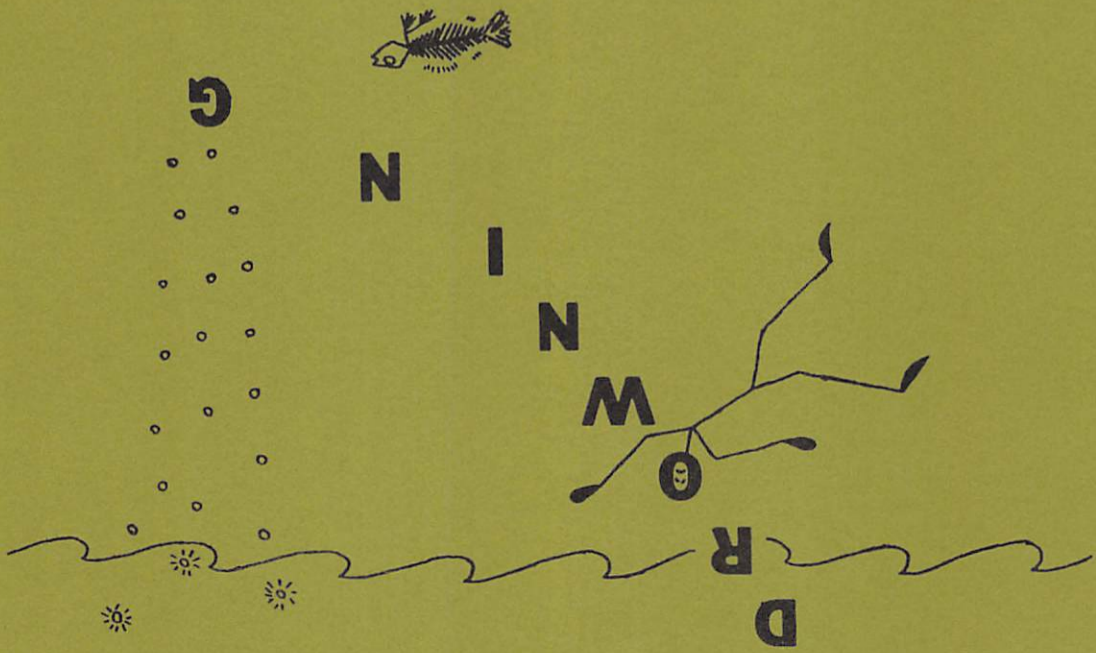
BE AWARE OF RIVER HAZARDS !

REMEMBER: COLD WATER KILLS !

For additional information, contact the National Park Service, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, 11710 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac, Maryland 20854 (301) 299-3613, -2945 or -4159.

EMERGENCY
CALL TO SENECA
COUNTY U.S. PARK POLICE
800-426-6690

MATTER



SAFETY IS NO