



River Wise = River Safe

ABOUT PFD'S

A PFD is a personal flotation device, a life jacket. All boats on the Delaware are required to have one PFD for each person aboard. Make sure you have a PFD that fits properly.

Remember: a PFD can save your life only if you are wearing it... when a problem arises, you won't have time to grab a life jacket, put it on, and buckle it in place.

IF YOU CAPSIZE

If your boat capsizes, be ready to help yourself:

1. Free yourself from the boat. One of the river's greatest dangers is being pinned against a rock by a boat.
2. Hold onto the upstream end of the boat so that it cannot crush you against a rock as the current carries it downstream.
3. Let go of your boat only if it improves your safety. A canoe, even one swamped with water, is a good flotation device.
4. Float on your back, feet together, with toes pointed downstream to fend against rocks. Never try to stand up in fast water unless it is too shallow to swim; your feet or legs can be trapped, allowing the current to pull you under.
5. Save the people first. Rescue boats and equipment only if it can be done safely.



