



## **County of Sacramento Regional Parks**

***Stay Safe and Wear a Life  
Preserver This Summer!***

For more information  
visit the  
County of Sacramento  
Department of  
Regional Parks  
website at  
[www.sacparks.net](http://www.sacparks.net)  
or call  
**916-875-PARK (7275)**

4040 Bradshaw Road  
Sacramento, CA 95827  
(916) 875-7275  
Open 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., 7 days a week

July 2015

**County of Sacramento Regional Parks  
4040 Bradshaw Road  
Sacramento, CA 95827**



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**Life Preservers Are Now  
Required for Children Under 13**



## **Life Preserver Loaner Programs**

**You can borrow a life preserver at several locations along the American River through the “Kids Don’t Float” program:**

- Howe Avenue
- Watt Avenue
- Ancil Hoffman Park
- River Bend Park
- Discovery Park (two sites)
- Folsom Point
- Sunrise
- Nimbus
- Negro Bar

**Life preservers are also available for loan at several Sacramento Metro Fire Stations:**

- **Station 31** – 7950 California Ave.
- **Station 59** – 7210 Murieta Dr.
- **Station 61** – 10595 Folsom Blvd.
- **Station 63** – 12395 Folsom Blvd.
- **Station 65** – Coloma Road
- **Station 110** – 1432 Eastern Ave.

For more information, visit  
[https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=29179](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=29179)

### **Did you know that life preservers (a.k.a. life jackets or personal flotation devices) now are required?**

A Sacramento County ordinance makes it unlawful for any parent or guardian to allow children under 13 to enter public waterways (river and lakes) without wearing a personal flotation device. SCO 13.08.301 (a)

#### **Frequently Asked Questions about the ordinance:**

##### **1. How does this affect me?**

If you are the responsible adult or parent who allows a child 13 and under to enter public waterways without an approved life preserver, you could be cited.

##### **2. What is the penalty if my children are not wearing a life preserver?**

Violation of the ordinance is punishable as a misdemeanor and the maximum penalty is a fine of \$500 or six months in jail for the responsible adult.

##### **3. Who receives the penalty?**

If it is your child and/or you are the responsible adult, you will receive the citation.

##### **4. Why was this ordinance passed?**

To motivate adults to be more diligent in protecting children while in public waterway recreation areas and swimming areas in general.

##### **5. Where is this ordinance in effect?**

Any of the public waterways within Sacramento County. This includes all parts of the American and Sacramento River accessible to the public.

##### **6. What is a life preserver?**

A life preserver is a device certified by the federal government that allows children to float at the surface of the water without movement from the child. It must be Coast Guard approved, in good and serviceable condition and the appropriate size for the wearer.

##### **7. What size preserver should children wear?**

It is extremely important that your child’s life preserver fits properly or it may slip off. It is recommended that children, particularly those who don’t swim, wear a Type I or Type II preserver (Coast Guard Designation).

##### **8. How do I make sure the jacket fits?**

The proper life preserver size is based on a child’s weight and chest size. Make sure the preserver fits snugly on the chest and that the straps are tight. You should then test the fit of the preserver on the child by lifting the life preserver by the shoulder and try to pull it off the child over their head without undoing the straps. If the jacket can slip over their chin and ears, the jacket will not be effective.



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