# Water Rescue Resources in the Rivanna River Basin

September 20, 2012 Lake Monticello Water Rescue

#### Water Rescue Organizations

- Lake Monticello Water Rescue
- Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad
- Scottsville Volunteer Fire Department
- Other departments in area are beginning to form teams or improve their capabilities

### A little about us

- Lake Monticello Water Rescue Team
- All Volunteer, 45 members
- Swiftwater, Boats & Ropes, Ice and Dive
- Train twice a month
- Respond to calls across Central VA
- Friend us on Facebook!

# Lake and River Cleanup



# We play on the river too









#### Types of River Calls

- Stranded Paddlers
- Missing/Late Paddlers
- River portion of land based searches
- Vehicles in rivers or streams
- Law Enforcement Assistance
- Technical Rescue Assistance



#### Challenges to Response

- High Water Conditions
- Low Water Conditions
- Large or Unclear Search Areas
- Appropriate launch locations
- Potential Long Response Time
- Hypothermia

#### Rivanna in Flood



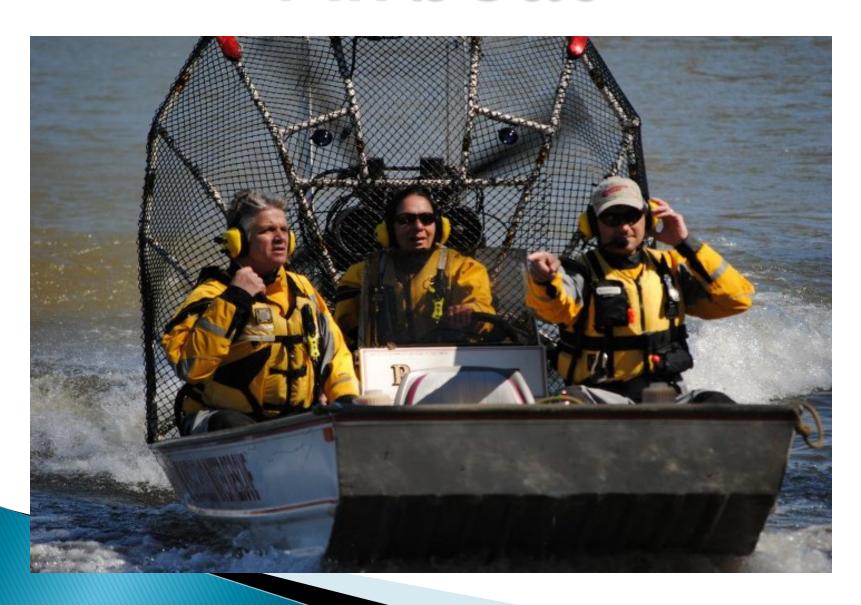
### Inflatable DIB



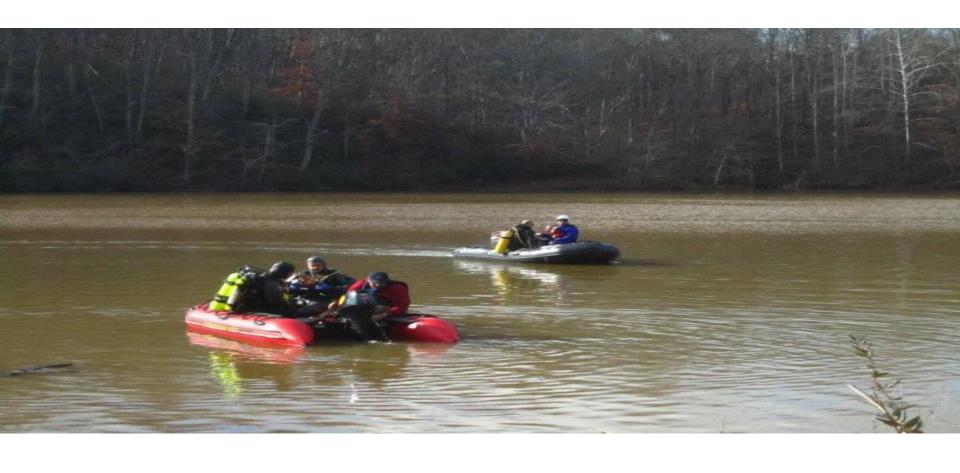
## Inflatable



## Airboat



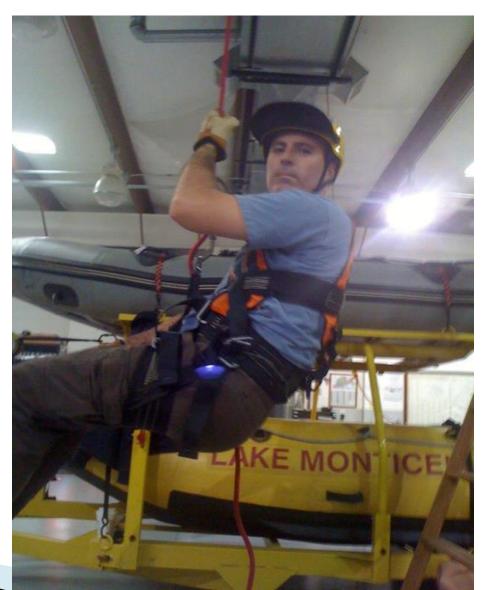
## Zodiac



# Kayaks



## Ropes too!



## Dive 5

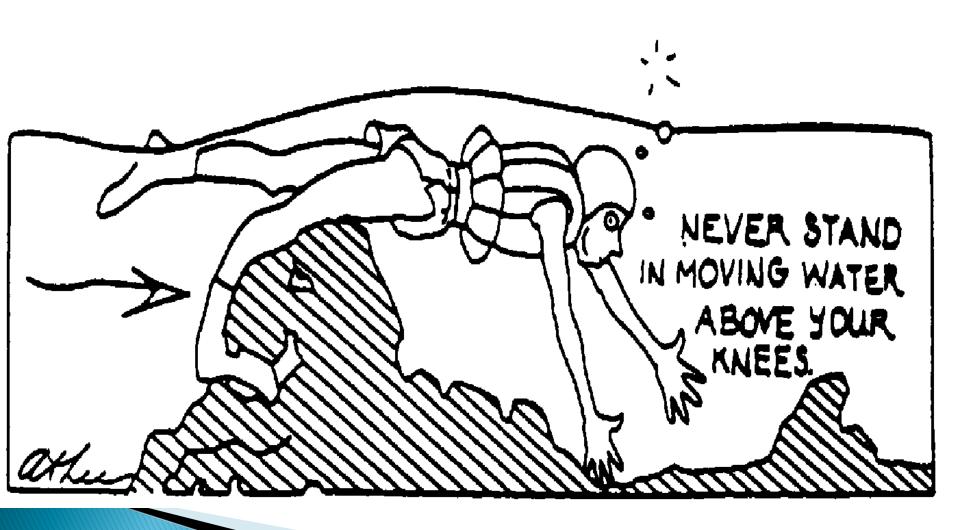


## 101: The River

Characteristics of Swift Water

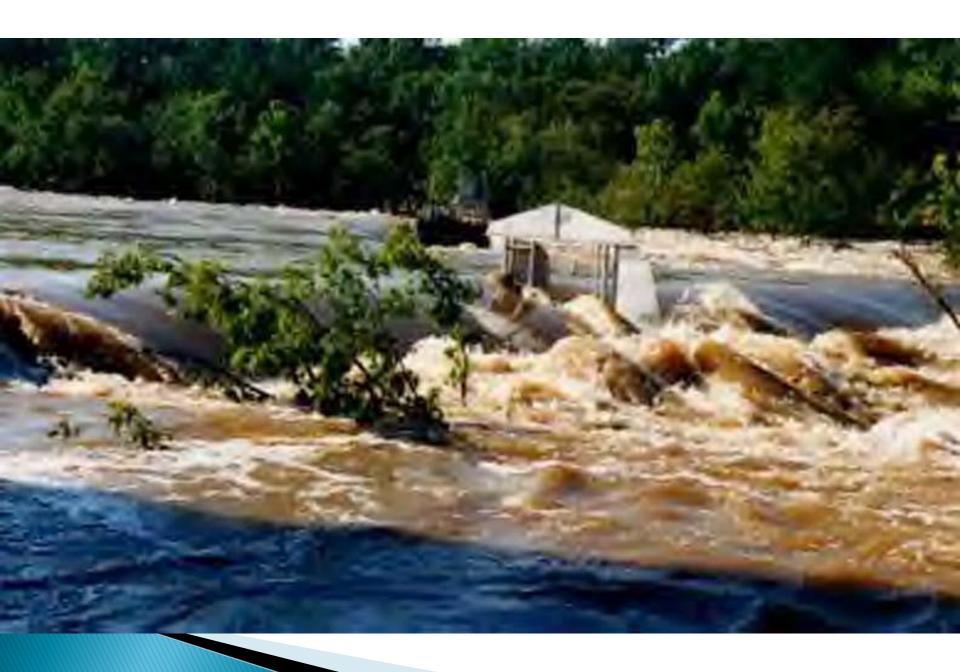
- 1) **Powerful**: As the speed increases, so does the power
- 2) **Relentless**: Once in the current, you cannot expect any reprieve
- 3) **Predictable**: To the trained rescuer that is. Water always acts the same, whether a bubbling brook or raging river

#### **Foot Entrapment**

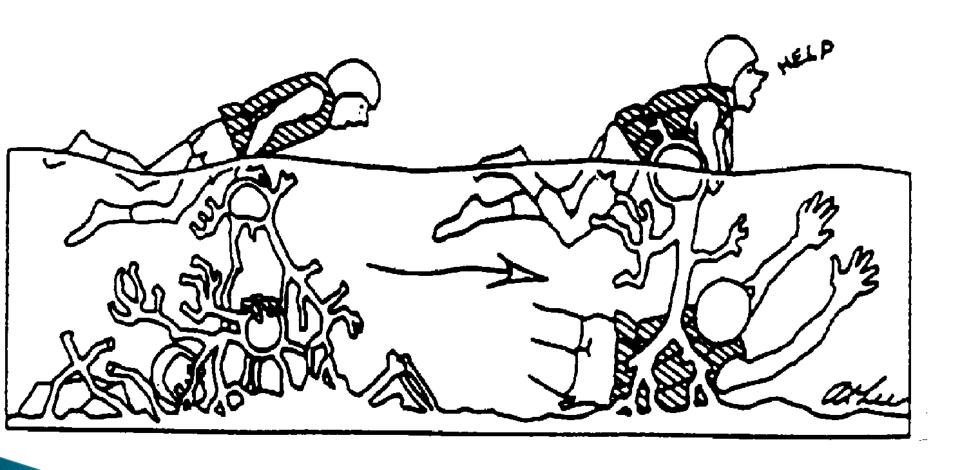


## Strainers

- Any object in the water that lets the water pass through but not a solid object
- Avoid at all costs
- Trees, guard rails, barbed wire fences, side of a car



#### Climb over Strainers



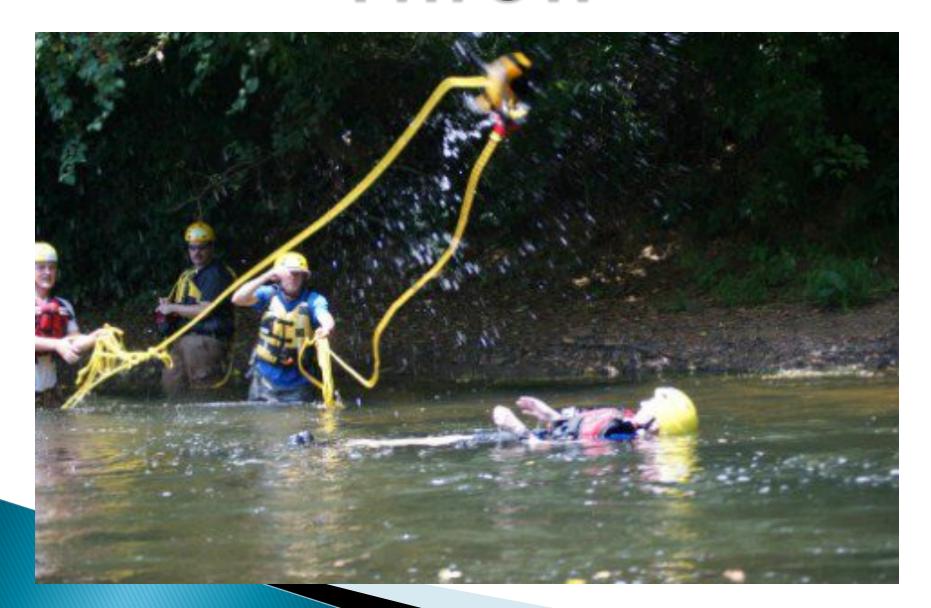
## Undercuts

- Should be avoided at all costs when possible.
- Undercut rock or ledge that has been washed out from water on the upper side.
- Can be very strong current
- Pin Hazard

#### Keep It Simple/Simple is Safe

- Talk
- Reach
- Throw
- Row
- Helo

## Throw



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## One way to go



#### Questions

