



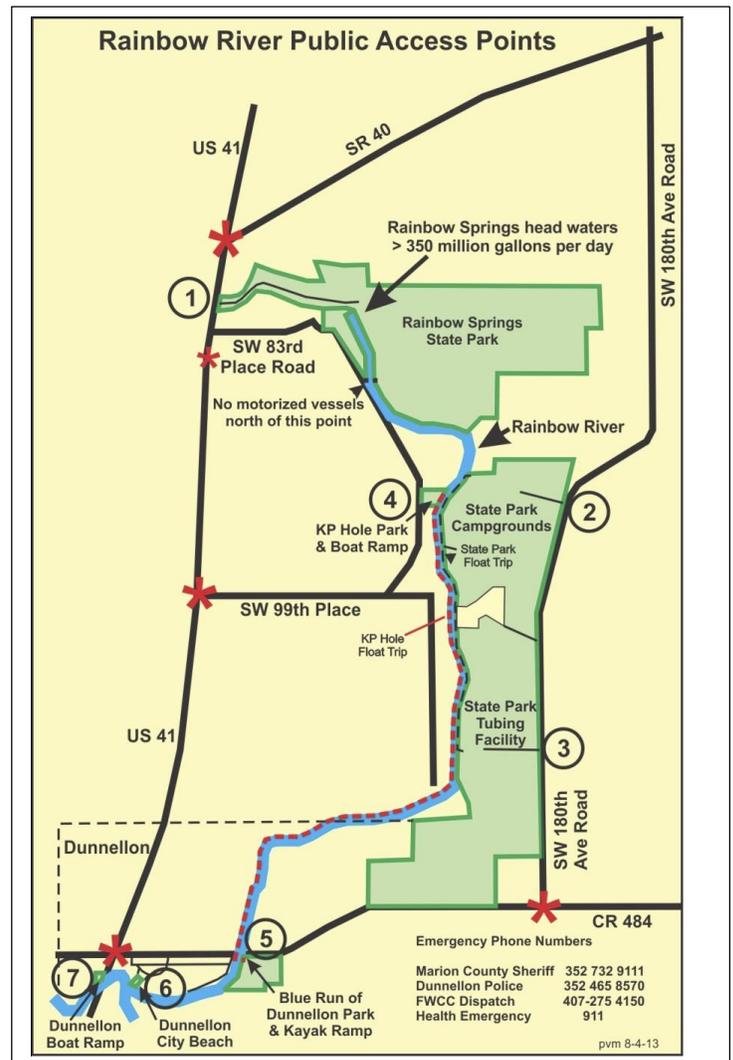
Guidelines for Commercial Operators

Keeping the Rainbow River Healthy and Beautiful



The Rainbow River is a first-magnitude, spring-fed river, designated by the State of Florida as an Outstanding Florida Waterway and Aquatic Preserve. Recreational users should access the river only from one of the 7 public access points shown in the map below. Because of the river's popularity, it is important that visitors follow proper etiquette so that all can have an enjoyable visitor experience and the resource will be preserved for generations to come.

- Boat access to the Rainbow River is available from the boat ramps at KP Hole Park and Centennial Park next to Dunnellon City Hall. (Numbers 4 and 7 on the map.) Kayaks and canoes can also be launched from Blue Run of Dunnellon Park number 5 on the map. The entire river is posted as “Idle Speed-No Wake zone.” No motorized boats are allowed in the upper 1700 feet of the river.
- Review guidelines for each customer category you serve (boaters, divers, tubers, etc.).
- It is your responsibility to abide by the laws of Florida waters, including the Rainbow and Withlacoochee Rivers. All laws are enforced by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), the Marion County Sheriff's Department and the Dunnellon Police Department. (See Resources)
- Provide your customers with a basic “river etiquette” to help them understand proper use of equipment, avoid damage to sensitive areas and vegetation, collisions with other recreational users, and abide by all federal state, county, and local laws.
- Keep a supply of whistles on wrist or neck lanyards for sale to recreational users (tubers, boaters, swimmers, paddle crafts, etc.) in the event of emergency.



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- Taking any type of alcohol or disposables on the Rainbow River is prohibited by law. Acceptable containers include Tupperware, Rubbermaid or a thermos. Unlawful containers include: paper sacks, boxes, plastic water bottles, aluminum cans, breakable plastic utensils, paper napkins and towels.
- Provide containers onboard boats to discourage littering the river.
- Discourage the use of metal detectors for use by divers on the river bottom as this can damage the sensitive ecosystem and encourage the development of invasive plant species.
- Keep float lines taut in the rapidly changing river depths to avoid entanglement in vegetation, root systems and submerged branches.
- Consider low-power electric boat motors when replacing rental equipment to reduce damage caused by high horsepower props in inexperienced hands. Electric motors need only be recharged instead of replaced every few years, and reduce the potential for fuel spillage into the river.
- Contact Wildlife Alert in a wildlife emergency: 1-888-404-3922 or Text Tip@MyFWC.com



K P Hole Boat Ramp

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RESOURCES:• Birders http://www.floridabirdingtrail.com/• Boating http://myfwc.com/boating/regulations/ http://myfwc.com/boating/• Coastal and Aquatic Preserves: http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/programs/aquatic.htm http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/sites/rainbow/• Divers, Snorkelers and Swimmers http://myfwc.com/boating/regulations/#nogo• Fishing http://myfwc.com/license/recreational• Florida State Parks http://www.floridastateparks.org/thingstoknow/rules.cfm http://www.floridastateparks.org/rainbowsprings/default.cfm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• KP Hole Park http://www.marioncountyfl.org/Parks/Pr_Policies.aspx http://kphole.com/ http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10237• Paddle Craft Operators http://myfwc.com/boating/regulations/paddleboard/• Property Owners http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/invasive-plants/http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/manage/ Florida Friendly landscaping http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/ http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10669&stateId=9&stateName=Florida• River Ordinances for City of Dunnellon: http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10669&stateId=9&stateName=Florida• Rainbow River Conservation, Inc. http://rainbowriverconservation.com/ |
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