

## Tips for boating near a dam

- Wear an approved personal flotation device.
- Stay a safe distance away from the dam and do not cross protective barriers. Keep the boat's motor running so you can quickly maneuver or leave.
- Stay away from spill areas, where unpredictable water conditions make boat control difficult or impossible.
- Do not anchor or tie your boat in any way that could let it be swamped or capsized if water currents or levels change rapidly.
- Canoeers and kayakers should always stay clear of dams.
- Be alert for unseen currents such as undertows, eddies and whirlpools, which can pull a boat into a dangerous situation.
- Never boat alone near a dam.
- Do not cross buoy lines.



## Tips for walkers or anglers near a dam

- Wear an approved personal flotation device.
- Do not step past “no trespassing” signs or warning cables.
- Do not cross, damage or remove fences.
- Always maintain a safe distance from high voltage wires and apparatus.
- Be aware that a fall into cold water could cause hypothermia, shock or loss of consciousness.
- Know how to safely leave an area if conditions change or a siren and evacuation message sounds.
- Never fish alone near a dam.
- Never swim above or below a dam or dive from a dam structure. Water levels and currents can change very quickly and you may not be able to react in time to avoid the danger.
- Be aware that ice that forms near a dam is often thin and unsafe.



## Our safety commitment

The Prairie du Sac Dam has a detailed emergency action plan (EAP) with defined and specific actions that will be followed in the event of any emergency situation. We update the EAP annually and coordinate our safety planning with county, state and federal emergency management and regulatory agencies. In addition, we continue to reinvest in the dam so it will provide clean, renewable energy to our customers for years to come.



**If you have an emergency or see a situation that poses a danger to the public, please call 911 immediately.**



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# Prairie du Sac DAM

**Dam safety and emergency procedures for anglers, boaters and visitors near the Prairie du Sac Hydroelectric Dam**



# Safety is our first priority

At Alliant Energy, we deliver the energy and exceptional service our customers and communities count on safely, efficiently and responsibly. Safety is always our first priority. We are committed to the safety of anglers, boaters and visitors that gather in the area of our Prairie du Sac Dam. We are proud of our excellent safety record at our Prairie du Sac facility. However, every year people are killed or seriously injured at dams and most of these accidents could be avoided by simply staying clear of the restricted zones, understanding the dangers dams can create and obeying all warning devices. We encourage all who enjoy the beautiful Wisconsin River near our Prairie du Sac Dam to take a few moments and read the following important safety information.



## Nonemergency sirens and audio warnings

We activate sirens and audio warnings to notify those in the area before we open spill gates and make changes to the dam's water flow. This informs those on the river and shoreline that water levels are about to rise below the dam and nearby currents will strengthen.

"Spilling" water through the dam is a fairly common practice during high-water periods, which is typically springtime but can occur anytime throughout the year. Take additional caution when the spillway gates are open, but there is no need to evacuate the area. We may sound similar sirens and audio warnings when there will be a river level and flow change at the dam.



## Be safe: Use common sense

To minimize the risk of accidents, please:

- Understand the dangers near dams.
- Stay away from hazardous areas.
- Obey all warning devices such as signs, lights, sirens and verbal messages.

Obey typical warnings and note changing conditions like:

- Signs or announcements with warnings or messages about hazard.
- Sirens and audio warnings noting changes in water passing through a powerhouse or through a spill area.
- Changes in the sound of water or sudden changes in the current.
- Changes to the level of water on rocks, snags or structures.

## Emergency and dangerous situations

Although dam emergencies or failures are rare and the Prairie du Sac Dam has an excellent safety record, natural disasters and other situations can potentially cause dangerous situations. Such an event could lead to loss of life, injury and significant property damage. If you are in the immediate vicinity of the dam, it is important

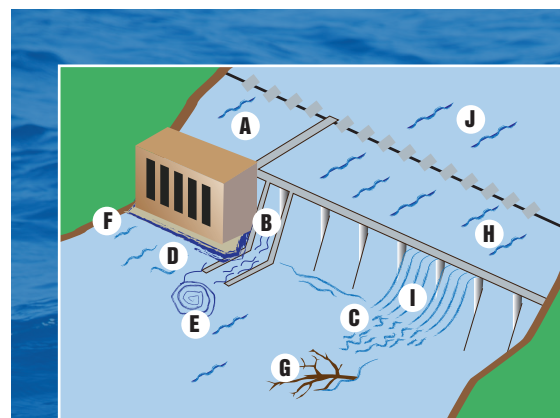


to know what to be aware of and what to do if an emergency occurs.

**In the event of an emergency at the Prairie du Sac Dam, siren equipment will be activated. The siren will sound a 10-second steady tone, followed by the audio message:**

**"WARNING! WARNING! THERE IS AN EMERGENCY AT THE PRAIRIE DU SAC DAM. EVACUATE THIS AREA IMMEDIATELY AND GO TO HIGHER GROUND. REPEAT. THERE IS AN EMERGENCY AT THE PRAIRIE DU SAC DAM. EVACUATE THIS AREA IMMEDIATELY AND GO TO HIGHER GROUND."**

As you seek higher ground, you can evacuate to the clubhouse at Lake Wisconsin Country Club, or leave the area immediately. For those in the fishing/visitor area near the dam, evacuate as soon as possible via Dam Heights Road to Highway 78.



**Critical danger zones at dams**

- A. Hazard area marked by buoy lines.
- B. Sudden water discharge from dam gates.
- C. Strong, unpredictable currents above and below dams.
- D. Sudden turbulent discharges from automatically operated power house generators.
- E. Deceiving reverse currents below spillways.
- F. Slippery surfaces on dam structures and shorelines.
- G. Submerged hazards above and below dams.
- H. Open spillways that may not be visible from above the dam.
- I. Debris passing over or through the dam.
- J. Ice that forms near a dam is often thin and unsafe.