

# Hazards on the Water

Life in the river can be dangerous. American shad face many challenges during migration each spring. They have to deal with predators, flooding, fish hooks and dams that block their way. Even cold and high water can delay their spawning. Imagine swimming against that strong current—*whew!*

Shad anglers face similar hazards since they are entering the same river environment.

## *Be aware of these dangers:*



**Rivers are cold** in the spring when the American shad are running. Although the air temperature may be warm, the water temperature is cold. Be sure to wear your life jacket.

**Rapids are dangerous places** for boats and people. The power of water current is very deceptive and should be considered at all times.



**Tree branches in the water** become strainers that can capsize boats and trap people.



***Wear a life jacket when on or near the water. It keeps you afloat, even if you are wearing heavy and wet clothes.***