

County of Fresno



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
STEVEN E. WHITE, DIRECTOR

FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
JOHN ZANONI, SHERIFF

Press Release:

MANY FRESNO COUNTY PARKS CLOSED DUE TO DANGEROUS WATER LEVELS AND POTENTIAL FLOODING

FRESNO, CA, Thursday, April 6, 2023 – As many of you are aware, in response to heavy winter storms creating high water levels and hazardous conditions on the Kings and San Joaquin Rivers, the Fresno County Sheriff's Office issued a closure of these rivers to recreational users. On March 14th, 2023, Sheriff John Zanoni put this order in place by utilizing Fresno County Ordinance [13.32.080](#), which serves in the best interest of public safety. Anyone accessing the rivers are considered to be in violation of Penal Code [409.5\(c\)](#), unauthorized entry to an area closed for emergency purposes. This infraction comes with a minimum fine of \$225.00. Water levels are being monitored on a daily basis and a decision to reopen the rivers will be made once these extraordinary dangerous conditions improve.

Along with the river closures, the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning has closed several county parks as an additional safety measure. This includes: Avocado Lake Park, Choinumni Park (day use and campgrounds), Lost Lake Park (day use and campgrounds), Winton Park, Laton-Kingston Park, Skaggs Bridge Park, China Creek Park. The full closure is currently in effect and a reopening date has not been established. For a full list of parks, visit: <https://bit.ly/41a5hlu>

The county understands parks are a popular spot to gather on Easter weekend, but of course this year will unfortunately be different. Please pay attention to the specific park closure notices so you don't make a trip there, only to be disappointed that they are closed. Entry gates and restrooms are both locked.

Thank you for your cooperation. Stay safe!

For storm and flood updates, go to www.fresnocountyemergency.com.

ADMINISTRATION

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