



# NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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## **CITY POSTS YELLOW FLAG AT THE RIVER PARK AT LAS COLONIAS STARTING TODAY INDICATING OPENING OF THE RIVER PARK TO INNERTUBES**

**GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. May 24, 2024** – As of today, May 24, 2024, the River Park at Las Colonias has a yellow flag posted which indicates the park is now accessible for innertube use with caution. During the summer months, the River Park is a popular spot for recreation. To promote public safety, all visitors are asked to follow the River Park rules, pay attention to the flag warning system, and wear life jackets.

The flags used to notify the public about hazard levels are located near the east and west ends of the River Park. A yellow flag signifies a medium hazard warning and while innertubes are acceptable, visitors should still exercise caution using the park. A red flag indicates a high hazard warning and only experienced river users should use the park with strong caution. Users are asked to watch for an update to a red flag next week as the winter snow melt continues to increase river flow and water levels.

Life jackets are strongly recommended for all visitors of the River Park. Life jackets, through the Save-A-Life Life Jacket Program, are available free of charge at each kiosk on the east and west ends of the park. No lifeguards are on duty at the River Park and guardians are responsible for all youth. City River Park hosts are present at busier times to provide educational materials and to help visitors have a positive experience.

The River Park at Las Colonias includes a lengthy and accessible water channel, a standing wave water features, a beach and wading areas. These amenities are accessible to a wide range of ages, ability, and experience levels. There is also a boat ramp on the east side of Las Colonias Park for boats to enter and exit the Colorado River.

Each summer when river flows drop below 810 cubic feet per second (CSF) the main channel of the River Park is cut off with the placement of sandbags. While the River Park remains open, due to the lower water levels, the experience is different for users of the park. The water flow in the channel is closed to protect the habitat for the four endangered fish species in the Colorado River. The River Park channel was developed as an ecological enhancement to create additional aquatic and riparian areas and recreation was a secondary factor. [Learn more about the River Park.](#)

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