Safe public access is available on all sections of the river except Letchworth State Park where access is by permit only.

**Overview of Canoe/Kayak Access Sites**

On the Main Stem of the Genesee

1. Wear a properly fitted life jacket.
2. Never paddle under the influence of alcohol.
3. Paddle with a group, not by yourself. Leave a float plan for your trip with a friend or relative.
4. Dress appropriately for weather and water conditions, including air and water temperature. Avoid conditions for which you are not prepared.
5. Learn about and study your route in advance. Look for hazards that are beyond your skill level. Expect overhanging trees, logjams, bridge abutments, and big rocks. If paddling around them is not possible, get out and portage around the hazard.
6. Carry a supply of food and drinking water adequate for your trip’s length.
7. Be able to read the water and effectively steer and propel your boat. Learn how to rescue yourself and others in the event of a capsize. If you do capsize remain on the upstream side of your boat to prevent being pinned.
8. Do not stand up in your boat or carry more weight than you boat is designed to safely accommodate.
9. Know where the waterfalls and dams are. Always portage around low head dams. Surface appearance can be deceiving. Undercurrents can be strong.
10. Know and understand river gage levels and flows, as well as the weather forecast. Remember, rain that has fallen upstream will be coming downstream.
11. Watch out for new paddlers. Offer advice, be supportive, share your knowledge and make them feel comfortable.

**This map was created with support from:**

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Genesee RiverWilds: thomas.rhett16@houghton.edu
Genesee Valley Conservancy: ben@geneseevalleyconservancy.org

If you have any questions about this map or how to access the on-line version, contact one of us:

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Genesee Valley Conservancy: ben@geneseevalleyconservancy.org

For more information about each access site, go to [https://tinyurl.com/yyx4zzbs](https://tinyurl.com/yyx4zzbs)