

River Permit Draw Information Pamphlet

Alberta Parks – Kananaskis River Permit Draw

Starting **May 28, 2025**, Alberta Parks opens a draw for two Guiding and Instructing River permits on the Lower Kananaskis River. To meet high demand and ensure a transparent, competitive process, an open draw to select a new holder for each permit is scheduled June 2025.

River Permit Draw Details

Phase 1: Permit draw application window opens May 28, 2025

- Applicants can submit applications for the River Permit Draw.
- Applications **MUST** be submitted by 10:00 a.m. on the day before draw.

Phase 2: Draws take place June 25, 2025

- Event will be held at the [Bow Valley Provincial Park Administration Building](#) (Conference Room). For directions to the administration building please use the following coordinates: 51.081963 -115.065118. The administration building is located across from Willow Rock Campground.
- Event will be open to the public should applicants wish to attend.
- Draw Process:
 - Draw 1: Canoe, Kayak, and Rafting Permit
 - All applicants will be issued a ticket number once the application period has ended. All tickets will be drawn against one another.
 - There is no weight placed on when an applicant enters an application for the draw, provided the entry is made within the application period.
 - The first ticket number drawn will be awarded the Canoe, Kayak, and Rafting Permit.
 - A second ticket number will be drawn. In the event that the winner does not provide the mandatory requirements within the defined timeframe, the second ticket number will be awarded the opportunity.
 - The winning ticket number will be removed from the second draw to mitigate the risk of both permits being awarded to the same applicant.
 - Draw 2: Canoe and Kayak Permit
 - All ticket numbers from Draw 1 **except** the winner, will be drawn against each other.

- There is no weight placed on when you enter the draw, provided you enter within the application period.
- The first ticket number drawn will be awarded the Canoe and Kayak Permit.
- A second ticket number will be drawn. In the event that the winner does not provide the mandatory requirements within the timeframe, the second ticket number will be awarded the opportunity.

Phase 3: Successful applicants are awarded the opportunity for the permits and draw results are communicated. Unsuccessful applicants are notified of the outcome.

- All applicants will receive communication on draw results.
- Successful applicants submit proof of insurance documentation for final permit approval.
- If the successful applicant does not satisfy the mandatory requirements approximately four weeks after the conclusion of the permit draw, the applicant of the second ticket number drawn will be contacted and the same process will continue.

Phase 4: Both river draw permits are authorized approximately one week (July 2025) after mandatory documentation is provided.

- Permits are authorized and provided to permit holders with an expiry date. Should the permit holders wish to extend their respective permits, they will follow the annual permit application renewal process.

Application Guidelines

Eligibility:

- Draw applicants are restricted to individuals 18 years of age and over.
- Applicants must have all required certifications for flat water and swift water.

Regulations:

- Application must be submitted prior to the application window closing date.
- Only one application per business venture will be accepted. All duplicate applications will not be reviewed.
- Two draws will take place, the first for a canoe, kayak, and rafting permit. The second for a canoe and kayak permit.
- Applicants can attend the draw in person at the Bow Valley Provincial Park Administration Building.
- General liability insurance of no less than \$2 million is **NOT** mandatory as part of the application requirements. However, it is mandatory for the successful applicants to provide general liability insurance before they can receive the approved permits. It is

recommended that all applicants inquire about general liability insurance with an insurance provider as it must be provided within 4 weeks of the draw date.

- A second ticket number will be drawn for each permit. In the event that the winner(s) does not provide the mandatory requirements within the timeframe the second ticket number will be awarded the opportunity.

Application Requirements

Alberta Parks will only accept complete applications for the river draw. A complete application **MUST** include the following:

- Applicant Name
- Business Name
- Email Address
- Phone #
- Business Mailing Address
- Postal Code and City
- A copy of any other permits or licenses required by other agencies that have a mandate for regulating the proposed activity
- Copies of required certifications, e.g., First Aid Certificate, CPR
- Flat Water Requirements:
- **Kayaking:** First Aid Certificate, Alberta Whitewater Association
- **Canoeing:** First Aid Certificate, Alberta Recreational Canoe Association or equivalent, Lake Canoe Instructor
- **Rafting:** First Aid Certificate, Professional Rafting Outfitters Association Alberta or equivalent
- Swift Water Requirements:
- **Kayaking:** First Aid Certificate, Alberta Whitewater Association, River Kayak Instructor Course Beginner.
- **Canoeing:** First Aid Certificate, Alberta Recreational Canoe Association or equivalent, River Kayak Canoe Instructor.
- **Rafting:** First Aid Certificate, professional Rafting Outfitters Association Alberta or equivalent.
- Detailed information package on the proposed activities
- Detailed information on safety measures
- Emergency preparedness plan

How to Submit a River Permit Draw Application

Completed applications can be submitted by email to Kananaskis.Approvals@gov.ab.ca with a subject line of "River Permit Draw Application".

Permit Terms and Conditions

- These permits do not give the permittee exclusive use of any area or facility. Regular public activity on trails and areas being used by the permittee must not be interfered with by the permittee's activities.
- In the Kananaskis region, businesses are required to obtain a business licence from the Kananaskis Improvement District. For further information on business licence requirements and applications, contact the Kananaskis Improvement District office at info@kananaskisid.ca or (403) 591-7774.
- A permit is valid only when the signature of the permittee and the permit supervisor appear on the permit. A valid permit is required to operate in all Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas. Changes to the permit cannot be made once signed, until permit renewal.
- These permits must be used by the permittee within one calendar year, if not, the permit will be returned to the Crown and a new draw will take place.
- These permits are only applicable to the activities of canoeing, kayaking, and rafting. As a result, river surfing will not be allowed.
- TransAlta maintains sole discretion to change/adjust water flows at any time for any reason without providing notice.