

You May Encounter Contaminants at:



Historic mine and mill sites



Shorelines



Floodplain deposits



Prior to the release of mine waste contamination, swimming in the Lower Coeur d'Alene River was a common practice among the Tribe. Today, Tribal members are confined to swim in uncontaminated areas in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

The Schitsu'umsh, "those who were found here" (The Coeur d'Alene Tribe) have long used the Basin for every aspect of their lives and they view this land as given to them by the Creator. Today, the Tribe maintains a strong spiritual connection to their aboriginal territory.

The Schitsu'umsh continued to use the Lower Coeur d'Alene River Basin until the late 1800's, when oral history says that the River "turned white." Recognizing the health risks, they moved many of their activities to other parts of the Basin that were free of contamination. Today, the Schitsu'umsh long to reconnect to their aboriginal territory and their hope is that through clean-up and restoration, this will become a reality.

Get Cleanup Information

EPA Region 10, Seattle
Community Involvement
Coordinator

(206) 553-1896

www.epa.gov/region10/earth/bunkerhill



Get the Best Information

Lead Health Intervention Program

Lead health effects commonly go unrecognized. Ask about risk of exposure, blood lead screening, and education programs. We recommend annual lead testing for all children, especially those living or recreating in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

Panhandle Health District
(208) 783-0707

www.panhandlehealthdistrict.org



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Panhandle Health District

There is a resource available to help you make decisions that protect you, your property, and water quality on or near waterways in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. For more information, contact the CdA Lake Management coordinators at **(208) 666-4623**, **(208) 667-5772**, or go to <http://ourgem.org/landowners.php>.



Riley and Rita Raccoon say:

**"Be Smart Around Lead,
Play Clean!"**



Print "Riley's Family"
Coloring and Activity
Book Online!



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
(208) 783-5781

www.deq.idaho.gov/PlayClean

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Recreate Safely in the Coeur d'Alene Basin



PLAY CLEAN

www.deq.idaho.gov/PlayClean



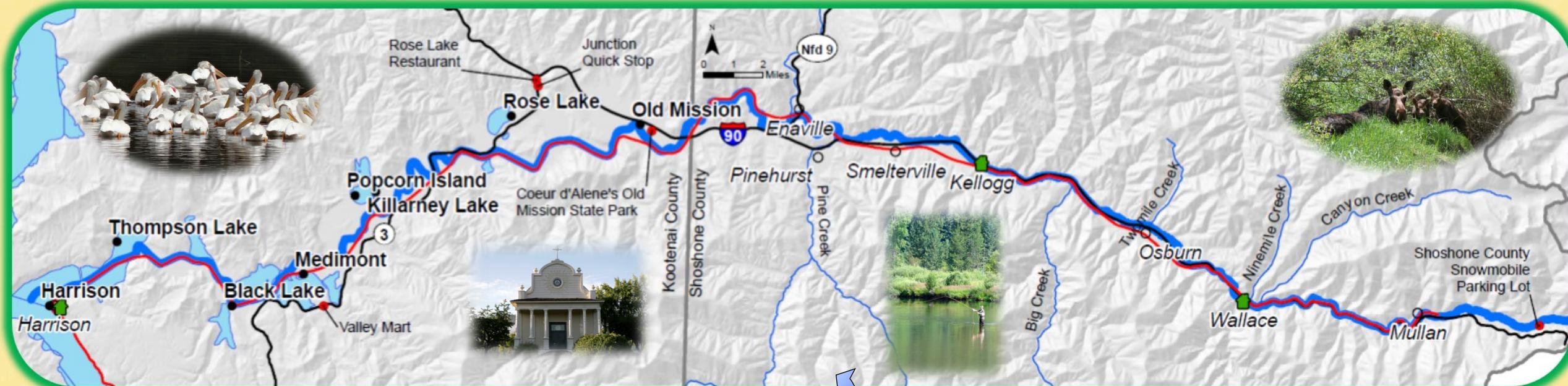
www.facebook.com/CDAbasin



Healthy Recreation in the Coeur d'Alene Basin

The discovery of silver in the 1880's led to the "Silver Valley" becoming one of the most productive mining areas in the U.S. Common industry practices of the time and natural processes like flooding, caused heavy metal contaminants to be spread throughout the Basin. Environmental cleanup has been ongoing for decades. Cleanup continues to protect human health and provide ecological restoration. Heavy metals that pose a risk to human health are still encountered along shorelines, floodplains, and historic mine and mill sites. One of the most common contaminants is lead. Exposure to lead and other heavy metals can occur through ingestion and inhalation of contaminated soils. Lead exposure can affect nearly every system in the body and often occurs with no obvious symptoms. No safe blood lead level in children has been identified.

It is easy to reduce exposure and enjoy your time recreating in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. Follow the safety tips in this brochure.



Protect Yourself: Keep Clean, Eat Clean, Play Clean

- * Wash hands and face before eating.
 - * Bring water for drinking, cooking, and washing. **Do not** use water from the river - even if it is filtered!
 - * Eat on a table or on a blanket in grassy areas for protection.
 - * Remove dirt from clothes, toys, pets, and equipment **before** leaving area.
 - * Soil tracked home from recreation areas becomes an exposure source.
- Keep yourself and belongings clean.



Area of Interest

- Boat Launches
- Point of Interest
- Chamber of Commerce
- Towns
- Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes
- Major Highways
- Lakes

Recreate Safely:

- * Wear bandanas or other dust-coverings over the mouth and nose when riding off-road trails.
- * When you use the *Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's*, stay on the trail and in designated areas.
- * Check fish consumption advisories. It is best to eat fillets only.
- * Do not harvest edible plants from floodplain areas.
- * Prolonged exposure increases risk, especially for young children and expecting mothers.