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NEWS

11-year-old Spring Grove boy dies in reported drowning in Jackson Township

Harrison Jones For the York Daily Record

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An 11-year-old Spring Grove boy was pronounced dead at York Hospital Thursday night after he was pulled from the Codorus Creek in Jackson Township.

Payton Gonzalez, of the first block of York Avenue, was swimming with a friend in the creek near Rockery and Hershey roads when he became caught in the current near a low-head dam, according to Northern York County Regional Police and the York County Coroner's office.

Crews were called to the area just before 6 p.m. Thursday for a water rescue, police said. When they arrived, Payton was unresponsive, the coroner's office reported.

More: [Drowning machines: PA bill would criminalize failure to post warnings at low-head dams](#)

More: [How Amish farming practices, old mill dams harm the Susquehanna & Chesapeake — and how to fix it](#)

Police say Payton began to struggle in the current and went under. The other boy ran for help.

A police officer and firefighter located the boy near the south bank of the creek and began life-saving efforts. He was later taken to York Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

A friend of the family has started a [GoFundMe page](#) to raise money to pay for Payton's funeral expenses.

This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information is asked to contact the police department through their tip line at 717-467-8355.

Recent central PA low-head dam deaths

May 7, 2018 - [Dock Street Dam, Harrisburg](#), Susquehanna River. This dam has killed about 30 since 1935.

July 1, 2017 - [Jonestown Dam](#), Swatara Creek, Lebanon County.

June 26, 2014 - [Shady Nook Dam](#), Conewago Creek, York County.

See a map of low-head dam deaths across the U.S. [here](#).

This is a developing story. Check back for more details.