

Boone Waterworks Dam

[Previous Dam Upstream \(LHDfraser.html\)](#)[Next Dam Downstream \(LHDcenterst.html\)](#)

River/Stream: Des Moines River

Location: northwest of Boone, Boone County

Latitude: 42.0771298311448

Longitude: -93.9362058817401

[Click here to view an aerial map of the dam.](#)

([http://maps.google.com/maps?](http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.0771298311448,-93.9362058817401+%28Boone+Waterworks+Dam%29&z=15&ll=42.0771298311448,-93.936)

[q=42.0771298311448,-93.9362058817401+%28Boone+Waterworks+Dam%29&z=15&ll=42.0771298311448,-93.936](http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.0771298311448,-93.9362058817401+%28Boone+Waterworks+Dam%29&z=15&ll=42.0771298311448,-93.936)

Built: 1933. Rehabilitation to rock arch rapids completed in 2014.



(images/boone_rar.jpg)

View of dam after conversion to rock arch rapids.

Owner: City of Boone

Height: 3 ft.

Length: 212 ft.

Hazards (HazardDefs.html): drowning, varying, visibility -- significantly reduced by rehabilitation project

Warning Signs: Originally installed July, 2006, and are no longer needed.

Comments: No need to portage -- paddle through the rock arch rapids.

Fatalities 4

- July 10, 2006 - inner tube floater Megan Pavelick
- July 30, 1972 - canoeist Glenn Houlberg & boater William McAlpine who attempted rescue
- April 24, 1971 - canoeist Tom Huerter, a would-be rescuer who became a victim

Incident Reports:

On July 9th, 2006, Megan Pavelick drowned at the Boone Waterworks dam shortly after starting a tubing trip down the Des Moines River with friends. It almost became a bigger tragedy when a nearby fisherman nearly drowned

while assisting in the rescue effort. The drop over the dam that day was reported to be a mere 14 inches, but the hydraulic was enough to entrap and claim Megan as the latest victim of that dam.

Litigation Information:

- Pavelick v. City of Boone (BoonePavelickSettlementDetails.pdf)
(Ames Tribune report)
- Pavelick v. Seven Oaks (Pavelick_vs_SevenOaks_20081121.pdf)
(Ames Tribune report)

Pre-conversion archive photos



Promoting river safety, education, and recreation
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