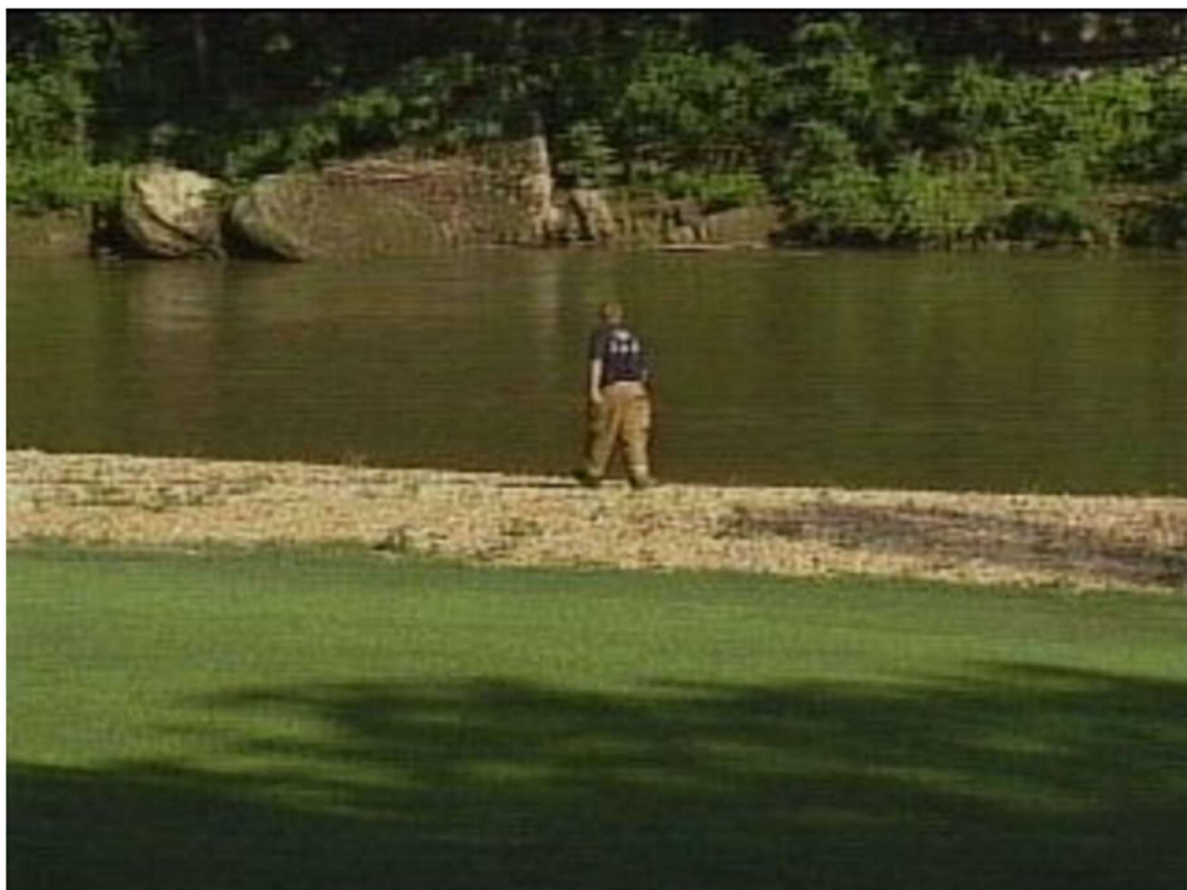


## Florence man drowns in Cypress Creek

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A Florence man drowned after his canoe overturned in Cypress Creek Monday afternoon.

The call came in just after 4 o'clock Monday afternoon. Four friends were canoeing on Cypress Creek when they hit rough water. The current so strong, it threw two boaters overboard.

Rescue crews were able to pull a woman to safety. Soon after, they found the canoe, but no sign of the other man on board.

An hour and a half later, kayakers found 25-year old Will Pannell. But it was too late for the Florence native.

The stretch of Cypress Creek is responsible for more than one tragedy. The accident happened in the same spot where another man drowned last summer. The same currents took the life of 46-year old Max Harlan. He died after pulling his two boys to safety.

Several rescue crews helped in the search including Lauderdale County Emergency Management Agency and the Florence Fire and Rescue.