LAKE RECREATION

A Visitor’s Guide

This brochure provides you, our customer, with information about facilities at each of our 25 Fort Worth District lakes. We have also included some guidelines to help make your stay safe and more enjoyable.

Please take a few minutes to look over this brochure. If you need assistance or have questions/suggestions as to how we can improve our services, contact one of our park rangers, a gate attendant or the Fort Worth District Office.

Your safety is our concern.

Visitor Information

Fees

Corps lake facilities were built with your tax dollars for your use and enjoyment. Although the Corps does not charge an entrance fee, fees are collected for some facilities such as campsites, group shelters, and day use areas such as boat ramps and swimming beaches. These revenues are used to help defray the costs of operating and maintaining these facilities.

A current fee schedule for all Fort Worth district parks can be obtained from the Corps’ Operations division online at http://www.swf.usace.army.mil (place cursor on “About Us” tab, then “Lake & Recreation Info” and “Use Fees”, select appropriate fee schedule here).

Refunds of Use Fees

A refund policy of use fees is available at each Corps lake office.

Use Fee Discount Passports

There are two types of discount passes available to certain qualified users of Corps recreation areas and facilities:

America the Beautiful Senior Interagency Pass—Available to U.S. citizens age 62 or older who are permanent residents. The cost for this lifetime pass is $10.00.

America the Beautiful Access Interagency Pass—Available to U.S. citizens who have a permanent disability and are permanent residents. This is a free lifetime pass with proper documentation.

Both passes provide a 50 percent (50%) discount on camping or other use fees for the cardholder and any accompanying passengers in one private vehicle. These passes are honored at all Corps operated parks where fees are collected, as well as at federally operated parks, monuments, historic sites, recreation areas and national wildlife refuges. There are no Corps operated parks at Joe Pool, Ray Roberts, Jim Chapman (Cooper) or O.C. Fisher Lakes.

The Golden Age and the Golden Access Passports are no longer being issued. They have been replaced with the America the Beautiful Senior and the America the Beautiful Access Interagency Passes. All previously issued Golden Age and Golden Access passes will continue to be honored by the Corps of Engineers.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is not authorized to issue these new interagency passes; however, these passes are available through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), USDA Forest Service (USDA FS) and National Park Service (NPS) and may be obtained in person or through the mail with a $10.00 processing fee. For more information on the America the Beautiful Interagency passes go to: http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html.

Display of Camping/Day Use Permit

Permits must be placed where they are visible to park personnel (the windshield or dashboard of your vehicle, on the post at your campsite, or other appropriate location as determined by each lake office).

Check-in/Check-Out Time

Check-in time for campers is 3 p.m. Check-out time for campers is 2 p.m.

Campsite Reservations

Call toll-free 1-877-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov for reservations at selected federal recreation facilities, and for historic and cultural activities commonly available on federally managed lands.

Group Shelter Reservations

You may reserve group shelters at many Corps lakes. Please contact the lake office you are interested in to find out how. Some group shelters may be reserved online at www.recreation.gov.

Code of Federal Regulations

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ parks are governed by regulations contained in Section 327 of Title 36 to the Code of Federal Regulations. The following are a few of the rules and regulations governing use at Corps lakes. Complete copies of the regulations are available at the lake offices or from the Fort Worth District Operations Division:

Operations Division

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
819 Taylor Street
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, TX 76102-6124

Length of Stay

Maximum stay at one or all of the parks at any one lake is 14 days during any 30-consecutive day period; however, extensions may be granted by the Lake Manager.

Camping Sites

Camp only at designated campsites.

Camping equipment, vehicles and number of persons should not exceed the physical limitations of the site and/or restrictions set by the lake staff. Campsite limitations are available at each lake office.

Vehicles or camping equipment cannot be left unattended at a campsite to hold for future use. Camping sites must be paid for prior to dropping off any vehicles or camping equipment.

Anyone occupying a designated overnight campsite will have to pay a camping fee.

Tents

Pitch your tent on a tent pad if one is available at your campsite. You may put the tent directly on the ground if a pad is not provided (check with local lake office first). We ask that campers refrain from digging trenches or placing pegs onto any blacktop or paved surfaces.

Lanterns

Hanging gas or propane lanterns on trees can kill or do serious damage to them. Help us preserve the natural beauty of our parks by hanging lanterns on posts built for that purpose or in another safe place away from the trees.

Night Entry/Exit of Parks

Most parks have controlled entrance gates which close to incoming traffic between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Accessible Facilities

Opportunities for accessible outdoor recreation experiences for people with disabilities have been created at many lakes. To check on availability of facilities, we suggest contacting the appropriate lake office prior to your visit.

Firearms/Fireworks

For your safety and the safety of others, firearms, ammunition and fireworks may not be brought onto or used in a park area.
Fires
Please confine fires to grills, fire rings, fireplaces or other areas provided for this purpose.

Pets
Pets must be on a leash less than six feet in length or physically restrained in some other manner.

Horses are allowed on designated horse trails only.

Noise
In consideration of all park users, we ask that volumes be kept low when using radios, television or similar devices.

Excessively loud vehicles or motorized equipment are prohibited in the parks.

Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Swimming
No lifeguards are provided at swimming areas. For your safety, we recommend swimming only in designated areas.

We also suggest wearing life jackets. Know your limitations—never swim alone or allow children to swim without adult supervision. Most importantly, remember that swimming and alcohol do not mix.

Boating
Courtesy docks are provided at some ramps for loading and unloading boats. Please refrain from swimming, sunbathing, fishing or anchoring boats on these docks.

Boaters should know the rules of the road for watercraft, as well as rescue and lifesaving techniques. When pulling a skier, have a second person in the boat to watch the skier.

If you drink, think water safety. Drinking and boating are a deadly combination, and operating a boat while intoxicated is against the law in Texas.

For more information about recreation opportunities at Fort Worth District lakes, please visit the District website at www.swf.usace.army.mil (place cursor on “About Us” tab, then “Lake & Recreation Info”, and make selection from “Lakes A – Z”) or email our Public Affairs office at Public.Affairs@usace.army.mil.

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http://watersafety.usace.army.mil/