

# Ripples Journal



*"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean."  
Ryunosuke Satoro*

*A quarterly journal produced by the  
USACE National Water Safety Program  
with help from everyone within USACE  
that promotes water safety.*



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®

**ISSUE 02  
AUGUST 2023**

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## UTILIZE THIS JOURNAL TO...

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- Showcase agency-wide what your division, district, or project is doing to promote water safety.
- Share your water safety initiatives to spark ideas in others.
- Show that you care about saving lives on our nation's waterways and that you have fun doing it.



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### **Your Help Is Needed to Make This Journal As Good As It Can Be.**

- Send your water safety initiatives to your Division Representative on the National Water Safety Committee at any time and watch for emails from your division representative regarding their deadlines for submitting information.
- Include good quality pictures because a picture can be worth a thousand words.
- If it pertains to water safety send it in including but not limited to interpretive programs, special events, displays, promotional products, partnerships, visitor assistance items, etc.

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### **Your Division Representatives on the National Water Safety Committee**

**LRD-Chelsea.J.Jones**

**NAD-Jenna.M.Conner**

**MVD-Erica L. Nabers**

**NWD/POD-Tana K. Wilson**

**SPD-Pamela.B.Bowie**

**SAD-Emily A. Jones**

**SWD-Abby L. Jones**

## Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Water Safety Initiatives

### Chicago District (LRC)

As of 30 June 2023, LRC has made 11,400 water safety interpretive contacts, participated in 19 events, and conducted 11 boat patrol days.

J. Edward Roush Lake, Mississinewa Lake, and Salamonie Lake Park rangers attended the Miami County/Peru, IN YMCA event on 15 April 2023 to promote water safety with the event participants.

Park rangers from J. Edward Roush Lake and Mississinewa Lake staffed a water safety table at Matter Park in Marion, IN on 25 April 2023.



Mississinewa Lake park ranger and local soil and water conservation district program director presented a water safety interpretive program to local 5th graders at Mississinewa Lake.



J. Edward Roush Lake and Mississinewa Lake employees participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



# Huntington District (LRH)

As of 30 June 2023, LRH has made 79,378 water safety interpretive contacts, participated in 227 events, and conducted 167 boat patrol days.

## Yatesville Lake

In April conducted an Easter Egg Hunt special event that included Bobber the Water Safety Dog.



## Burnsville Lake

Friends of Burnsville Lake hosted an Easter Egg Hunt special event on 2 April 2023 at the Downstream Day Use Area that included Bobber the Water Safety Dog.



In May, Burnsville Lake Park Rangers staffed a water safety interactive area at the Burnsville Public Library Emergency Safety Day event.



On 17 June, Burnsville Lake Park Ranger Hess and Bobber the Water Safety Dog participated in the West Virginia State Folk Festival Parade.

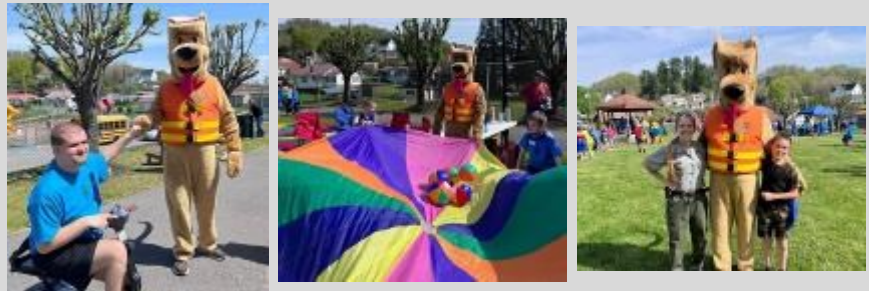
## Muskingum Area

On 11 May, the Wills Creek Earth Day special event was conducted. Fifth and sixth grade students from surrounding schools visited 26 different stations at the event that ranged from water safety to pollinator species.



## John W. Flannagan Lake

In April, park rangers and volunteers staffed a water safety booth at the annual Dickenson County Public Schools “I Can Day” celebration event. Students, families, and school staff got to meet Bobber the Water Safety Dog and were provided with water safety information.



In April, Park Ranger Elliott conducted a water safety interpretive program at the Jonnie B. Deel Memorial Library. Ranger Elliott read a book “Canoe Days” and taught not only the children, but parents as well, the importance of wearing a properly fitted life jacket when in, on, or near water. Bobber the Water Safety Dog also made an appearance during the program.

John W. Flannagan Lake staff and partners participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



## Paint Creek Lake

Through a partnership with Ohio Department of Natural Resources and a donation of life jackets from the Sea Tow Foundation a life jacket loaner station was put in place at Deer Park boat ramp.



## Delaware Lake



In June, park rangers and volunteers staffed an interactive area that included water safety at the Delaware County Touch a Truck event held at the Buckeye Valley High School.

On 17 June, Delaware Lake conducted their annual kids fishing derby at Delaware State Park youth pond, Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the event.



## Grayson Lake



In June, the 4th Annual Glow in the Dark Kayak special event was conducted at Grayson Lake. Over 200 people participated in the event, which is the largest number of participants to date. All participants had to wear a properly fitted life jacket. Numerous volunteers and partners helped make this event so successful.

## Deer Creek Lake

In June, park rangers staffed a water safety booth at the Pickaway County Fair. They also had a booth at the Madison, Fayette, and Ross County Fairs.



## Alum Creek Lake



On 18 June, park rangers conducted a “Paddles Up” kayaking special event. This was a beginner level, intro course to paddling. Park rangers during the event went over the different paddle strokes, water safety, how to perform rescues, and took participants paddling in one of the coves at the lake. This event is also scheduled to be conducted on 16 July, 20 August, and 17 September.

Alum Creek Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



# Louisville District (LRL)

As of 30 June 2023, LRL has made 86,712 water safety interpretive contacts, participated in 232 events, and conducted 94 boat patrol days.

On 8 June, Louisville District held their “Corps Day” event at Beckley Creek Park in Louisville, KY. They had a fun-filled day that included an appearance by Bobber the Water Safety Dog.



Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial  
**Community Safety, Health & Wellness Day**  
 Saturday, April 22, 2023  
 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Central Time

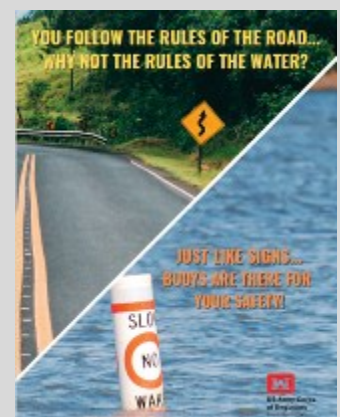
Hiking with a Ranger  
 Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial  
 Guided Hikes will leave from the Memorial Visitor Center  
 8:00a, 11:00a, 1:00p

A Look Inside a Firetruck!  
 Career Timelapse and  
 Semi-Clean Fire Departments

Fire Safety  
 Smokey National Forest  
 Visit with the Smokey Bear at  
 11:00am and 1:00pm

Water Safety  
 US Army Corps of Engineers  
 Visit with  
 Bobber the Water Safety Dog  
 at 10:30am and 12:30pm

On 22 April, Louisville District park rangers took Bobber the Water Safety Dog to be part of the Community Safety, Health, and Wellness Day special event at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial that is managed by the National Park Service.



Placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Indiana Fishing Regulation Publication.

# Nashville District (LRN)

As of 30 June 2023, LRN has made 89,031 water safety interpretive contacts, participated in 191 events, and conducted 176 boat patrol days.

Park rangers across district produced new water safety video PSA's and articles that were distributed on their social media platforms.

[Park rangers respond to drownings by promoting water safety](#)  
[Lake goers urged to make water safety 'First' this Fourth of July](#)  
[Life Jackets are Life Savers](#)

Placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Tennessee Fishing Regulation Publication.



## J. Percy Priest Lake

Placed water safety ad on three digital billboards. The billboards are in the LaVergne, TN area, Smyrna, TN area, and Nashville, TN. Cumberland and Laurel Lakes also purchased billboard space to promote water safety along major highways.



On April 22, Percy Priest Lake park rangers staffed a booth at the Nashville Earth Day event at Centennial Park in Nashville, TN. The park rangers shared information on their lakes, water safety, and natural resources.

## Dale Hollow Lake

Park rangers have helped a local YMCA with their Learn to Swim initiative in the past and is actively working

# Pittsburgh District (LRP)

As of 30 June 2023, LRP has made 51,892 water safety contacts, participated in 78 events, and conducted 62 boat patrol days. In May and June 152 vessel safety checks were made.

Pittsburgh District employees staffed a water safety interactive area at Carnegie Science Center during National Safe Boating Week, which was May 20-26, 2023.



Park Rangers Paige Lupyán and Nicole Govan took Bobber the Water Safety Dog to the Mascot-A-Palooza event at a Washington Wild Things baseball game to promote water safety.

Life Jacket loaner stations were stocked for the recreation season including this one at Crooked Creek Lake.



Water Safety Night at PNC Park was conducted during a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game on 2 June 2023. Pittsburgh District employees provided water safety games, displays, and promotional products for the baseball game attendees and made 24,388 direct water safety interpretive contacts. The district's chief of engineering, Mark Jones, threw out the first pitch to the district's Deputy Commander, Lt. Colonel Daniel Tabacchi.



In April, Shenango River Lake Park Ranger Matthew Pook and Woodcock Creek Lake Resource Manager Ryan Hill staffed a water safety display table at the Linesville Fish Hatchery Open House hosted by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.



### Tionesta Lake



In April, Lead Park Ranger Joel VanOrd, Northern Area Ranger Alex Stevenson, and Park Ranger Andrew Schwab presented a Junior Ranger interpretive program to 150 fourth grade students at Warren County Elementary Center. Water safety was included in the program and every student received an Every Kid Outdoors Pass.

### Youghiogheny River Lake

4 May was the 49th Annual Youghiogheny Special Recreation Day, an event tailored specifically for children and adults with special needs. Activities included boat rides, fishing, and hayrides. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the event.



The Youghiogheny River Lake park rangers, volunteers, and partners made this event a success.

M V D

## Mississippi Valley Division Water Safety Initiatives

A water safety award program was established for MVD. The purpose is to increase public awareness of the USACE water safety mission and recognize MVD districts, projects, individuals, volunteers, and partners that have demonstrated excellence in water safety education and public safety.

### Vicksburg District (MVK)

Placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Mississippi Fishing and Hunting Regulation Publication.





## Enid Lake

Enid Lake staff promoted water safety at a National Safe Boating Week event at Bass Pro Shops in Memphis, TN. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance at the event.



Received a donation of life jackets from Sea Tow Foundation and made them available at their life jacket loaner stations.

Handed out water safety scavenger hunt game sheets in their campgrounds and those that successful completed the hunt received a water safety prize.



On Memorial Day, Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances in the campgrounds promoting water safety to kids of all ages.



## Sardis Lake

Sardis Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



## DeGray Lake

Lake Ouachita and DeGray Lake partnered together to participate in a large event at Magic Springs Amusement Park in Hot Springs, AR. Natural Resources Specialists Renea Guin and Amy Shultz along with DeGray Lake personnel staffed a water safety table at the "Education in Motion" event. Over 7,750 students from Arkansas and Texas attended the event.

## Lake Ouachita

In May, Lake Ouachita Natural Resources Specialists Renea Guin, Joe Bailey, Jon Munz, Matthew Gilbert, Pam Herrin, and Amy Shultz presented several water safety interpretive programs to school groups ranging from pre-school to eighth graders. Over 2,475 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



During National Safe Boating Week in May Lake Ouachita and DeGray Lakes park rangers staffed a water safety table at Bass Pro Shops in Little Rock, AR.

On 3 June, Lake Ouachita Park Rangers Tub Race Team, which consist of Natural Resources Specialist, Josh Tyler, Jon Munz, Robbie Morphew, and Asher Kight along with special guest, Vicksburg District Commander, Colonel Klein, participated in the annual Stuart Pennington's World Championship Running of the Tubs event in Hot Springs, AR, which is held along Bathhouse Row. For the second year in a row, the team won the Most Spirited Tub Team Award for their enthusiasm for promoting water safety in a fun spirited way.



# St. Paul District (MVP)

## Eau Galle Recreation Area



Park rangers conducted a project dam tour and talked about water safety on Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day, which was May 19, 2023. Sixty direct interpretive contacts were made.

Park rangers from Eau Galle Project assisted in staffing and promoted water safety at the Doors Open Event at Upper St. Anthony Falls. Eight hundred direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

## Leech Lake Dam Recreation Area

In April-June, focused on promoting the importance of wearing life jackets with children in their campground. That was accomplished through their "I got caught" initiative and pinecone scavenger hunt, in which visitors found orange pinecones hidden in the campground and redeemed them for water safety promotional items.

## Lake Ashtabula

Park rangers conducted a water safety event, which had over 600 kids attend and staffed a booth at a water festival in South Dakota where they showed the dangers of low head dams using their dam model to over 1,100 kids.

# Rock Island District (MVR)

## Illinois Waterway Project

On April 24 in Peoria, IL, Park rangers Sarah Fisher, Robert Petruney, and Todd Ernenputsch staffed a water safety booth and educated approximately 2,000 people on dam safety.



On April 29, Park Ranger Bob Petruney and Volunteer Tammy Petruney staffed a water safety table at the Healthy Kids Event hosted by Illinois Valley YMCA in LaSalle, IL. 145 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



On May 18, presented water safety interpretive program to 51 students.



On May 18, staffed a water safety table at the Veterans Expo hosted by La Salle County Veterans Assistance Commission.



On June 3, Park Ranger Sarah Fisher staffed a table at Starved Rock State Park's National Trails Day event to promote water safety and responsible ethics. 500 direct interpretive contacts were made.

## Mississippi River Project

In April, five boating safety courses were conducted at the Mississippi River Project Office. They partnered with Illinois Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to provide the courses. Seventy-six people attended courses and all of them passed.

The Mississippi River Project Office partnered with a local excursion boat, The Celebration Belle, to provide a unique field trip to area schools. During the downriver cruise of the Mississippi River, students learned about the history of the area while enjoying the view from the top deck of the boat. On the way back upriver a park ranger presented them a water safety interpretive program. The park rangers helped with three different cruises and made 454 direct water safety interpretive contacts.



Mississippi River Project Office employees staffed an interactive area at the Armed Forces Day event at Memorial Park on the Rock Island Arsenal. The staff promoted water safety and outdoor recreation at their interactive area, which included a fan boat and "campsite" demonstration area. Bobber the Water Safety Dog participated in the event's mascot race and cheered on participants during the kid's race.



Mississippi River Project staff took Bobber the Water Safety Dog to visit the kids at the Child Development Center on the Rock Island Arsenal. Seventy-five direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

### Saylorville Lake

On 3 May, park rangers and volunteers staffed a water safety table at Polk County Safety Village 1n Bondurant, Iowa. Over 750 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



On 11 May, park rangers staffed a water safety table at the Iowa Water Children's Festival, where 1,500 5th graders came to learn about water in the state of Iowa.



On 23 May & 24 May, park rangers attended the Ankeny Fire Department open house nights for EMS week. The first evening was designed for children with special needs to enjoy a quiet evening exploring and learning about public safety. Park rangers demonstrated different kinds of life jackets that people with disabilities can use while swimming or recreating. The second night was an open house for all ages. A water safety table was set up both nights and approximately 2,000 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

### Coralville Lake



All main information boards in the campgrounds and day use recreation areas were updated for the recreation season and water safety information was incorporated into their designs.

Provided water safety and environmental information to middle school students and presented water safety interpretive programs to visitors.

## St. Louis District (MVS)

St. Louis District staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



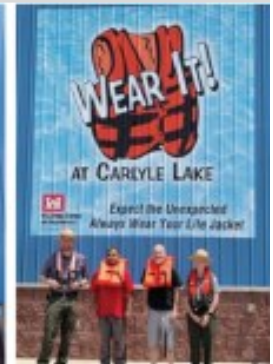
## Carlyle Lake

Carlyle Lake park rangers presented water safety interpretive programs at three local high schools. Students were informed on various practices including, but not limited to, how to properly fit life jackets and why certain safety equipment is required while on a vessel. Excel Bottling Company of Breese, IL donated water safety-themed t-shirts to give to the students. Approximately 865 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



Life jacket loaner stations were stocked for the recreation season. A new life jacket loaner station was put in place at Dam West Beach in collaboration with Excel Bottling Company of Breese, IL.

Since its opening in 2021, Lakeside Liquor & Gas in Carlyle, IL has been eager to work with the Carlyle Lake staff specifically related to promoting water safety. This partnership began with the local business placing Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns window clings that were provided by the National Water Safety Program on all their glass doors. It has now grown into providing a water safety video PSA, also provided by the National Water Safety Program, on all their gas pumps and a large vinyl water safety graphic placed on the entrance of the building. Additionally, park rangers staffed a booth and provided attendees with water safety and lake information at the Lakeside Liquors & Gas' inaugural vendor fair on 17 June.



## Lake Shelbyville



On 20 April 2023, a water safety task force meeting was held at Lake Shelbyville to discuss water safety updates and how to promote water safety at Lake Shelbyville. Local sheriff's deputies, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, USACE staff, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and local partners were in attendance.

On 11 May 2023, "Main Street Corps Day" field trip was held at Lake Shelbyville and brought over 300 local elementary students to the lake for a day of outdoor fun. First graders spent their time at the beach playing water safety games and learning about the importance of wearing a life jacket and swimming with a buddy. Third graders as part of their visit to Lake Shelbyville's Lithia Springs Marina all practiced finding and putting on the correctly sized life jacket for them.



Lake Shelbyville staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.

## Rend Lake

Rend Lake Interpretive Services and Outreach Program Team hosted a Water Safety Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Weekend. Eggs with special messages were hidden around the visitor center and visitors exchanged the eggs they found for water safety prizes.





On 10 June 2023, the Rend Lake staff hosted their annual Beach Blast event at South Sandusky Beach. Park rangers presented water safety games, hosted a sand sculpture contest, and gave away prizes. The Sesser Fire Protection District, Abbott EMS, and U.S. Army brought their unique equipment for participants to look at and the Air Evac Life team 35 landed a helicopter for beachgoers to see. More than 475 beachgoers enjoyed the annual water safety event.

Rend Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



On Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day, partners of Rend Lake wore their life jackets including the WSIL TV NEWS 3 morning broadcast team. News Anchor Rachel Gartner and Meteorologist Nick Hausen, wore their life jackets on air during the 6:30 a.m. news show and promoted water safety to their viewership across southern Illinois, southeast Missouri, and northwest Kentucky.

On Memorial Day weekend, Rend Lake park rangers conducted vessel safety checks and beach interpretive programs. They rewarded visitors for wearing their life jackets by giving them water safety promotional products. 181 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

Park rangers presented water safety school assemblies and some of them included an appearance from Bobber the Water Safety Dog. 995 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



### Rivers Project and National Great Rivers Museum

The National Great Rivers Museum staff hosted Rec Fest to promote safe recreation along the river. More than twenty organizations shared information with over 1,200 visitors about water safety, conservation, and other related topics. Activities included tours of Melvin Price Locks and Dam, live animal presentations, rock climbing, and fishing and archery lessons. Water-safety promotional products were given to children that visited at least ten booths.



River Project staff and volunteers participated in the annual Alton Memorial Day Parade.



Over the Memorial Day holiday weekend, the National Great Rivers Museum staff created a water safety scavenger hunt that included ten water safety items hidden throughout the museum. 232 visitors completed the hunt and received water safety prizes.



Rivers Project employees and volunteer staffed a water safety interactive area and table at the annual Two Rivers Family Fishing Fair at Pere Marquette State Park. 2,000 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

## Wappapello Lake

On 29 April, Park Ranger Alyssa Moss staffed a water safety booth at Grotto Safety Day. 131 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

On 7 May, Wappapello Lake had a water safety message, “Buckle Up, Wearing Life Jackets and Seat Belts Save Lives!” placed in Busch Stadium during a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game, which was Federal Employees Day at the stadium.

Businesses near Wappapello Lake were asked to place water safety messages on their exterior electronic marquees during Memorial Day Weekend. Businesses agreed and also will display the messages on other major holiday weekends including Juneteenth, 4th of July, and Labor Day.



N A D

# North Atlantic Division Water Safety Initiatives

## New England District (NAE)

Placed a water safety ad in the 2023 New Hampshire Fishing Regulation Publication and Vermont Fishing and Hunting Regulation Publications.



## Cape Cod Canal

During National Safe Boating Week in May, the Cape Cod Canal Office had several partners help their park rangers promote water safety.



### West Hill Dam

Park rangers promoted water safety at the 22nd Annual Kid's Fair at the Whittin Community Center.

### Buffumville Lake

Park rangers promoted water safety this spring at many local events.

### Franklin Falls Dam



Franklin Falls Dam staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.

## Baltimore District (NAB)

### Jennings Randolph Lake

On 24 June, Jennings Randolph Lake staff conducted their Annual Glow Swim at Shaw Beach. Over 150 participants enjoyed the night swim! Everyone had to wear a life jacket and were given glowsticks and water safety promotional items.



### Raystown Lake



On 27 May, free vessel safety checks were conducted at Raystown Lake in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and Sea Scouts.

On 2 June, park rangers conducted a Full Moon Paddle event. Participants had to be experienced swimmers and brought their own vessel, life jacket, and paddle.



N W D

## Northwestern Division Water Safety Initiatives

## Portland District (NWP)



Portland District placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Oregon Fishing Regulations Publication.

Portland District PAO joined forces with Oregon State Police to conduct on-water water safety outreach. Read more about it at this link.

[https://www.columbiagorgenevents.com/news/officers-encourage-safe-water-recreation-in-the-gorge/article\\_7921694a-04b8-11ee-b70a-83ed0143fdfa.html](https://www.columbiagorgenevents.com/news/officers-encourage-safe-water-recreation-in-the-gorge/article_7921694a-04b8-11ee-b70a-83ed0143fdfa.html)

## Willamette Valley Project

Purchased and distributed water safety coasters to local breweries as a way to get a water safety message to our target audience, which is adult men that don't wear their life jacket. They have plans to purchase more coasters with a different water safety message on them, "Ducks Float You Don't". Being in the college town of Eugene, OR, home of the Ducks, these coasters will stand out to the locals and help encourage them to wear life jackets.



On 17 June 2023, Park Ranger Paige King staffed a water safety table at the Sweet Home Safety Fair that was conducted near Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs. Adults and kids would receive a water safety promotional item after they answered a water safety question. One hundred direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

On 24 June 2023 and 1 July 2023, park rangers presented an evening campground water safety interpretive program, "Sink Fast" and handed out Bobber the Water Safety Dog Fun Books provided by the National Water Safety Program before playing a movie or Bobber the Water Safety Dog cartoons. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the 1 July program. Seventy-seven direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

On 1 July 2023, park rangers conducted a Fourth of July Bike Parade in their two campgrounds. They talked about bike and water safety and provided water safety promotional items to the kids and adults in the parades. Forty direct interpretive contacts were made during each bike parade.

## Seattle District (NWS)

### Albeni Falls Lake



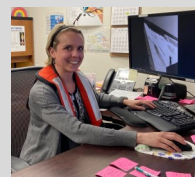
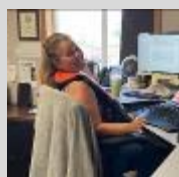
The Albeni Falls Lake staff was very busy with promoting water safety to local students this spring. They hosted several classroom fieldtrips where they presented a life jacket fashion show, a water safety relay, and talked about how to choose and properly fit a life jacket.

Albeni Falls Lake employees staffed a water safety interactive area at the Idaho Hill Safety Day and the Priest River Forest Expo events. Students that participated in the events tried on life jackets and learned how to properly rescue someone that is in trouble in the water, Reach, Throw, Don't Go!



## Walla Walla District (NWW)

Lower Granite Lock and Dam staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.





# Kansas City District (NWK)

Seasonal park rangers received 4-hours of training on water safety program and interpretation and park rangers have been increasing their water safety contacts, social media public service announcements, and events.



On 20 May 2023, Kansas City District Commander, Colonel Travis Rayfield, threw out the first pitch to Smithville Lake Park Ranger and Army Veteran Jaime Picken during the Kansas City Monarchs “Hometown Heroes” game. Park Ranger Picken and Melvern Lake park rangers staffed a water safety booth at the game. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the game.



Kansas City District and Tulsa District worked together to place a water safety ad in the 2023 Kansas Fishing Regulations Publication.

## Hillsdale Lake

A new water safety billboard was put in place on the Dam Roadway

## Clinton Lake

On 27 April 2023, Park Ranger Hunter Young helped staff the USACE booth at the “Take Your Kid to Work Day” event conducted at the Pentagon. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the event and water safety promotional items provided by the National Water Safety Program were handed out during the event.

## Rathbun Lake

Provided water safety promotional items to local businesses to help promote water safety to the local community and lake visitors and partnered with outdoor advertising company to put a water safety message on a digital billboard.

## Tuttle Creek Lake

Installed water safety banners at their boat ramps and conducted a water safety interview with their local new station that was aired during the evening news.

## Wilson Lake

Partnering with state boating authority to conduct vessel safety checks.

## Harlan County Lake

Partnered with local baseball team to install a water safety banner at the baseball field and partnering with state boating authority to conduct vessel safety checks.

# Seattle District (NWS)



Seattle District placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Washington Fishing Regulations Publication.

# South Atlantic Division Water Safety Initiatives

## Jacksonville District (SAJ)



Jacksonville District partnered with The Corps Foundation to purchase a water safety ad in the 2023 Florida Freshwater Fishing Regulations Publication.

### Okeechobee Waterway

On 18 April 2023, Saint Lucie Project Park Rangers James Norris and Robert Wiggins conducted water safety interpretive outreach at the Bass Pro Shops in Port Saint Lucie, FL. The park rangers discussed the importance of properly wearing of a life jacket and that the majority of deaths that occur while out recreating are on vessels smaller than 25 feet. They also informed people about the USACE missions at Saint Lucie and what the duties of park rangers are while patrolling the Okeechobee waterway.



On 17 June 2023, Southern Florida Operations Park Ranger James Norris attended a fishing Clinic conducted by the owner and designer of DOA fishing lures, Mark Nichols of Stuart, FL to share water safety information and what the duties of a park ranger are with the clinic participants. Approximately 30 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

### W.P. Franklin South Recreation Area

On May 4, 2023, Park Rangers Megan Parsons and Preston Heaton and volunteers Cassie and David, presented water safety interpretive programs at Sonshine Academy in Alva, FL to 4th and 5th graders. Interpretive programs presented included “Sink or Float”, water safety relay race, and if time allowed they discussed the different types of swimming techniques. A total of 65 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



On May 27, 2023, Park Ranger Megan Parsons and volunteer Cassie Cullen set up a pop-up water safety table at W.P. Franklin South Recreation Area’s boat ramp to kick off Memorial Day weekend. Visitors that partook in conversation and/or were able to answer water safety related questions were given a water safety promotional item. Approximately 50 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

Jacksonville staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



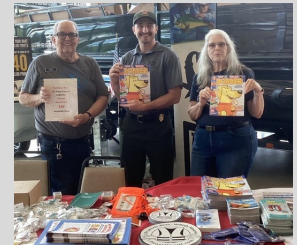
## Mobile District (SAM)



Mobile District purchased a water safety ad in the 2023 Alabama Fishing and Hunting Regulations Publication.

### Allatoona Lake

Park Ranger Travis England and volunteers Jack and Linda Croach staffed a water safety booth at the Cabela's Boating Safety Open House during National Safe Boating Week. A total of 523 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



Allatoona Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.

### West Point Lake

On 17 May 2023, Park Rangers Christine Dowell, Derrick Wilkerson, Susan Cromer, Jeff Mau, Danielle Woody, and Ben Williams participated in the Chambers County Groundwater Festival at West Point Lake and gave a water safety presentation to 4th graders. The presentation was combined with an activity that allowed kids to practice the techniques of "Reach, Throw, Row, Don't Go". Every Kid Outdoors passes were also handed out to each 4th grader. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the event. A total of 250 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



Park Ranger Christine Dowell and City of LaGrange, GA have worked together to create three water safety video public service announcements for the LaGrange TV's local channel and their social media sites. The videos cover important water safety tips such as life jacket wear and proper water rescue techniques. Since the first video aired in May, the videos have reached 3,758 views on Facebook and YouTube. If you would like to see the videos they can be seen on West Point Lake's Facebook Page.

On 3 June 2023, the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce organized a kids' fishing rodeo at Hardley Creek at West Point Lake. Park Rangers Ben Williams, Christine Dowell, Derrick Wilkerson, Jeff Mau, and Danielle Woody, along with intern Courtney Wolchina, partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to share water safety information during the event and provide loaner life jackets to the participants. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the event.



On May 1, 2023, at 3:40 pm, Troup County, GA 911 received a call from a kayaker on West Point Lake stating that three men fell out of their kayaks and were in the water not wearing life jackets. The call was pinged from the middle of the lake between Southern Harbor and Anderson Park. USACE, AMR, Troup County Sheriff, and Troup County Fire Department all responded to the call. USACE Ranger Mike Linville was first on scene and found the exact location of the men using binoculars. Chief Rangers Ben Williams and Susan Cromer launched the patrol boat at Anderson Park with assistance from Ranger Derrick Wilkerson. Rangers Williams and Linville along with one Firefighter/EMT successfully rescued the three men from the water. All three of the men were conscious when rescued; however, one of them lost consciousness while in the boat, after complaining of being cold and scared while in the water. He was taken by ambulance to West Georgia Hospital to receive medical attention and was later discharged. This was a very successful rescue event.

## Savannah District (SAS)



Savannah District placed a water safety ad in the 2023 Georgia Fishing Regulations Publication.

Savannah District's PAO created and posted some creative water safety images on their social media pages.



On 23 May 2023, Savannah District Commander, Colonel Geary, hosted the district's first Water Safety Kick Off to usher in the recreation season. Participating virtually and in-person were park rangers and volunteers from all three lake projects, Corporate Communications, Safety, and Operations Division. Colonel Geary also advised the group that he would like to conduct a post season follow up meeting to review challenges/successes.

### Hartwell Lake

Park rangers staffed an information table at the Hart County High School (Georgia) and Western Carolina University (North Carolina) Job Fairs on 9 February and 14 February. Water safety information and information regarding career opportunities with USACE was provided to the students. 650 direct interpretive contacts were made during the events.



In March, park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program at Lavonia Elementary School in Lavonia, GA. Information on Hartwell Lake was also provided during the program. 106 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



On 17 May 2023, park rangers staffed an information table at the Hartwell, GA Elementary School Career Day. 394 direct water safety contacts were made.

On 24 May, Hartwell Project Office in partnership with other public safety agencies held a pre-Memorial Day water safety media event at Hartwell Lake Big Oaks Recreation Area. Patrol boats were available to transport media for footage and photos. Reporters interviewed USACE park rangers, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Officers, Georgia Department of Natural Resources Officers, and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary regarding boating and water safety topics.

Richard B. Russell Lake

On 29 April 2023, Park Ranger Annette Dotson presented a water safety interpretive program during Richard B. Russell Lake’s annual Kid’s Fishing Derby. Ranger Dotson presented water safety tips and taught the kids and their families proper rescue techniques, “Reach, Throw, Row, Don’t Go”.

## Wilmington District (SAW)

Wilmington District placed a water safety ad in the 2023 North Carolina Fishing and Hunting Regulation Publication and Virginia Fishing Regulations Publication.



John H. Kerr Lake

On 4 April 2023, Park Rangers E. Crowder, Cross, and Jones staff an information table at Lunenburg County Central High School Career Fair. A water safety activity was included and over 500 direct interpretive contacts were made.



On 23 May, 2023, Park Ranger Will Daniel shared water safety information and outfitted youth and adults with properly fitted life jackets at an event with partner organizations Vets-on-a-Roll and Families Embracing Autism Together (F.E.A.T) at Palmer Point Recreation Area. Other local agencies were present to share additional safety information with event participants. Fifty direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

On 15 June 2023, John H. Kerr Lake Park Rangers Emily Jones and Will Daniel attended HQ USACE Annual Organization Day at Anacostia Park in Washington, DC. They joined park rangers from Philadelphia District’s Blue Marsh Lake to promote water safety by providing activities and information to Headquarters employees and their families that attended the event.



John H. Kerr Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.

# Charleston District (SAC)



Charleston District placed a water safety ad in the 2023 South Carolina Fishing and Hunting Regulation Publication.

Charleston District staff presented a water safety interpretive program to students at St. Stephen Elementary School. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the program.



On 17 May 2023, Charleston District Commander, LTC Drew Johannes, USCG Sector Charleston Commander, Captain Frank Delrosso, and Bobber the Water Safety Dog participated in an interview with ABC 4 News in Charleston, SC to discuss water safety before Memorial Day Weekend.



SPD

## South Pacific Division Water Safety Initiatives

### San Francisco District (SPN)

#### Lake Mendocino

Lake Mendocino park rangers presented water safety interpretive programs at local schools in April and May. Over 200 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



# Albuquerque District (SPA)

John Martin Lake

Park rangers made 234 direct water safety interpretive contacts during Memorial Day Weekend.



S W D

## Southwestern Division Water Safety Initiatives

# Fort Worth District (SWF)

Trinity Region



On 21–23 April 2023, Park Rangers Grayson Gregory, Marcus Holloway, David Walker, Billy Jasper, Anthony Sanders, and Jennifer Lawson staffed a booth the Earth X event at Fair Park in Dallas, TX. The park rangers promoted conservation, recreation, and water safety during the event. Approximately 9,500 direct interpretive contacts were made during the event.

On 6 and 7 May 2023, Park Rangers Ami Watkins, Marcus Holloway, David Walker, Lyndy Black, Austin Smith, and Jennifer Lawson staffed a booth at the May Fest event at Trinity Park in Fort Worth, TX. They talked to event goers about USACE missions at the lakes, career options, and water safety. Over 2,800 direct interpretive contacts were made during the event.



Lake Georgetown

Park Ranger Joshua Houghtaling staffed the water safety station at the Williamson County Learn to Fish event. Attendees to the event were required to go to eight different stations, which included knot tying, species identification, hook and weight, ethics and regulations, casting, handling, pole set-up, and water safety.

On 3 May 2023, Lake Georgetown staff, City of Georgetown Police Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, and Fire Captain, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Warden met to discuss strategy on water safety efforts on Lake Georgetown for the summer. Items discussed included the updated buoy plan, restrictions in new areas, concerns about cliff jumping, and how to get resources in the correct areas to help control problems.



Lake Georgetown staff held an event at Jim Hogg Park where they issued America the Beautiful passes, provided lake and water safety information, park rangers showed off their patrol boat and vehicle, and Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the event.

## Belton Lake



Park Ranger Arty Johnson was a guest on KTEM News Radio 14 “On The Dock” live radio show. Ranger Johnson discussed water safety, park operations, and current lake conditions. The radio show season began in April and will end in September. Belton Lake & Stillhouse House Hollow Lake park rangers will rotate as guests on the show.

On 24 June 2023, a Water Safety Festival was held at Belton Lake to spread the water safety message to their community. Belton Lake and Stillhouse Hollow Lake park rangers provided water safety and lake information, staffed a water safety temporary tattoo station, and provided water safety games. Also in attendance were the Texas Game Wardens, Bell County Sheriffs Department, Morgan’s Point Dive Team, Morgan’s Point Fire and Rescue, Bell County Public Health, and Bell County Farm Bureau.



## Lavon Lake



On 24 June 2023, Park Rangers Ben Rothfuchs and Stephen Berry along with Bobber the Water Safety Dog conducted roving interpretation at the annual Bluegrass on Ballard event in downtown Wylie, TX. They interacted with event attendees and provided them with water safety information and promotional items, answered questions about the USACE and Lavon Lake, and Bobber posed with them for pictures. During the event 718 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

## Lewisville Lake

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary hosted a training event at Pier 121 Marina to kick off National Safe Boating Week in May. The accident scenario was a wake boarding boat had impacted a double decker party barge. Partners included Lewisville Fire and Dive Team, Little Elm Fire, USACE, PHI Air Medical, Sea Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, Denton County Dispatch and Emergency Management, Tow Boat US, Dallas Police Department, Texas Game Wardens and numerous individual volunteers.



The event was a success, testing vessel coordination, communications, triage, and transport by, land, air, and water. After the event, Dallas Police Department presented a proclamation to the Coast Guard Auxiliary from Mayor Eric Johnson declaring May 20-26th Safe Boating Week for Dallas. The Auxiliary was also presented a proclamation from Governor Greg Abbott declaring May 20-26th Safe Boating Week for Texas. Park Rangers Dax Hall, Chandler Sanford, and Austin Smith and Trinity Environmental Stewardship Business Line Manager Nick Wilson represented USACE at this event.



On 27 May 2023, Lewisville Lake park rangers and Fort Worth District Safety Office partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife, Power Line Safety Initiative, and America’s Boating Club to host an Outreach and Education Day at the Westlake Park Boat Ramp. This opportunity allowed boaters to ask questions and have their required safety equipment checked before going out on the water. Water safety and lake information was provided to the participants. 285 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

Over the Memorial Day Weekend, park rangers partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) and the LV Project to promote boating and water safety. The ABC, NBC, NBC, Telemundo, and CBS TV stations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area brought crews to Lewisville Lake and conducted interviews with park rangers, TPWD employees, and The LV Project Founder and Conner’s Mom. While at Lewisville Lake The LV Project donated more life jackets to USACE for their life jacket loaner station.







On 19 May 2023, Park Rangers Chandler Sanford and Grayson Gregory staffed a water safety station at the Paloma Creek Elementary Field Day.

### Lewisville Lake and Ray Roberts Lake

On 25 March 2023, park rangers staffed a booth at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Spring Fling event at Ray Roberts Lake, Johnson Branch State Park. This event was part of the 100-year celebration of Texas State Parks. Park rangers shared water safety, lake, and wildlife information with event attendees.



### Proctor Lake



Park Rangers Jared Harris and Ben Murphy presented a water safety interpretive program to 4th grade students at Comanche Elementary. 90 direct water safety contacts were made.

On 27 May 2023, Park Rangers Ben Murphy, Jared Harris, and Hunter Murphy, represented the USACE in the Gustine Homecoming Parade.



Park Rangers Ben Murphy and Jared Harris staffed an interactive water safety booth at the Dublin Public Library Kindness Carnival. The park rangers promoted water safety by using trivia questions, conducting demonstrations, and handed out water safety promotional items that they received from the National Water Safety Program.

### Waco Lake

On 8 April 2023, Park Rangers Arianna Jacinto and Matthew Jones staffed a water safety booth at the Waco Community Easter Festival. Over 250 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



On 22 April 2023, Park Ranger Cara Niemietz staffed an informational table at the Cameron Park Zoo's Earth Day event. Water safety and lake information was shared with event attendees.

On 1 June 2023, Park Rangers Matthew Hackler and Ethan Janecka removed eleven damaged buoys from beach and boat ramp areas.

### Whitney Lake

On 23 May 2023, Park Ranger Matthew Jones and Environmental Stewardship Business Line Manager Jennifer Sleezer presented water safety and environmental stewardship interpretive programs to all of the Whitney ISD 4th grade students.

### Whitney Lake and Waco Lake

On 5 May 2023, Park Rangers Kathryn Devers, Madeline Karickhoff, Cara Niemietz staffed an informational table at the 2nd Annual Ducks Unlimited Expo at the Texas Motor Speedway. Water safety, recreational opportunity, and lake information was shared with event attendees.



### Somerville Lake

Park Rangers Amber Owen and Dayziah Petruska partnered with Somerville High School FFA to present interpretive programs to Somerville Elementary 1st - 4th graders, which included water safety, flood control, and wildlife biology.

### Wright Patman Lake

On 8 April 2023, Wright Patman Lake park rangers and volunteers conducted a Rocky Point Easter event. The event activities included an easter egg hunt, water safety relay, and glow-in-the-dark easter egg hunt.



On 13 April 2023, Park Ranger Russell attended the 2023 Spring Fling at Texarkana College. She spoke with students about USACE careers and summer jobs and provided water safety information to them. Over 400 direct interpretive contacts were made.

Park rangers staffed an informational table at Texas Travel Centers during National Travel and Tourism Week. The park rangers spoke with visitors about water safety, USACE regulations, and Wright Patman Lake. Over 1,000 direct interpretive contacts were made. On 9 May and 12 May, Park Rangers Russell and Rabakukk-Langthorn staffed a water safety booth at Arkansas Travel Centers.



On 19 May 2023, Park Rangers from Wright Patman Lake, Piney Woods Region, Sam Rayburn Lake, Lake O' the Pines, and Town Bluff Lake staffed a water safety interactive area at the Safety Stand Down held at Hood Stadium, Fort Cavazos, TX.

### Canyon Lake

Park Ranger Samuell Price staffed a water safety interactive area at the Joint Base San Antonio MWR's Lakin' It Easy event. The event was aimed at getting the active duty, vets, and DoD civilians out to the lake to have a relaxing day. 162 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made during the event.



On 29 June 2023, a media event was conducted at Canyon Lake to talk about boating and water safety before for the 4th of July holiday weekend. Agencies involved with the event included USACE, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Comal County Sheriff and Water Oriented Recreation District of Comal County.

### Town Bluff Lake

On 28 April 2023, Town Bluff Lake Park Rangers Reed Elmore and Bryan Heffernan and Sam Rayburn Lake Park Ranger Emily Laperriere presented water safety interpretive programs at the Spurger Elementary School Safety Day to Pre-K to the sixth grade students. 100 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.

### Navarro Mills Lake

On 14 April 2023, Park Ranger Casey Soper was part of the Mystery Reader Program at Sam Houston Elementary School in Corsicana, TX. Ranger Soper presented an interpretive program to two kindergarten classes about Navarro Mills Lake, water safety, and what a park rangers do and then read a book to the students.



## Little Rock District (SWL)

### Table Rock Lake

On 21 and 25 April 2023, Park Ranger Ryan Braaten presented water safety interpretive programs to Cedar Ridge Elementary School and on 28 June 2023 presented water safety interpretive programs for Branson School District Summer School. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the programs.



Table Rock Lake staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



On 4 June 2023, park ranger presented water safety interpretive programs at the Splash Day event conducted at the Pat Jones YMCA. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made an appearance during the event.

On 10 June 2023, park rangers presented water safety interpretive programs at the Kids Fishing Day event conducted at the Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery.

On 21 June 2023, the second annual Partners of Pollinators event was held at Table Rock Lake. Bobber the Water Safety Dog, adorned with butterfly wings, fluttered around the event for fun photo opportunities.



### Clearwater Lake

On 22 June 2023, Park Ranger Don Henson presented a water safety interpretive program along with an introduction of the Junior Ranger program to the 3rd-6th grade students at Clearwater R-1 Summer School. Then returned to the school on 27 June 2023 to check the student's completed Junior Ranger books. Park Ranger Henson awarded every student with a cool wooden Junior Ranger Badge for completing their Junior Ranger Book. The students thoroughly enjoyed the Junior Ranger activity book, many of them completed all the activities in the book not just the seven required to earn their badge.

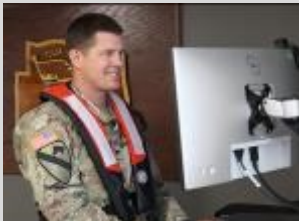


The Junior Ranger book created by the National Water Safety Program and information regarding the wooden Junior Ranger Badge can be found on the NRM Gateway in the water safety section. <https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/water.cfm>

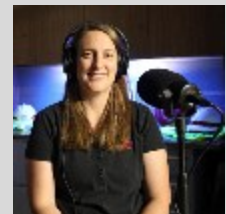


## Tulsa District (SWT)

Tulsa District staff participated in Wear a Life Jacket at Work Day on 19 May 2023.



In cooperation with the Tulsa District PAO Lake Texoma Park Ranger Audrey White conducted a water safety podcast in April and Natural Resources Management Specialist Abby Jones conducted a podcast on water safety, camping and hiking safety in June.



On 12 April 2023, Tulsa District hosted the Safe Kids Tulsa Coalition at CityPlex Towers. Guest speakers were Brandi Russell, Infant Aquatics, and Abby Jones, USACE, talking about water safety. Mrs. Jones talked about statistics from across USACE and the Tulsa District, and what USACE does to promote water safety. She also asked the other organizations at the coalition if they had any thoughts on how USACE can partner with them to promote water safety. Safe Kids Tulsa Coalition meets monthly with organizations from around the Tulsa, OK area including the Police Department, Fire Department, AAA, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Saint Francis Injury Prevention, and many other agencies that work on ways to keep kids safe in Tulsa and surrounding areas. Abby Jones represents USACE on the coalition.



On 15 April 2023, a Tulsa District meteorologist and park rangers staffed an information table at the Severe Weather Expo conducted at Woodland Hills Mall to discuss weather and water safety with the expo's attendees.



### Oologah Lake

Park Ranger and Navigation Project Office staff teamed up and present several presentations to the outdoor education and STEM classes at the Owasso 8th grade center. Approximately 150 students attended the presentations to learn about outdoor recreation, navigation, and water safety.



### Keystone Lake

Park rangers attended four different water safety events across Oklahoma. The Sand Springs Truck Touch was a huge success, with 250 kids visiting the USACE Airboat to learn about water safety. On the same day, park rangers promoted water safety at the Safe Kids Day event conducted at the Oklahoma City Zoo interacting with 200 kids. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the event. The Muscogee Nation Conservation District Natural Resources Careers & Outdoor Classroom was held in Okmulgee, OK and park rangers spoke to 60 kids about water safety and careers with USACE. Park rangers also attended the Sapulpa Parks Outdoor Recreation Expo and spoke to 100 kids and adults about water safety.



Park Rangers Beth Stevenson and Ashley Novar visited Owen Elementary School in Tulsa OK to present a water safety interpretive program to 100 2nd - 5th grade students.

### Wister Lake

Park rangers with help from Eufaula Lake park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 3rd and 4th grade classes of Wister public schools. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park rangers with help Eufaula Lake park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 3rd and 4th grade classes of Red Oak public schools. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.

Park rangers with help from Eufaula Lake park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 3rd and 4th grade classes of Fanshaw public schools. The 4th grade students received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



## Eufaula Lake

Park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 4th grade class of Checotah Intermediate. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 4th grade class of Crowder Elementary. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 4th grade class of Eufaula Elementary. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 4th grade class of Quinton Elementary. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park rangers presented a water safety interpretive program to the 4th grade class of Stigler Elementary. Every student also received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.



Park ranger presented a water safety interpretive program to the 3rd- 8th grade classes of Whitefield School. The 4th grade students received the 4th Grade Park Pass as part of the Every Kid Outdoors initiative.

On 27 and 28 April, 2023, park rangers hosted their Annual Gentry Creek Fishing Fling at Eufaula Lake with the help from their partners, which included the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Fetch n Fish, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, and local volunteers. In attendance were 182 3rd and 4th grade students from Warner & Eufaula Elementary Schools, their teachers and parent chaperones. They participated in several educational activities including a water safety interactive station.

## Copan Lake

On 29 April 2023, Park Ranger Justin Barnes presented a water safety interpretive program to eighteen local area youth, ranging in age from 6-14.



## Fort Gibson Lake



Park Rangers Josh Glazebrook, Tiffany Natividad, and Colton Thomas staffed a water safety information table at Camp Bandage in partnership with the Grand River Dam Authority.

On 27 April 2023, Park Rangers Josh Glazebrook Grant Geisbauer, and Tiffany Natividad along with Tulsa District Recreation Planner Tabitha Nixon and Recreation Section Chief Amanda Palmer presented a water safety interpretive program to Adair Public Schools 4th grade students. Approximately 79 students were in attendance.



## Kaw Lake

Kaw Lake staff gave water safety promotional items that were provided by the National Water Safety Program to Washington Pre-K center so that the teachers could promote water safety to nearly 250 pre-kindergarten students.

## Tenkiller Ferry Lake

On 4 May 2023, Park Rangers Sheryl Townsend and Jeremiah Holland presented water safety interpretive programs to approximately 90 students at the Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge Fishing Clinic that was conducted at Brushy Lake.

## Pat Mayse Lake

Park Rangers Joshua Seavey, John McQuaig, and Connor Rychlik staffed a water safety booth at a Safe Kids event in Paris, TX. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the event.



Park Rangers Audrey White, John McQuaig, and Joshua Seavey staffed a water safety booth at Uncle Jessie's Fishing Tournament. There were approximately 250 anglers that participated with the event.

## Waurika Lake

On 6 May 2023, park rangers promoted water safety at a Safe Kids Day event conducted at the Oklahoma City Zoo. Bobber the Water Safety Dog made appearances during the event. Several hundred direct water safety interpretive contacts were made.



## Skiatook Lake

Skiatook Lake Staff partnered with Fox 23 News and Tulsa District PAO to promote water safety over the Memorial Day Holiday weekend. Cassi Free, who lost her 9-year-old son in 2020 due to carbon monoxide poisoning while boating on Lake Eufaula accompanied lake staff during water patrol to educate boaters about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and boating.

### Andy Free 2011-2020

On June 6, 2020, Andy and his family enjoyed the day boating and after a day at the rear of the boat Andy fell unconscious into the lake and never woke up again. It was later revealed that Andy died of carbon monoxide poisoning. Tragically, Andy's life was cut short by carbon monoxide, which is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless toxic gas.



Message from the Free Family  
"Know the dangers of carbon monoxide while boating and think of Andy when you boat."

[Facebook.com/thelittledud ranch](https://www.facebook.com/thelittledud ranch)



## Broken Bow Lake



On 26 May 2023, at Bass Pro Shops in Broken Arrow, OK Safe Kids Tulsa hosted their annual Memorial Day Press Conference. Agencies talked to the media about the importance of water safety during the Memorial Day weekend. Agencies/partners in attendance were Safe Kids Tulsa, USACE, Broken Arrow Police Department, Grand River Dam Authority, and Oklahoma Highway Patrol. All four media outlets from Tulsa, OK attended the press conference and they aired clips from the conference during their local news broadcasts throughout the holiday weekend.

Broken Bow Lake staff put on water safety events for local summer school groups ranging from kindergarden-6th grade. The students participated and enjoyed several different water safety activities during the events.



## Lake Texoma

Park Rangers Cody Thompson, Conner Rychlik, and Josh Ringle visited the Calera summer school program to present a water safety interpretive program to the students.



Park Rangers Conner Rychlik, Josh English, Kyle Toms, and Rachel Storey staffed a water safety booth at an event in Kingston, OK.

## Kansas Area Lakes

On 6 June 2023, Park Rangers Joseph Holcomb and Aaron Springer staffed a water safety information table at an event conducted by the Coffey County Health Department at the Burlington, KS Swimming Pool. Over 200 direct water safety interpretive contacts were made during the event.

USACE

# National Water Safety Program Resources and Initiatives

## 2021-2022 National Water Safety Photo Contest Winners

Thanks to everyone who entered the photo contest and congratulations to the winners!

First place winners are Tia Mercer (NAE), Jennie Wilson (NWK), Carmen Paris (LRE), Stephanie Jones (SWF), and Scott Frieden (NWK). Second place winners are Trevor Welsh (SWF), Carmen Paris (LRE), Michael Gross (SWT), and Jessica Schaeffer (MVS). Honorable mention winners are Paige King (NWP), Frankie Bowers (SPK), Carla Robinson (SPN), David Schwartz (SAW), Jenna Conner (NAB), Michael Gross (SWT), Darren Murphy (MVS), Lauren Howard (NWW), and Alicia Palmer (NAB).

The winning photos and 2023-2023 photo contest guidelines are posted on the NRM Gateway at this link. <https://corpslakes.erc.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/photos.cfm>

The winning photos that you can download are on the NRM Community MS-Teams page in the water safety files folder. To join the NRM Community Teams page open MS-Teams, click on “Join or create a team” in the bottom left corner, under “Join a team with a code” enter fmc90v1 as the code.

Please note that the deadline for the 2023-2024 National Water Safety Photo Contest is 31 January 2025.



Winner: Employees in Action Category, Tia Mercer (NAE)



Winner: Partners in Action Category, Jennie Wilson (NWK)



Winner: Commercial Boating Category, Carmen Paris (LRE)

In July, The Corps Foundation utilizing grant funds they received from the U.S. Coast Guard to promote our Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign purchased billboard advertising space near Lewisville Lake in the Fort Worth District, Lake Texoma in the Tulsa District, and Lake Lanier in the Mobile District. The artwork for this billboard advertising initiative was created by the National Water Safety Program.



The Corps Foundation donated some Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns promotional products including beach towels, t-shirts, and vehicle windshield sunshades to the National Water Safety Program and the products were distributed to 120 USACE lakes that requested them to use in their "I Got Caught" initiative. The products are only given to adults that are caught wearing a life jacket. The products were purchased by The Corps Foundation utilizing grant funds that they received from the U.S. Coast Guard to promote the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign, which is our campaign that targets adults. Products such as beach towels and t-shirts we are not authorized to purchase because they are considered items of personal value, so what The Corps Foundation has done and continues to do to help us promote water safety to adults is very much appreciated. Here are pictures of some of the adults caught at our lakes that were wearing their life jacket and received a product donated by the foundation.



Abiquiu Lake



Allatoona Lake



Coralville Lake



Eau Galle Lake



Jennings Randolph Lake



John W. Flannagan Lake



John H. Kerr Lake



John Martin Lake



Lake Ouachita



Greeson Lake



Lake Lanier



More "I Got Caught" Pictures



Melvern Lake



Michael J. Kirwan Lake



Nolin River Lake



Navarro Mills Lake



Phipott Lake



Smithville Lake



Stonewall Jackson Lake



Success Lake



Tenn-Tom Waterway



Tionesta Lake



W.P. Franklin  
Lock and Dam

## Resources to Help You Promote Water Safety

### USACE National Water Safety Program's Webpage

[www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/National-Water-Safety\\_Program/](http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/National-Water-Safety_Program/)

(PleaseWearIt.com redirects to this) Includes Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns Campaign Materials, Water Safety Tips in English and Spanish, News Releases, and more.

**Please Wear It Social Media Pages** on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. These are the National Water Safety Program's social media pages that are managed in cooperation with The Corps Foundation.

### NRM Gateway Water Safety Section

<https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/water.cfm>

Includes USACE Strategic Campaign Plan for Reducing Public Recreation Fatalities, Public Recreation Fatalities Data Summary and Statistics, Life Jacket Loaner Program Guidelines, Promotional Materials Policy, GSA Vehicle Public Safety Marking Guidance Memo, Life Jacket Mandatory Wear Policy Selective Expansion Memo, Water Safety Graphics Library, Media Interview Fact Sheet, Water Safety Resource Guide for Interpretive Services and Educational Outreach, Bobber the Water Safety Dog Costume Guidelines, and much more.

**Bobber the Water Safety Dog website** [www.Bobber.info](http://www.Bobber.info)

### National Water Safety Program's YouTube Channel and DVIDS Unit

[www.YouTube.com/user/USACEwatersafety](http://www.YouTube.com/user/USACEwatersafety)


[www.dvidshub.net/unit/USACE-WS](http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/USACE-WS)

Numerous water safety video PSAs are available and can be downloaded on the DVIDS Unit page so you can use them however you can to promote water safety.

Past issues of this quarterly water safety journal "Ripples" are on the NRM Gateway <https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/nrm.dfm>

Artwork and graphics created by the National Water Safety Program is added the Water Safety Graphics Library in the Water Safety Section on the NRM Gateway throughout the year, so check it out and download whatever you need to help promote water safety to all ages. The interpretive panels below plus much, much more can be found in the Water Safety Graphics Library.

**Respect the River: Be aware of potentially hazardous conditions.**  
Preventable accidents happen that cause serious injuries or death. Don't bet your life, respect the power of the river!



**Swift currents can trap you.**  
Always keep your feet close to the river bank and don't cross your feet. Always wear your life jacket to stay afloat in the water.


**Don't drink water from streams.**  
Always drink all water from the 300 gallon or larger tanks. Never buy or use bottled water.

**Don't jump from unknown heights.**  
Bodies, things, and other debris can injure or kill you just below the rocks.

**Cold water can be fatal.**  
Cold water can take your body of heat away. It's hard to see, so always wear your life jacket.

**If you fall in, keep your feet up and keep downstream.**  
This prevents you from being swept to the river bank. Use your feet to break up rocks, sediments, and logs.

**Always wear appropriate safety gear.**  
Life Jacket | Shoes | Sunscreen



**Respete el Río: Esté consciente de condiciones potencialmente peligrosas.**  
Suceden accidentes prevenibles que causan lesiones graves o la muerte. ¡No apueste su vida, respete el poder del río!



**Los corrientes rápidos pueden atraparte.**  
Siempre mantén tus pies cerca de la orilla y no cruces tus pies. Siempre usa chaleco salvavidas para permanecer a flote en el agua.

**Los ríos no se beben.**  
Siempre bebe agua de los tanques de 300 litros de capacidad o mayores. Nunca compres ni uses agua embotellada.

**No saltes de alturas desconocidas.**  
Rocas, troncos y otros obstáculos pueden estar escondidos justo bajo la superficie. Cada año personas mueren o resultan lesionadas.

**El agua fría puede ser fatal.**  
El agua fría puede quitar el calor a tu cuerpo en minutos. Si caes, tu chaleco salvavidas te ayudará a sobrevivir.

**Si caes al agua mantén tus pies arriba y flota río abajo.**  
Esto previene que seas arrastrado a la orilla o a un roca. Utiliza tus pies para empujarte de las rocas y peligrosos lugares.

**Utilice siempre el equipo de seguridad adecuado.**  
Chaleco salvavidas | Zapatos | Protector solar



After four years of work the first ever U.S. National Water Safety Action Plan (USNWSAP) officially launched on 29 June 2023. The mission of this 10-year plan is to prevent drowning in the U.S. through evidence-informed action and transform the country into a nation where water safety is a natural part of everyday life and people enjoy the benefits of water, safely. This plan includes six focus areas, which includes Data/Public Health Surveillance, Supervision/Lifeguards, Life Jackets/Personal Flotation Devices and Other Flotation, Rescue/CPR, Barriers, Entrapment and Electrical Safety, and Water Safety/Water Competence/Swimming Lessons. Hundreds of water safety and drowning prevention experts across the United States led, contributed, and developed this plan. USACE National Water Safety Program Manager, Pam Doty, was part of the Life Jacket/Personal Flotation Devices and Other Flotation working group. Rachel Garren, Corps Foundation Special Programs Director, was a subject matter expert consulted to review the life jacket working group’s recommendations. The USNWSAP is a national roadmap for collective action to reduce drowning, providing a framework and tools to support the development and implementation of data- and evidence-informed context-specific water safety action plans in communities, counties, and states across the country. It also lays out national actions that support implementation and increase the likelihood of success of those local plans. The call to action is aimed at everyone in the water safety and drowning prevention communities, including aquatics professionals, public health and safety professionals, policymakers, researchers, advocates, families, and manufacturers, challenging them to work together to ensure more effective action to increase water safety and prevent drowning and that includes us within USACE. Included in the plan are 99 evidence-informed action recommendations, a 12-step Reflection to Action process, and National Implications to support action plan development. Additional tools will be made available later this year. To learn more visit [watersafetyplan.us](http://watersafetyplan.us) and download a copy of the USNWSAP, Reflection to Action, and National Implications.



Dates to keep in mind:

International Boating and Water Safety Summit  
 April 8-11, 2024 in Albuquerque, NM  
 Call for Speakers deadline: November 1, 2023  
 Early Registration Deadline: January 15, 2024  
 Conference website: [www.ibwss.org](http://www.ibwss.org)



There is an image hidden in this journal. Your job is to find it. This journal’s image is this one of Corkey. The actual image may be larger or smaller than what you see here. If you find the image, email Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager, at [pamela.j.doty@usace.army.mil](mailto:pamela.j.doty@usace.army.mil). Your email MUST include the subject as Ripples Journal Image, your name, shipping address, phone number, and the page number where you found the image. Entries need to be sent NLT August 31, 2023. The first five USACE employees that submit their entry correctly will receive Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns beach towel that was donated to the USACE National Water Safety Program by The Corps Foundation.

