



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECW-CO

MAY 10 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: 2019 Water Safety Message to Commanders

1. I want to emphasize my commitment to ensuring that visitors to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) lake and river projects have a safe and enjoyable experience. I would like for you to make water safety a priority at all levels of the organization throughout the year, but especially during the summer recreation season.
2. I am extremely proud of the actions taken in Fiscal Year 2018, including over 2.4 million direct interpretive water safety contacts, thousands of boat patrol days, hundreds of water safety events, vessel safety inspections, and other related initiatives. I have no doubt that these efforts have saved lives, so I want to thank everyone for your dedication and hard work.
3. Over the past ten years 88 percent of all USACE public recreation fatalities were men, 62 percent were between the ages of 20 to 60, and 86 percent were not wearing a life jacket. Keep these statistics in mind when implementing water safety initiatives within your command.
4. Reducing public recreation fatalities can be challenging and it requires continued proactive efforts. Continue to emphasize promoting water safety to adult men by utilizing the "Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns" National Water Safety Campaign. Campaign resources are available on the National Operations Center for Water Safety's website PleaseWearIt.com and Please Wear It social media pages.
5. Additional information regarding water safety programs, partnerships, and strategies can be found on the Natural Resources Management Gateway website in the water safety section or by contacting Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager at 817-886-1727 or pamela.j.doty@usace.army.mil.

SCOTT A. SPELLMON
Major General, USA
Deputy Commanding General
for Civil and Emergency Operations

*Commanders -
Thanks For An
You Do On This
Front!*

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