



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

CECW-CO (385-10gg2)

2/3/2023

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEFS, OPERATIONS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS
AND DISTRICT COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Announcement of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers award winners of the
National Boating Federation's 2023 National Water Safety Awards

1. Ms. Rachael Gwinn, Student Conservation Association (SCA) Water Safety Intern for the Interpretive Services and Outreach Program (ISOP) at Raystown Lake, has been selected as the recipient of the 2023 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) National Water Safety Employee Award. Ms. Gwinn made over 5,000 direct on-site interpretive water safety contacts, oversaw several successful water safety initiatives, such as the "I Got Caught" initiative, and events including Glow Swim and Chalk the Walk. Despite being an intern, Ms. Gwinn acted as a leader helping to guide, mentor, and train seasonal park rangers. She also developed ways to motivate staff to exceed 16,000 direct interpretive water safety contacts in 2022. Ms. Gwinn's dedication and passion to promoting water safety is admirable and reflects great credit upon herself and USACE.

2. The Abiquiu Lake Staff has been selected as the recipient of the 2023 USACE National Water Safety Team Award. Their efforts to engage the public, both adults and youth, in water safety fundamentals resulted in over 35,000 direct interpretive contacts made in 2022. As COVID restrictions began to decrease, the staff eagerly welcomed the ability to reengage with the public. The Abiquiu Lake staff promoted water safety along with performing numerous other duties and they performed them all remarkably well. Their selfless service, community engagement, and dedication to promoting water safety is greatly appreciated.

3. These awards are coordinated in partnership with the National Boating Federation and will be presented to Ms. Gwinn, the Abiquiu Lake Staff, and USACE Division Water Safety Award Winners later this year. Winning nomination packets will be placed on the NRM Gateway.

4. The point of contact for these awards is Ms. Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager at pamela.j.doty@usace.army.mil or 817-886-1727.

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