

## PARTNERSHIP AT WORK

Rough River Lake, KY – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District's Rough River Lake entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the Friends of Rough River Lake, Inc. (FRRL) on February 16, 2011 for the purpose of working together to promote outdoor recreation opportunities, water safety, community involvement, area history, corps history, project development, and corps/project mission. As part of this agreement the FRRL agreed to assist in the conversion of existing storage buildings, formally construction house, into a working Visitor/Outdoor Learning Center that would feature interactive displays, a history of the area and the Corps as well as serve as a general information center for visitors to the lake.



Future Visitor Center



Future Outdoor Learning Center

These structures set side by side and were constructed in the late 50's as construction houses used during Rough River Dam construction. From the 70's to the 80's these houses were used as resident houses. In the late 80's to November 1, 2011 these houses were used as storage buildings.

November 1, 2011 interior and exterior renovation work began on the building. This work was done 100% with volunteer labor totaling 645 hours (value of \$14,055). On November 21, 2011 the FRRL and the Rough River Lake project received the 2012 Handshake Partnership Program Grant in the amount of \$30,000 to assist in the completion of the project. As part of this agreement the FRRL agreed to contribute \$35,049 for educational displays, furnishings, sheet rock, and labor to renovate the buildings. The government agreed to contribute \$15,000 towards the project not counting the \$30,000 funds received.

May 19, 2012 the Rough River Lake Visitor Center was dedicated and became fully operational. The facility is operated throughout the recreation season Friday, Saturday and Sunday by members of the FRRL and all janitorial services are provided by the FRRL. The Outdoor Learning Center is scheduled for completion by May 18, 2013.



May 19, 2012 Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening



Visitor Center Sign



Before



Visitor Center Now



Before



Outdoor Learning Center Now





Landscaping



Is this Your Trash Interpretive Display

The FRRL also assist with various water safety and interpretive programs such as various programs conducted at schools both on and off site and at sporting events (Water Safety Day at the Louisville Bats, Water Safety Day at the Bowling Green Hot Rods). They also assist with special events at the project such as National Ready-Set-Wear-It, Cardboard Boat Regatta, Rough River Lake Dam Triathlon, and Trash Bash. The FRRL works hand in hand with Corps staff to promote water safety, getting outdoors and corps mission at the events and programs listed above.



Water Safety Day at the Louisville Bats



Rough River Lake Cardboard Boat Regatta





Water Safety Booth at Kentucky Motor Speedway



Rough River Lake Dam Triathlon



May 19, 2012 National Ready-Set-Wear-It Campaign

This partnership has enabled the Corps of Engineers at Rough River Lake with the help of the FRRL and the community to work together in the stewardship of Rough River Lake. This partnership continues to allow for the expansion of the water safety initiative, community outreach, grow the volunteer program, and promotion of getting outdoors.