

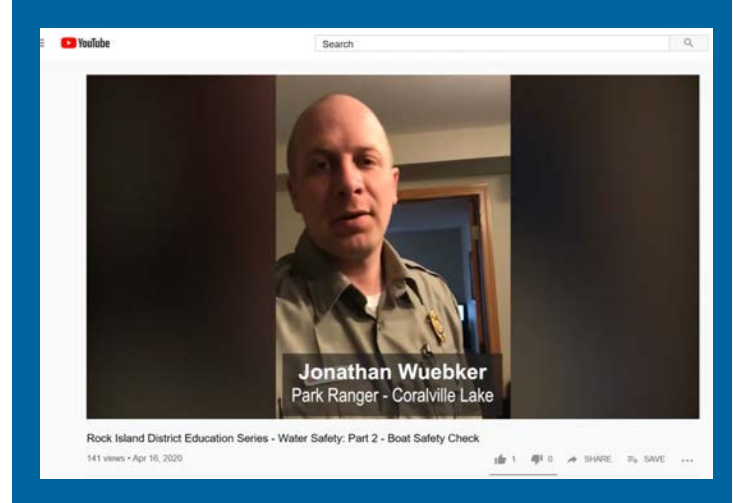


MVD WATER SAFETY INITIATIVES 2020 SUMMER REPORT

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT (MVR)

Coralville Lake

Participated in #USACEeducates efforts on Facebook which included 30 water safety posts that reached 16,954 people. Coralville Lake directed two videos that were featured nationwide by #USACEeducates (<https://youtu.be/SZaCcaHQpus> & <https://youtu.be/YbSmaX5Az0E>)



All main bulletin boards in campgrounds and day use areas include water safety messages in their designs. Water safety messages were also included in 2020 recreation guides.

Lake Red Rock

Lake Red Rock partnered with Dan Henning Racing to provide water safety messaging during the racing season. Audiences attending sprint car races at the Knoxville Raceway heard a water safety message when drivers were introduced before each race, and saw Bobber's "Wear Your Gear" logo on the wing of the sprint car as it traveled around the track.



A water safety message was set up on display in the lobby of the Pella Library during a portion of the month of June. The Corps took advantage of using this free space to share a water safety message with library patrons.

Saylorville Lake

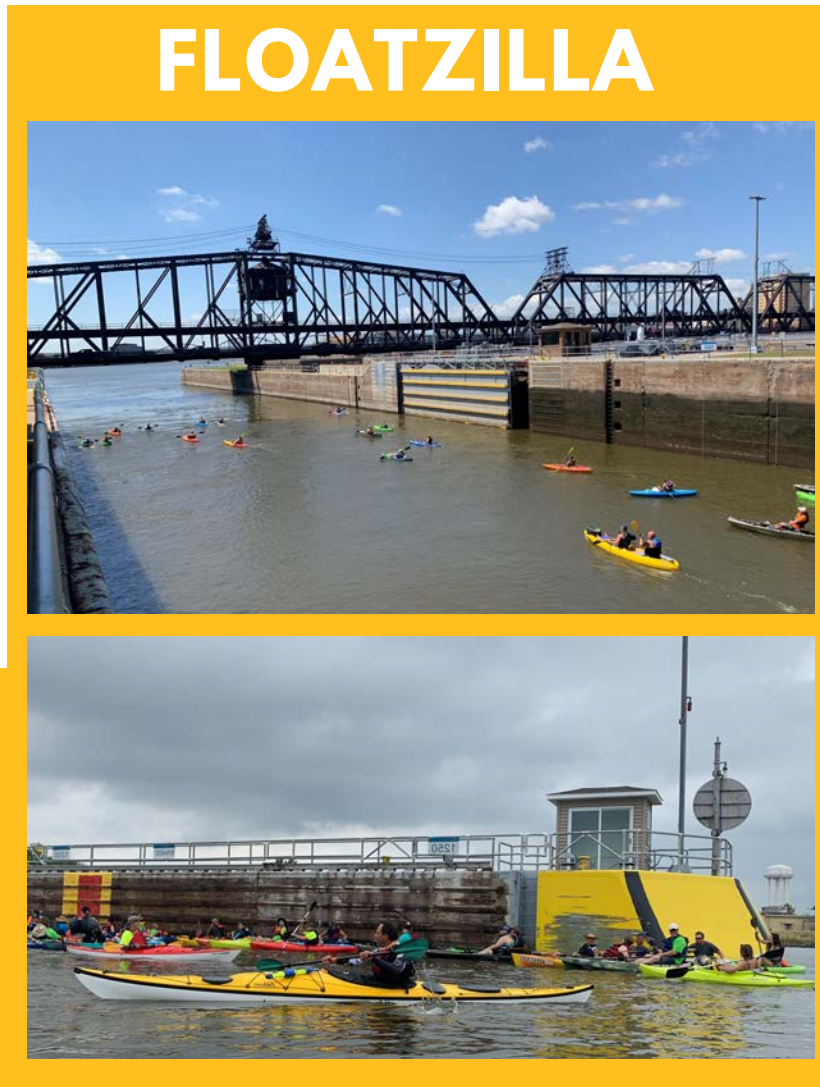
Life Jackets Worn, Nobody Mourns water safety decals were placed on 37 dumpsters in 17 recreation areas around Saylorville Lake. A volunteer also stencil painted the “Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns” logo on docks and pavement at Saylorville Lake’s boat ramps.



During the 4th of July Holiday, two billboards promoting water safety were placed on high traffic roads leading to Saylorville Lake. The same image was put on an outfield fence banner at the Iowa Cubs Baseball Stadium which hosted a number of high school baseball games where players and fans get a reminder that life jackets save lives.

Mississippi River Project

Floatzilla is a one day paddling event open to the public in which participants launch from various points on the Mississippi River around the Quad Cities and meet up at Lake Potter in Rock Island, IL. The goal of the event is to have fun paddling and attempt to break the world record of largest flotilla of canoes and kayaks rafted together. During this event 330 paddlers got the chance to go through Locks and Dam 15. Park Rangers Bailey Anderegg and Mike McKean guided them in and ensured kayakers safety while on kayaks themselves. A total of six lockages took place and all paddlers made it through safely.



ST. LOUIS DISTRICT (MVS)

Carlyle Lake

Park Rangers partnered with local radio station MAX 96.7 to talk about lake happenings and water safety throughout the recreation season. Topics included boating rules and regulations, water safety, campground status, fishing, and virtual interpretive programs. At the conclusion of each program, listeners are given the opportunity to call in to answer a water safety question to win a water safety shirt and six-pack of Ski soda sponsored by Excel Bottling Company in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Max 96.7.



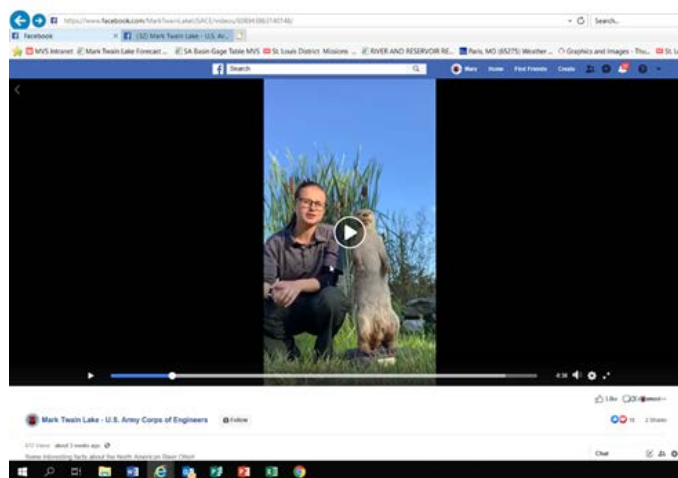
The Carlyle Lake "I Got Caught Wearing My Life Jacket" campaign recognized 221 visitors during the 2020 recreation season for wearing their life jackets. Visitors that were "caught" were rewarded with a free t-shirt and ice cream treat.



A socially distanced and mask wearing Bobber promoted water safety, safely.



Mark Twain Lake



Pathways Intern Grace Peak created and recorded multiple educational video clips to share on Facebook. Topics included water safety, environmental stewardship, river otters, reptiles and amphibians and general safety. Each video reached between 1,500 and 3,400 people.

The Mark Twain team distributed approximately 14 new water safety messages project wide using HQ provided graphics that were placed on yard signs, banners and mini-billboards.



Rivers Project Office/National Great Rivers Museum



*Rivers Project Office
Park Rangers promote
water safety during
Flight Crew.*

Rivers Project Office Park Rangers provided educational programming with teens from the Audubon Center at Riverlands' summer internship program, Flight Crew. Rangers and paddling instructors from the Mississippi River Water Trail Association provided water safety and kayaking lessons for eight teens. The lessons included properly fitting a life vest, paddling strokes, and how to react during capsizes.



After reopening in July, the National Great Rivers Museum (NGRM) saw 5,392 visitors and provided 167 Lock and Dam tours this recreation season. During the tours, Rangers share the Rivers Project's missions and water safety information. In addition, visitors are made aware of upcoming water safety programming or other outreach events in which they may participate.

Wappapello Lake

Wappapello Lake partnered with multiple businesses (banks, Chamber of Commerce, credit union, furniture store, and fast food restaurants) to place water safety messages on outdoor electronic marquees.

Burger King placed messages on 14 locations in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas. Safety boards were placed in the sporting goods sections of Wal-Mart Stores and Academy Sports. Five thousand safety pizza stickers were distributed during Memorial Day and 4th of July holiday weekends.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic Wappapello Lake had to cancel several programs including Ranger Willie's Water Fest and Kid's Fishing and Fun Day. However, Park Ranger Andrew Jefferson conducted a virtual water safety presentation to 42 junior high students.



VICKSBURG DISTRICT (MVK)

Bayou Bodcau

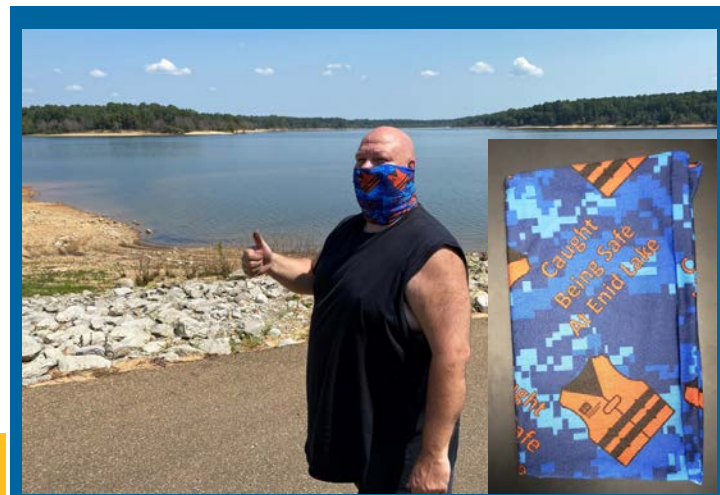
Bayou Bodcau Park Rangers worked with Vicksburg District cartographers, computer engineers, and PAO to develop an interactive map for Bayou Bodcau. Rangers suggested embedding water safety messages within an interactive map when visitors click on items such as boat ramps and fishing piers for more information. Water safety posters and boat safety checklists are also automatically generated when you click on these items. (Map will be available through Bayou Bodcau webpage once PAO approves it.)

The Bayou Bocau team placed five new water safety banners throughout the project in high use areas with the with the messages “Life Jackets Worn.. Nobody Mourns,” “Life Jackets, Man’s Vest Friend!,” and “Always Wear Your Life Jacket.” Maintained five bulletin boards and two life jacket loaner stations around the project emphasizing the Wear-It water safety message. Stocked water safety giveaway bags inside the Bayou Bodcau main office for visitors to take to maintain social distance.



Enid Lake

Enid Lake began rewarding boaters caught wearing their PFD with a new item, a custom printed Hoorag face shield with a PFD image and the slogan “Caught being safe at Enid Lake.” Rangers have been able to hand out approximately 50 face shields since mid-July.



Rangers continued awarding visitors vehicle sunshades printed with water safety logo for all courtesy boat inspection participants. The sunshades act as a water safety billboard when displayed in the windshield by visitor on boat ramps.

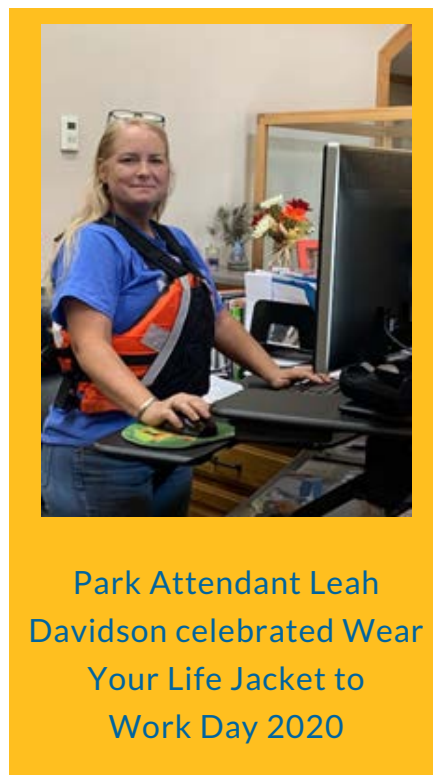
VICKSBURG DISTRICT (MVK)

Lake Ouachita

Lake Ouachita handed out Bobber coloring books and water safety information through fee booth windows to maintaining social distancing and had over 4,300 direct water safety contacts.



Updated LED message board at Brady Mountain recreation area with water safety messages throughout the summer.



Park Attendant Leah Davidson celebrated Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day 2020



Boat Patrol Ranger Jon Munz passing out water safety Frisbees to boaters/swimmers practicing water safety.

Mississippi Lakes

Natural Resource Specialists Tom Hoff and Kyle Tedford acquired custom printed Hoorag face coverings with a water safety message to originally give out to visitors caught wearing their PFD's. With the growing number of people required to wear face coverings due to COVID-19, these face coverings were timely to help protect visitors and Corps employees.

The team also added lighting to three water safety billboards so they can be viewed after dark.



Ouachita Black



www.Bobber.info

Park rangers continued an extensive water safety campaign, handing out fishing towels, pocketknife carabiners, Bobber coloring books, and Frisbees at USACE boat ramps, campgrounds, and picnic areas with extended safety measures due to COVID-19.

Rangers maintained five multi-sided bulletin boards and 1 life jacket loaner station around the project emphasizing the Wear-It water safety message by providing free use life jackets, safety flyers, giveaways, brochures, and coloring books.

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT (MVN)

Indian Bayou

In early August, Park Rangers with the Port Barre Office were contacted to assist in the search for two missing visitors. Local law enforcement found the visitors' capsized boat, but could not find the individuals. Utilizing helicopters and boat and land patrol, the individuals were eventually located.

Thanks to the exemplary efforts and teamwork demonstrated by the USACE and partnering agencies, this event stayed a rescue mission, not a recovery mission.

Full story will be available in the Corps' Recreation Retreat scheduled to be published November 2020.



The individuals' capsized boat was found in Bayou Fordoche.

Got a water safety question, story, or initiative you'd like to share?
Contact Amanda Kruse, National Water Safety Committee
MVD Representative, at Amanda.L.Kruse@usace.army.mil.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Water Safety Photo Contest Guidelines

The 2019-2020 USACE National Water Safety Photo Contest is open to ALL USACE employees and volunteers including PAO and ACE-IT employees. The contest deadline is 31 January 2021.

2019-2020 Categories:

1. USACE Employees in Action (includes water safety mascots)
2. USACE Partners or Volunteers in Action
3. Commercial Boating
4. Water Recreation
5. Non-water Recreation



Contest entries must be sent to your National Water Safety Committee Division Representative and can be sent at any time up until the deadline of 31 January 2021.

Contest details can be found in the NRM Gateway water safety section at this link <https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/photos.cfm>.

National Boating Federations National Water Safety Awards

The National Boating Federations National Water Safety Awards recognizes an individual and team for their contributions to boating and water safety during 2020.

Nominations will be evaluated on innovative performance and specific accomplishments, during the current year only (2020), towards promoting boating and water safety.

Entries for 2020, must be submitted through District Operations Chiefs to their respective MSC for consideration. Division Operations Chiefs should submit one nomination for each award to Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager, NLT 04 December 2020.



2020 National Water Safety Team Award Winner:
Huntington District



2020 National Water Safety Individual Award Winner:
Juanita Souther