

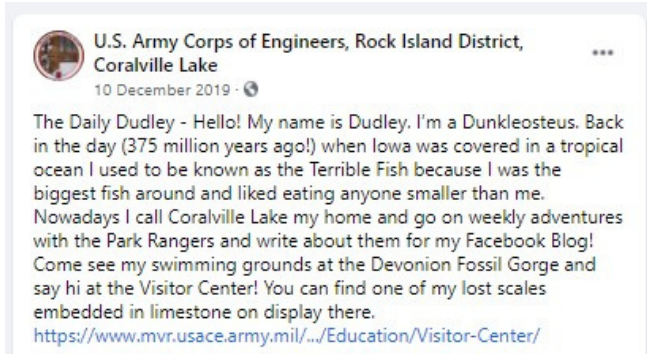


# MVD WATER SAFETY INITIATIVES SPRING 2021 REPORT

## ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT (MVR)

### Coralville Lake

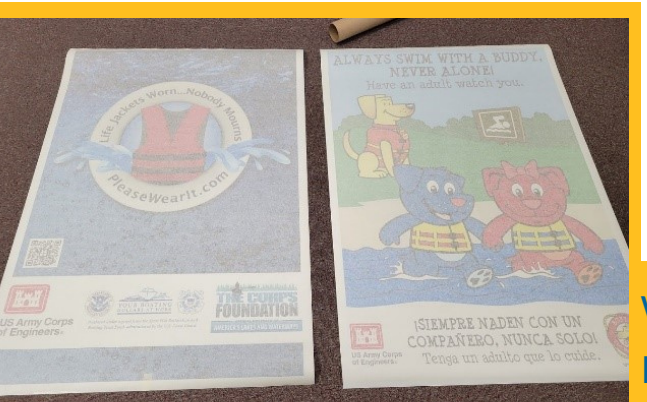
## WHO IS DUDLEY?



A new life jacket loaner station was built and installed by a local Eagle Scout. Materials for the loaner station were fully funded by Diventures (local dive shop).




Coralville installed (3) throw rings on beach loaner stations and made a Facebook video informing the public. Coralville has continued to participate in #USACEeducates efforts on Facebook which feature water safety messages.



Water safety messages are posted all around Coralville Lake including window clings for the Visitor Center.

## Illinois Waterway Project

Developed water and boating safety print ads that will be published in two local print and online sources. The project also utilized social media to announce the opening of the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center.

**Illinois Waterway Visitor Center**

US Army Corps of Engineers • 950 Dee Bennett Road, Ottawa, IL • 815-667-4054

We offer:

- State approved boating classes free to the public
- Boat safety checks
- Visitor Center for the Illinois and Michigan Canal, National Heritage Corridor
- Listed in Illinois Wildlife and Nature Viewing Guidebook
- Special programs for groups
- The best view of Starved Rock State Park
- Bookstore with Canal and River History Items

**FREE BOAT CLASSES & FREE BOAT INSPECTIONS**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District**

11 June at 11:15

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, announces the Illinois Waterway Visitor Center at Starved Rock Lock and Dam in Ottawa, Illinois, has reopened to the public. Operating hours are from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week. Click the link below for more details.

MVR.USACE.ARMY.MIL

**Illinois Waterway Visitor Center reopens to public**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, announces t...

28 likes, 10 shares



Park Rangers distributed water safety items to picnickers in five parks operated by state or local governments along the Illinois Waterway and Fox River. Rangers also visited marinas and boat clubs along the waterway to distribute water safety materials, posters and “freebies.”

## Mississippi River Project

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District**

23 May at 08:30

As a reminder, today is the day that the Mississippi River Visitor Center at Locks and Dam 15 in Rock Island, Illinois, reopens! For some tips on how to visit, check out the information below.

**Rock Island Arsenal is Open to the Public**

The public is able to access Rock Island Arsenal to visit the Mississippi River Visitor Center, the Memorial Field display, or to look at one of a multitude of landmarks across Arsenal Island. To go "inside the gates" a person only needs to acquire a visitor's pass at the Visitor's Control Center at the Moline Gate from 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., seven days a week.

Visitor information is located at: <https://home.army.mil/.../index.../about/visitor-information>

MISSISSIPPI RIVER VISITOR CENTER LOCKS & DAM 15

28 likes, 1 comment, 2 shares

The Mississippi River Visitor Center reopened to the public May 23, after being closed since March of 2020. Water safety is promoted through various displays, pamphlets and staff talking to visitors.

Several social media water safety posts were sent out via the District Facebook page.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District**

28 May at 11:00

With National Dam Safety Awareness Day coming up on May 31, now is a great time to review the Restricted Areas above and below a dam. Dam safety is a shared responsibility. You are encouraged to know your risk, know your role, and be prepared to take action.

#DamSafetyDay

**WARNING - Restricted Area**

Restricted No Boats Within 600 Feet of Dam

Restricted Area (no boats allowed) 600'

Restricted Area (no boats allowed) 150'

Restricted Area (no boats allowed) 150'

**Please Boat Responsibly**

**DAYBOARD Boats Keep Out**

Eduardo L Santiago and 31 others

1 comment, 39 shares

## Lake Red Rock

**“I Got Caught...  
...at Lake Red Rock Wearing My Life Jacket!”**  
CAMPAIGN 2021

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Rock Island District

LAKE RED ROCK  
THE CORPS FOUNDATION  
AMERICA'S LAKES AND WATERWAYS

**“I GOT CAUGHT”**  
At Lake Red Rock Wearing My Life Jacket!

“I Got Caught Wearing My Life Jacket” campaign has officially rolled out at Lake Red Rock!

Rangers will be on the lookout for adults wearing their life jackets when they are in or around water. If an adult is caught wearing their life jacket, we might give them a beach towel, provided by the Corps Foundation, as a reward for wearing it!

Always wear a life jacket when on, in, or near the water. A life jacket is the single most important piece of equipment on your boat. Wearing your life jacket can save your life.

**WATCH OUT AND MAYBE YOU TOO WILL GET CAUGHT!**

Initiated I Got Caught Wearing My Life Jacket in partnership with National Water Safety Program and The Corps Foundation.

Installed life jackets on three loaner stations for recreation season (North Overlook Beach, Whitebreast Beach and Whitebreast Boat Ramp).



## Saylorville Lake

Bobber the Water Safety Dog, volunteers, and park rangers attended Fishing with the Fuzz to help get kids hooked on fishing. Over 60 kids and their families joined the Des Moines Police Department, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Polk County Conservation, USACE Saylorville Lake, Des Moines Fire Department, and the Iowa Cubs at Ft. Des Moines Park. USACE

provided Fishing 101, water safety tips, and life jackets for families while that attended the event and several participants walked away with great raffle prizes including bikes, tents, life jackets, and nights of free camping. You can check out a highlight video posted by the Des Moines Police at <https://www.facebook.com/DMPolice/videos/333051128208474>.



## Saylorville Lake continued

On June 6, Bobber the Water Safety Dog, drew in approximately 75 visitors to a HyVee KidsFit event in Des Moines. While Bobber was the attention-getter, rangers and volunteers provided coloring/activities books, frisbees and water safety information to attendees.



New and improved life jacket loaner stations have been installed. Eagle Scout, Ethan Mitchell, who built seven new loaner stations, completed them with a small plaque. The stations are much larger and provide more information about proper fit and use of life jackets.

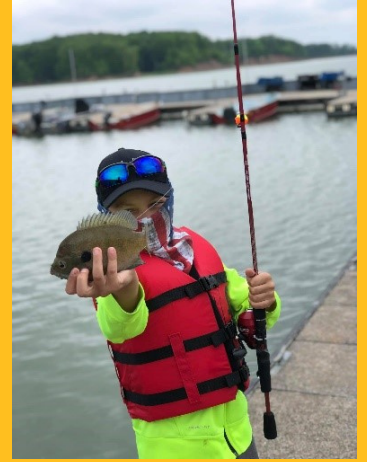


Saylorville Lake Park Rangers have been handing out water safety towels from The Corps Foundation as part of the “I Got Caught” program. Towels and a certificate are given to adults that are “caught” wearing their life jacket at Saylorville Lake. So far, 3 adults have been awarded with the beach towels.

# ST. LOUIS DISTRICT (MVS)

## Lake Shelbyville

Shelbyville Main Street School brought 376 students to Lake Shelbyville on May 19. 1st graders went to Dam West Beach where they focused on water safety, 2nd grade students went to Coon Creek to learn about geocaching, map making, hiking, and building primitive shelters. 3rd grade students ventured out to Lithia Springs where they learned about camping, campfire cooking, fishing and finished building their fish cube. This event was part of the schools “the Great Outdoors” unit taught in Physical Education.



The Lake Shelbyville Kids Fishing Tournament had 87 kids from ages 0-12 participate in the event. Prizes were awarded for Big Fish, Smallest Fish and Most Fish. All participants were given a water safety talk and were required to wear a life jacket.

Lake Shelbyville teamed up with Friends of Lake Shelbyville, Shelby County Tourism, Shelby County Dive Team, Monical’s Pizza, Druby’s, Shelbyville DQ Grill and Chill, Sullivan Marina and Campground, Findlay Marina, Chip’s Marine, and Lithia Springs Marina to promote the importance of wearing life jackets while swimming and boating . They will be providing their Water Safety Patrol Team with t-shirts bearing the message, “I got caught wearing my life jacket.” Rangers and local law enforcement will be handing out the t-shirts as a reward to children and adults “caught” wearing their life jackets during the swimming and boating season.

Shelbyville also received 48 beach towels to pass out to adults caught wearing their life jackets.



## **Rivers Project Office**

In partnership with the Audubon Center at Riverlands and the Mississippi River Water Trail Association, Rivers Project Rangers participated in the Riverlands Wellness Series which features public paddling programs throughout the spring and summer. Sessions begin with a discussion on water safety and the basics to kayaking on Ellis Bay. Rangers and educators interpret and highlight the diverse wildlife that inhabit the sanctuary. The Wellness Series kayaking program kicked off on 22 May 2021 with 25 visitors.



In partnership with the Audubon Center at Riverlands and the Mississippi River Water Trail Association, the Rivers Project welcomed the return of Paddle Festival at the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary. This annual festival provides families, experienced, and first-time paddlers an opportunity to recreate on the calm waters of Ellis Bay. Guests are fitted with life jackets and given a safety demonstration before paddling the bay. This event also featured a water safety game station, environmental education activities, and Bobber. Over 100 attended the festival.



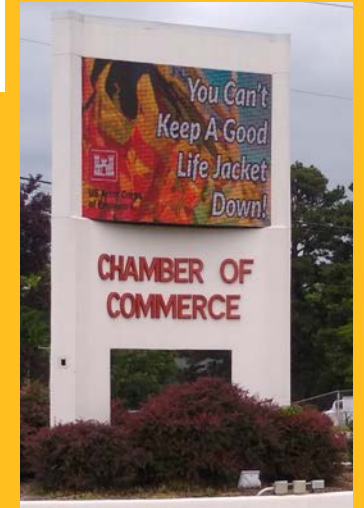
Rivers Project Rangers participated in the annual Alton Memorial Day Parade engaging with approximately 5,000 parade-goers. Rangers and Bobber rode in the park ranger patrol boat sporting life jackets and distributing water safety frisbees.

The National Great Rivers Museum welcomed 6,315 visitors this spring. The NGRM offers daily public tours of the Melvin Price Locks and Dam daily that introduce visitors to the historical, cultural, economic, and ecological significance of the Mississippi River and features water safety messaging.



## Wappapello Lake

The Wappapello Lake team got the word on the street, when it came to water safety Memorial Day Weekend. The team collaborated with many of the local businesses in Poplar Bluff, MO to get the message out. North, South, East, and West all main routes in town were covered with water safety messages on electronic reader boards at many local businesses. There were also water safety messages on many of the self-pay gas pumps. This effort was expanded to other local communities in time for 4th of July weekend.



Wappapello staff worked with local radio stations to record and air water safety Public Service Announcements on multiple radio stations throughout the recreation season. In addition, Wappapello staff provide weekly radio reports on Thursdays and Fridays, Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day to seven local radio stations.

## Mark Twain Lake

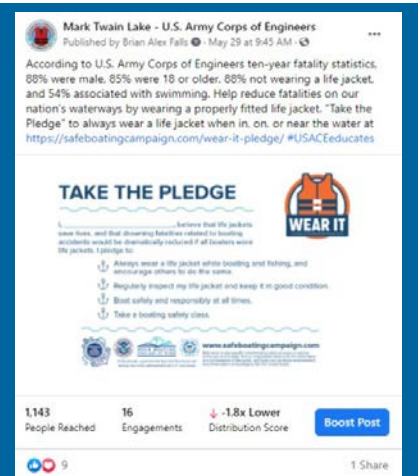
Increased Facebook water safety posts.

Provided radio interview for KRES Radio and recorded 30 second PSA's that ran 20 times during Memorial Day weekend, reaching customers in 38 counties.

New yard signs were posted in recreation areas.

A new water safety exhibit was installed in the M.W. Boudreaux Memorial Visitor Center. Visitors have the opportunity to play water safety games provided by the National Water Safety Team.

Rangers provided five water safety programs to 147 students at Monroe City Elementary.



## Carlyle Lake

The Carlyle Lake team is promoting water safety using a variety of initiatives including water safety billboards at entrances to campgrounds, daily Facebook posts, water safety stickers and coasters delivered to local restaurants, water safety programs at beaches, and water safety messages on various local radio programs.

The team also launched its annual I Got Caught Program over Memorial Day Weekend in all 53 shirts have been given out to visitors caught wearing their life jackets.

TUNE INTO

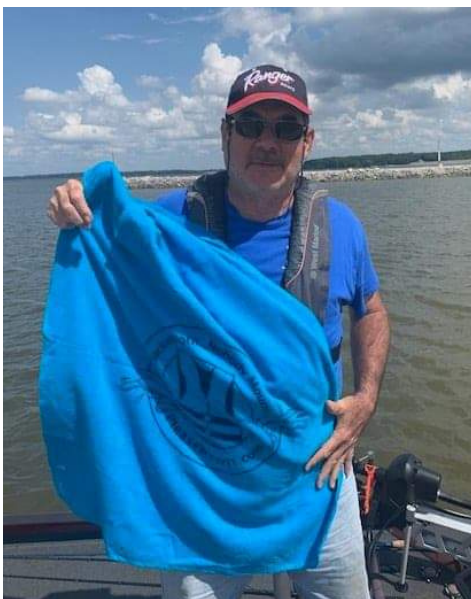
# CARLYLE LAKE ON WCXO

Every Wednesday Morning  
9:20 a.m.

LISTEN TO WIN  
CARLYLE LAKE TRIVIA

**WIN A SKI PRIZE PACKAGE!**

Donated by Excel Bottling of Breese, IL



Carlyle Lake is also participating in the adult "I Got Caught" Campaign sponsored by the Corps Foundation. The Foundation purchased beach towels with the Life Jacket Worn...Nobody Mourns logo to reward adults caught wearing their life jacket at USACE lakes.



Worn...Nobody Mourns logo to reward adults caught wearing their life jacket at USACE lakes.



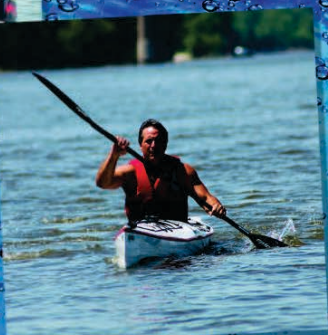
# VICKSBURG DISTRICT (MVK)

## Bayou Bodcau

Rangers partnered with a local principal to promote water safety through virtual water safety programs and messages. Due to a recent increase in adolescents drownings and a lack of face to face presentations due to COVID-19, the Rangers provided water safety educational videos to be played at Middle Schools and High Schools during morning announcements.



The Bayou Bodcau team provided water safety giveaway bags for the Bayou Chapter of the Ozark Society's (BCOS) Kayak Clinic on Saturday 8 May. The Kayak Clinic was held on Lake Caroline at the Red River Wildlife Refuge. 23 students participated and 25 BCOS members. The clinic featured a professional Kayak/Canoe paddling safety instructor and volunteers who taught participants how to have fun and be safe in the water while using their personal water crafts and wearing their life jackets. Rangers also provided take home safety material for kayak safety, boating, and how to properly fit life jackets. Check out a video of the event made by the BCOS [https://youtu.be/jp\\_utS5XQ\\_0](https://youtu.be/jp_utS5XQ_0).



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## Bayou Bodcau



Made over 118 direct water safety contacts. Everyone in the campgrounds (dogs, children, and adults) received a water safety giveaway.



Rangers patrolled looking for patrons wearing their life jacket while recreating to inform them of the new contest “Caught Wearing It!”



Life Jacket Loaner Stations were open, fully stocked, sanitized, and operational before the holiday weekend. Inspected all life jackets, cataloged, and removed if they needed repairs.



Rangers gave out water safety giveaways and patrons were issued “floatation citations” which rewarded visitors wearing their life jackets with a free night of camping and entered them into the life jacket contest.



## INTERACTIVE MAP FEATURES

LOCATE EVERYTHING BODCAU HAS TO OFFER RIGHT FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE!

- Bayou Bodcau Boundary Lines
- Designated Hunting Areas
- LDWF Self-Clearing Check Stations
- Safety Zones
- Food Plots
- Designated Parking Areas
- Rifle Range
- Bird Dog Training Area
- Game Cleaning Station
- Boat Ramps – Gravel & Concrete
- Life Jacket Loaner Stations
- Fishing Piers
- ATV/UTV Trails (Seasonal & Year Round)
- Physically Challenged ATV/UTV Trails
- Campgrounds & Associated Campsites
- Comfort Stations & Shower Houses
- Nature/Walking Trails
- Bike/Hiking Trails
- Horse Riding Trails
- Horse Camp
- Trailheads
- Durden House
- Bayou Bodcau Office
- Pavilions
- Picnic Sites
- Roads
- Bodies of Water

### Bonus Features!

- Links to Printable Boat Inspection Checklists
- Links to Recreation.gov for Campsite Reservation
- Regulation links to both Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

### How to Use QR Code:

1. Open up the camera on any smartphone or tablet.
2. Hold your device so the QR code below appears in the viewfinder. You will see a notification link pop up.
3. Click the notification to open the link and the map will appear!



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# NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT (MVN)

Provided water safety patrols during holiday weekends.  
Place water safety “shocker” banners near the entrances to launches at the Bonnet Carre Spillway, Old River Control and Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### I Got Caught Campaign Pictures

Please make sure to send any pictures from your “I Got Caught” adult towel campaign to Pam Doty (Pamela.J.Doty@usace.army.mil). Pam will put together a video using all of the pictures. The video will be posted on the National Water Safety Program’s “Please Wear It” social media pages later this summer. Please send Pam your pictures as you get them!



### National Water Safety Photo Contest

The 2021-2022 National Water Safety Photo Contest is underway! Guidelines will be placed on the NRM Gateway in the water safety section under Photos shortly.

# MVD WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET TO WORK DAY

