



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Nationwide

> Recreation

- Largest Provider of Outdoor Recreation in the Nation
- 422 lakes in 43 states
 - 4,461 recreation areas on 1.2 million acres
 - 91,837 campsites
 - 33,603 picnic sites
 - 3,527 boat ramps
 - 5,000 miles of trails
 - 33% of all freshwater fishing
- 357 million visitors
- 539 commercial marinas
 - 97,341 marina slips

> Forever 15 Partnering Agencies/Entities

- USACE, Waco Lake
- Bosqueville ISD
- City of Waco
 - Fire Department
 - Police Department
 - Radio Shop
- AirEvac
- Waco ISD
- Heart of Texas Regional Advisory Council
- Texas Parks and Wildlife
- Woodway DPS
- Doris Miller YMCA
- Lakeshore Funeral Home
- McLennan County JP
- East Texas Medical Center
- McLennan County Emergency Management
- Bulldog Burger Barn
- El Conquistador
- Padgitts

EVENTS TIMELINE:

- Planning Meetings
 - 2 Feb 2012
 - 22 Feb 2012
 - 21 March 2012
 - 18 April 2012
 - 3 May 2012
 - 16 May 2012
- Parent Meeting:
 - 29 Feb 2012
- **Forever 15** Event
 - 22 May 2012

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Fort Worth District

Water Safety :

- Each year, over 21 million people visit Corps lakes in the Ft. Worth District
- Between 1998 and 2007, there were 1643 water related fatalities on Corps lakes, and half of those victims were under 30 years old
- In 2011, there were 40 drownings in the Fort Worth District alone
- The 14 - 24 year old age group make up a large percentage of drownings
- **USACE has set a bold goal of a 50% reduction in public fatalities on Corps waterways**
- **Forever 15: Tragedy on the Water** is a new and innovative program developed to reach a target audience of 12-15 year olds
 - Program is realistic and hard-hitting
 - Provides a significant impact to a hard-to-reach demographic
 - Exciting and edgy enough to keep young adults engaged in the event
 - Provides an opportunity for partnership with other local entities who also have a vested interest in public safety

Program Specifics:

- A mock drowning is staged and video recorded prior to the day of the actual event, using kids from the participating school
- Kids watch the video of the drowning, and a 9-1-1 call is played over the PA system at the school
- Kids are immediately loaded onto busses and taken to the “scene” of the drowning
- Kids watch as emergency responders drag, search with sonar, and dive searching for the “victim”
- Victim is located, taken to shore, viewed by emotional family members
- Victim is placed in body bag, loaded into hearse
- Kids are bussed back to school, and a mock funeral is held later that day for the drowning victim
- Speaker at the funeral has lost a family member to drowning, and tells her story
- Kids are de-briefed, and a frank discussion of water safety is held
- Counselors on site at all locations to provide support if necessary