

Water Safety Partnership that with Your Help, is Saving Lives

POC: Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager

The National Water Safety Program partners with the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation (The Corps Foundation) to enhance and promote our water safety campaign that targets adults, which is the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign. For several years the Corps Foundation has received Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund grants, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard, that is used towards the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign.

This year grant funds were used to purchase dry bags and vehicle windshield sunshades. These items were then donated to the National Water Safety Program which distributed them out to USACE lakes to use in their "I Got Caught" initiatives. The dry bags were distributed to 71 lakes and vehicle windshield sunshades to 18 lakes that requested the items to use in their "I Got Caught" initiative. The dry bags and sunshades are only given to adults that are caught wearing life jackets. On numerous occasions the lakes that received these products have mentioned how well received they are by our visitors.



Photos (Left to Right, Top to Bottom): Tionesta Lake, Wappapello Lake, John W Flannagan Lake, Proctor Lake, and Raystown Lake.



The Corps Foundation also used grant funds this year to purchase water safety billboard ad spaces near Lake Lanier, Lewisville Lake, Hartwell Lake, Lake Texoma, and J. Percy Priest Lake that were in place in July. These lakes were chosen because they had the most water-related public recreation fatalities in recent years. Purchasing billboard advertising to promote water safety is considered a necessary expense for the O&M of USACE projects and is a relatively inexpensive as many USACE lakes have already discovered.

Water Safety Partnership Continued

The billboard graphic artwork was created by the National Water Safety Program. Artwork created by the National Water Safety Program that you can use is available on the National Water Safety Program's webpage, <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/National-Water-Safety-Program/>, which PleaseWearIt.com redirects to, and on the NRM Gateway in the Water Safety Graphics Library, <https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/water.cfm>.



The National Water Safety Program's social media pages, Please Wear It on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, are managed in cooperation with The Corps Foundation. They are an excellent resource for water safety social media posts that you can share on your social media pages. Posts are made on Please Wear It every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday throughout the year and additionally on Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

These are just a few examples of the great things that the Corps Foundation is doing to help and support us. The Corps Foundation recently received another three-year grant from the U.S. Coast Guard to help promote and enhance the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign, so more good things are coming to help us encourage more adults to wear life jackets.

 www.facebook.com/PleaseWearIt

 www.twitter.com/PleaseWearIt  www.instagram.com/PleaseWearIt



In case You Missed It—Water Safety Photo Contest

The 2021-2022 USACE National Water Safety Photo Contest is open to all USACE employees and volunteers. The contest deadline is 31 January 2023. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your photographs and talent. Winning photographers will receive some outstanding items that can be used to promote water safety. Photos taken in 2021 and 2022 can be submitted and must have been taken at a USACE project or off-site at an event/program involving USACE. Photos in all categories except for the non-water related recreation category should depict the promotion of water safety, demonstrate safe water practices, and/or showcase water-based recreation. Photos will be judged for clarity, composition, originality, visual impact, and topic.

2021-2022 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 guidelines can be found in the NRM Gateway water safety section at this link <https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/photos.cfm>.

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 2023. Division Representative contact information can be found on the NRM Gateway in the Water Safety Section under Committee Members. <https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/employees/watersafety/members.cfm>

Photo (Bottom): Lake Lanier— I Got Caught Picture