

# Contributions Program



Partnerships in NRM  
PROSPECT Course

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# Objectives

Become knowledgeable about:

- Contributions authorities and policies
- Contribution, Fundraising and Recognition Guide
- Types of contributions
- Reporting



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# Ethics Issue

Can I solicit contributions?



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# Corps Employees Cannot ...

.... solicit or take any action that gives the appearance that they are soliciting contributions in support of Corps programs or activities.

The term “solicit” means any request made to a non-federal entity, group or individual for contributions to be made directly or indirectly to the Corps.

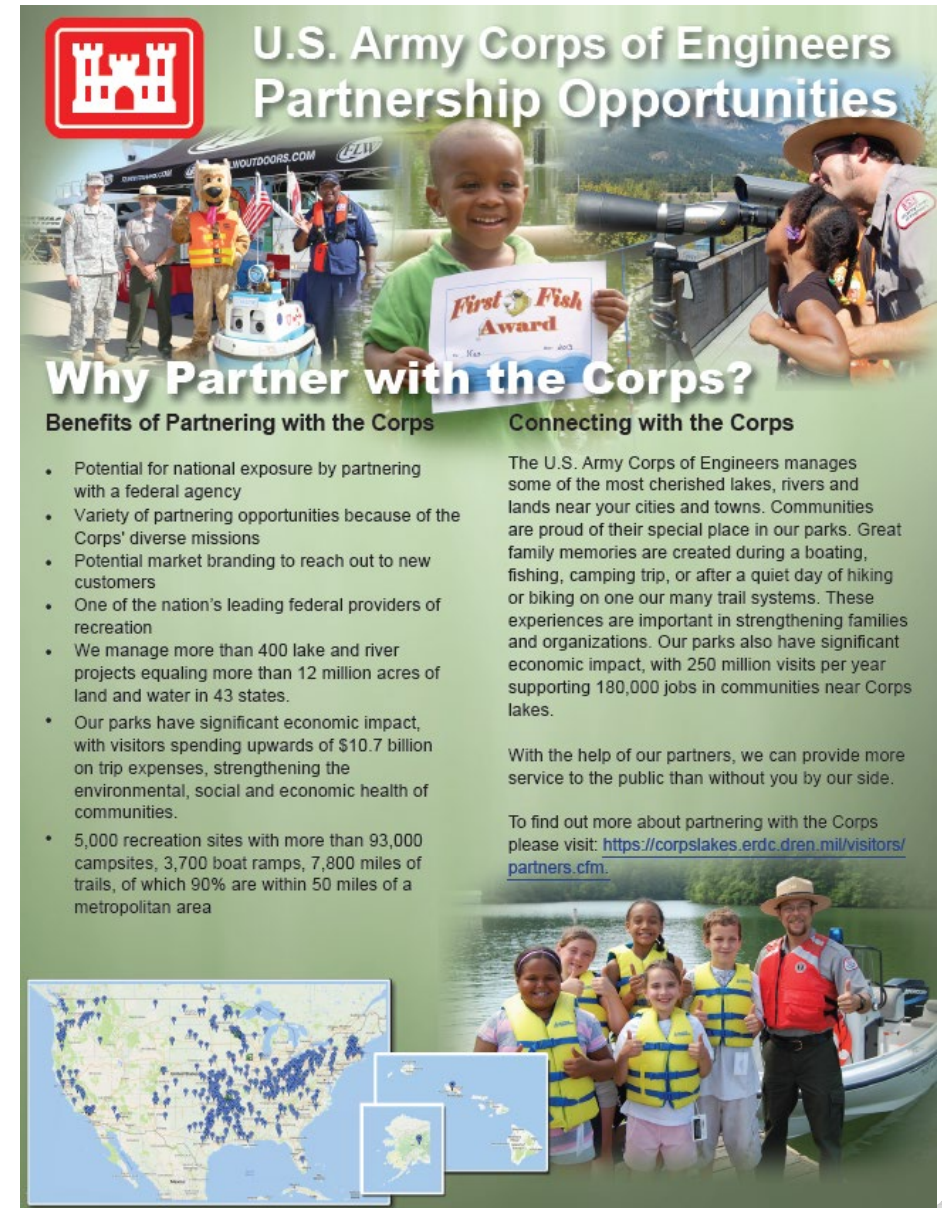
You Cannot directly ask for contributions.

You CAN provide information!



# How to Approach a Potential Partner

- The Corps CAN directly ask organizations and individuals if they would be interested in **VOLUNTEERING**.
  - This can be a good way to start a conversation about partnering and result in the potential partner offering contributions beyond volunteer time.
- Use the Partnering with the Corps handout when you approach a potential partner.
  - Explain that you are reaching out to organizations within the community that have similar missions and goals and we'd like to find a way to work together.
  - Ask the potential partner for an informal meeting, coffee, lunch, etc. to hear what they'd like to see at the project and where we might work together.
  - Explain budgetary/staffing/resource constraints that may prevent us from accomplishing the mission/goals.



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Partnership Opportunities**

**Why Partner with the Corps?**

**Benefits of Partnering with the Corps**



- Potential for national exposure by partnering with a federal agency
- Variety of partnering opportunities because of the Corps' diverse missions
- Potential market branding to reach out to new customers
- One of the nation's leading federal providers of recreation
- We manage more than 400 lake and river projects equaling more than 12 million acres of land and water in 43 states.
- Our parks have significant economic impact, with visitors spending upwards of \$10.7 billion on trip expenses, strengthening the environmental, social and economic health of communities.
- 5,000 recreation sites with more than 93,000 campsites, 3,700 boat ramps, 7,800 miles of trails, of which 90% are within 50 miles of a metropolitan area

**Connecting with the Corps**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages some of the most cherished lakes, rivers and lands near your cities and towns. Communities are proud of their special place in our parks. Great family memories are created during a boating, fishing, camping trip, or after a quiet day of hiking or biking on one of our many trail systems. These experiences are important in strengthening families and organizations. Our parks also have significant economic impact, with 250 million visits per year supporting 180,000 jobs in communities near Corps lakes.

With the help of our partners, we can provide more service to the public than without you by our side.

To find out more about partnering with the Corps please visit: <https://corpslakes.ercd.dren.mil/visitors/partners.cfm>.



# Ways to Get to “How Can We Help You?”

Don't say: “Would you donate 300 chicken halves for our National Public Lands Day activities?”

Do say: “We'd like to let you know about our National Public Lands Day event coming up in September. This year, we are going to be converting a 3-acre from scrubland into a pollinator garden for our bees. The Gilmer County Master Beekeepers and the Gilmer County Master Gardeners have teamed up to provide their expertise in improving habitat for our new bee exhibit to educate folks on the importance of bees in the ecosystem.”



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## ...AND BY EMAIL

Good afternoon Angelou,

I'm sorry that I missed you at the Outdoor Retailer show, but I understand you and a few other representatives from Greening Youth stopped by our Public Lands booth. Since you are located in the Atlanta area, one of my colleagues from the Forest Service gave me your card. I'm not sure how familiar you are with the Corps of Engineers, but we have four lakes within a 2 hour drive from Atlanta (Lanier, Allatoona, Carters, West Point) that collectively receive 14+ million visitors each year. As you may imagine, there can be significant impacts to the resource from recreation activities that include camping, swimming, hunting, fishing, boating, biking, hiking, and other day use, as well as pressures on the environment from shoreline development.

We have worked extensively with Student Conservation Association at many of our lakes around the country, but we are always looking for opportunities to work with other youth conservation associations as well. If you'd be interested, I'd like to set up a call between Greening Youth and a few of our Corps staff from the Mobile District so we can learn more about each other's organizations.

Just to give a little background on our overall Corps footprint:

- The Corps of Engineers manages 12 million acres of public lands and waters
- 403 lakes and rivers projects in 43 states
- 90% of USACE lakes/rivers are within 50 miles of a metropolitan area
- 5.3 million acres have significant waterfowl use
- 7 of the top 10 migratory bird flyways cross over USACE waters
- 81 million annual fishing visits
- 55,000 miles of shoreline
- 250 million recreation visits per year
- 18% share of US freshwater fishing with 3,000 tournaments per year
- <https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/visitors/visitors.cfm> (for more info)

Please let me know if you'd like to learn more about partnering with us. I've also attached an information sheet.



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# Can USACE Accept Contributions and Donations from a Partner ?

**YES!**

- The Contributions Program allows the acceptance of contributions and donations from groups and individuals.
- Provided that the contribution or donation is NOT from a Prohibited Source!
- And you have a project or District Contributions Plan
- Contributions are the **SIMPLEST** and **MOST** utilized partnership type in USACE



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# A Prohibited Source is an Entity That...

- Seeks official action from USACE
- Conducts or seeks to conduct business with USACE
- Conducts activities regulated by USACE
- Seeks to influence USACE policies or regulations
- Has interests that may be substantially affected by your official duties (performance or non-performance)
- Hopes to use your position as a USACE employee to benefit or further its efforts or mission



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# Contribution Authorities

- The contributions program was authorized by 33 USC 2325, Water Resources Development Act, 1992, Sec. 203
- EP/ER 1130-2-500 provides guidance and procedures for us to accept contributions. 33 USC § 2325 and 2328 are the authorities that allow us to accept donations through the challenge partnership and contributions programs.
- The foundation for our Partnership Program tools are based on the concept of Contributions.



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## Contributions, Fundraising and Recognition

### Reference Guide

October 2008

The guide was established to provide information to managers about accepting contributions and working with organizations who seek to raise money to benefit the NRM Program.

The Guide sets forth:

- Roles and responsibilities of Corps employees;
- Criteria for determining when contributions may be accepted;
- Permissible activities associated with fundraising;
- Appropriate forms of donor recognition.



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# Contribution Plan Templates

- HQ suggested non-mandatory templates are available at <https://corpslakes.erdcdren.mil/employees/contribute/template.cfm>



Lake Red Rock on the Des Moines River

**Practice Safe, Fun Boating!** US Army Corps of Engineers

- WEAR IT**  
Everyone on your boat should wear a life jacket. Accidents can happen anytime.
- ALCOHOL & BOATING DON'T MIX**  
Alcohol reduces reaction time and can cause accidents.
- KNOW THE BASICS**  
Successfully complete a boating education course.
- KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**  
Check the weather forecast and file a float plan with family and friends.
- BOAT RESPONSIBLY**  
Know the weight capacity of your boat. Always be aware of your surroundings.
- MAINTAIN YOUR BOAT**  
Routinely check electrical, fuel and auxiliary power systems.

LEARN MORE ABOUT BOATING SAFETY

Presented thanks to the support of Oh, Ranger! Allstate BOAT



Multiple Lake sites are hosting events with support from the community, friends groups and corporations



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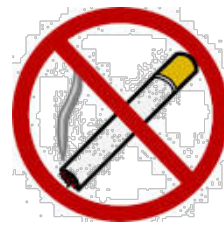


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# Perceptions

- Contributions from an entity which would identify the Corps with casinos, pornography, or other questionable products shall be **declined**.

- What about alcohol or tobacco?



- **Any** contributions or donations that may be perceived as controversial shall be declined.



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# Augmentation

- The partner's portion of a partnership agreement is not an augmentation of the budget.  
(Per CECC-G Bulletin No. 02-12, Challenge Partnership Program)
- Funds or other items received as a result of a competitively awarded grant from a foundation or other source are also considered a "contribution," not augmentation of appropriated funds.



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# Remember...

- All potential contributions MUST be reviewed/approved:
  - \$2,500 - \$99,999: Manager
  - \$100,000 - \$999,999: District NRM and Office of Counsel
  - \$1,000,000+ single contribution or series of contributions: HQUSACE Office of Counsel, NRM, DCW  
\*(From Contributions, Fundraising and Recognition Guide, Section 5.2)
- Any group or individual may potentially be a prohibited source of gifts or donations if they are seeking official action from USACE



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# Roles and Responsibilities of Corps Employees

- Each location that collects contributions shall have a contributions plan that describes the work to be accomplished with any potential contributions.
- This document will become part of the OMP and should be reviewed/updated with the OMP every 5 years unless your District has a contribution plan for all projects.
- Commanders may choose to designate a district contributions plan, thus a project specific plan is not required.



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# Types of Contributions

Two types of Contributions:

Monetary

- General
- Earmarked/specific



Non-Monetary

- Durable Goods
- Services



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# Monetary Contributions

Monetary contributions will be deposited into account 96x8862 of the U.S. Treasury according to the requirements outlined in in ER 37-1-30, Chapter 5. Checks should be made out to FAO, USAED, (*Insert District name here*).

- CEFMS – Contributions are handled like a customer order with advance use. A work item is set up in P2 citing the appropriation the funds would be captured under when completing the advance account, allowing the District Resource Management Office (RMO) to fund the transaction in their database.
- The Project Budget Analyst will need to communicate with the District RMO, Budget (RM-B) to determine the correct appropriation intended for use to fund the work.



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# General Contributions

- Work projects (general): Revenue collected from a contributor at a project that is not designated by the contributor for a specific work project will be transferred to the District RMO for deposit into the U.S. Treasury and the proper account.
- Once deposited, these funds will become available to the Project and will only be used for the general work activities listed in the Contributions plan.



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# Earmarked/Specific Contributions

- The procedures for deposition of such monetary contributions are the same as for the general contributions, except that a separate CEFMS account (funded work item) will be established for such contributions.
- \*\* Note: A contribution does not give a partner special/exclusive use of the facility or project donated.



Contact your Resource Management Office - they can assist you.



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# Accountability for Monetary Contributions

- Monetary contributions will be accounted for in accordance with memo dated 07 April 2016, Subject: Collection of Civil Works Appropriation Refunds Amendment
- Reimbursements, USACE Accounting Policy and Procedures for Civil Works
- Collections - The individual project's administrative officer, district NRM Office or Resource Management Office can provide additional guidance



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# Accountability of Non-monetary Contributions

- All non-monetary contributions must be recorded, accounted for and managed in the same way as other Corps property.
- Prior coordination with Logistics Management should occur before contributed personal property is accepted.
- For record-keeping purposes, the value of the donated materials and equipment should be determined using the local market value of comparable items.



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# Contribution Tracking & Record Keeping (From Sample Contribution Plan)

- Date
- Organization
- Primary Purpose
- Description
- Value of Cash Received
- Value of Materials/ Equipment
- Value of Professional Services
- Number of Volunteers
- Volunteer Hours

Contributions must be entered into NRM Assessment/OMBIL. This form will aid in keeping track of all contributions until data entry is performed in October of each year.

## Appendix B Contribution Tracking & Record Keeping

Contributions must be entered into OMBIL under REC-Annual Update, Partnerships Update. This form will aid in keeping track of all contributions until OMBIL entry is performed in October of each year.

Date	Organization	Primary Purpose	Description	Value of Cash Received	Value of Materials/ Equipment Donated	Value of Professional Services	Number of Volunteers	Volunteer Hours



# Deposits, Forms, Reports

- Engineering Report 3313 (remittance register) should be used to deposit or transmit collections to the disbursing officer when funds reach or exceed \$5,000. Deposits shall be made by Thursday of each week, regardless of the amount accumulated. *(Reference ER 37-1-30 Ch 5)*
- A monthly report may be maintained at the District Office and coordinated through District staff in RM.



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# Potential Projects

- General: Contributions will be utilized to accomplish tasks or projects for the protection, improvement, restoration, rehabilitation or interpretation of natural resources, environmental features, recreation areas and facilities or cultural resources at the Project.



Donation of nesting boxes from an Eagle Scout

## River Safety

A journey on the river is exciting and fun; please follow these simple guidelines to ensure that your trip is a safe one.

**Always wear a PFD (lifejacket) while on the water, no matter what the activity is.**

**Cold water can kill, dress appropriately. Smith River temperatures can range from 45 -70 degrees F.**

- Never float or paddle over low-head dams, avoid fallen trees and other in-stream obstructions.
- Do not stand up in a canoe or kayak, and avoid weight shifts that may cause capsizes.
- Never go boating or tubing while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Carry a supply of food and water adequate for your trip length.
- Avoid weather or water conditions beyond your skill level.
- Learn rescue skills necessary to assist others.
- Plan for emergencies, carry basic first aid.
- Learn more about your route in advance.
- Inform others of your trip plan.

The four major causes of drownings are:

- ✓ Not wearing a life jacket;
- ✓ Abuse of alcohol;
- ✓ Lack of sufficient swimming skills;
- ✓ Hypothermia

**WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET!**

**Power Generation**

The Smith River is a "tail-race" river from Philpott Lake to Martinsville. Water levels can change rapidly during power generation. The Army Corps of Engineers generates during peak demand hours from Philpott Dam. Know the generation schedule by calling: (276) 629-2432

**River Etiquette**

Obey all rules and regulations. Respect private property. Be considerate of others. Give fisherman a wide berth. Avoid taking disposable containers; take it in, take it out. Please do not litter. Do your part to keep the river clean. So the next person can have the same experience.

DRBA River Safety sign placed at launch sites along the Smith River



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# Typical Tasks Identified in Project OMPs Acceptable for Contributions

<p>Enhancement of lake aesthetics and recreation facilities</p>	<p>Vegetation plantings in recreation areas Removal of invasive species Repairs/upgrades to facilities Drift and debris removal Signs and marker installation Accessibility improvements</p>
<p>Interpretive and Water Safety Programs</p>	<p>Outreach materials Interpretive signage Life jackets and other safety equipment Advertising/Marketing Special events</p>
<p>Environmental Stewardship</p>	<p>Forest management Wildlife management Level 1 and 2 inventories Habitat studies Trail development Develop/enhance GIS database</p>

# Use of Contributions

- Contributions will not be used to begin construction or other projects or programs, unless there are sufficient appropriated and donated funds in hand to ensure completion of the work to a degree that has independent utility.
- Donated funds may, however, be used to advance project design work.
- Research projects, books, mapping, exhibits, films and all other projects funded with contributions must receive the same reviews and approvals as do projects that use only appropriated funds.
- All facilities and work accomplished become the property of the Corps.



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# Contributions/Donations To Avoid

- May not be accepted under the Contributions authority: Real Estate (land) i.e. An adjacent land owner wants to donate some land to your Project Office to create a wildlife sanctuary to be managed by USACE
- Contributions from an entity which holds or is seeking a concessions contract or which would identify the Corps with alcohol or tobacco products shall be declined.
- Anti-Deficiency Act - The Corps can not expend funds in advance of the funds being donated. In other words, the Corps cannot spend money it does not have.
- Contributions may not be used to fund permanent employee positions, but may be used to complete design work and reviews by permanent employees.



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# Corps Contribution Boxes



- A contribution or donation box may be set up at field offices, visitor centers and other appropriate locations.
- The contribution box should be locked and have a sign stating the use of the contributions (can be specific or general).
- It should be clear to the visitor that any money collected is a voluntary contribution and is not required for touring the visitor center, receiving brochures or pamphlets or any other services.
- Funds are accounted for like all other donations or collected funds.



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# Example Outline to Deposit Contributed Funds

1. Create debtor/sponsor in CEFMS (RM)
2. Set up advance account and cost share (RM)
3. Work item from P2 for each AMSCO Project Code (OP)
4. Collections to advance account (Authorized Recreation Fee Collector )
5. Confirmed deposit (UFC)
6. Email to Budget staff who creates register and fund account for cost share work item.
7. Money available to expend.

May vary in each MSC, contact your Resource Management Office.

Deposits must occur once the fund exceeds \$5,000

Funds received from Corps donation boxes must be accounted for in the same manner as any other donation.



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# Partner Contribution Boxes

- The Corps may allow the placement of an authorized fundraising partner's donation box within the Corps project facility through a written agreement. Such donation boxes may recognize the role of a Corps partner in maintaining the box under its agreement with the Corps.
- Any examples at your projects?



Bonneville Visitor Center



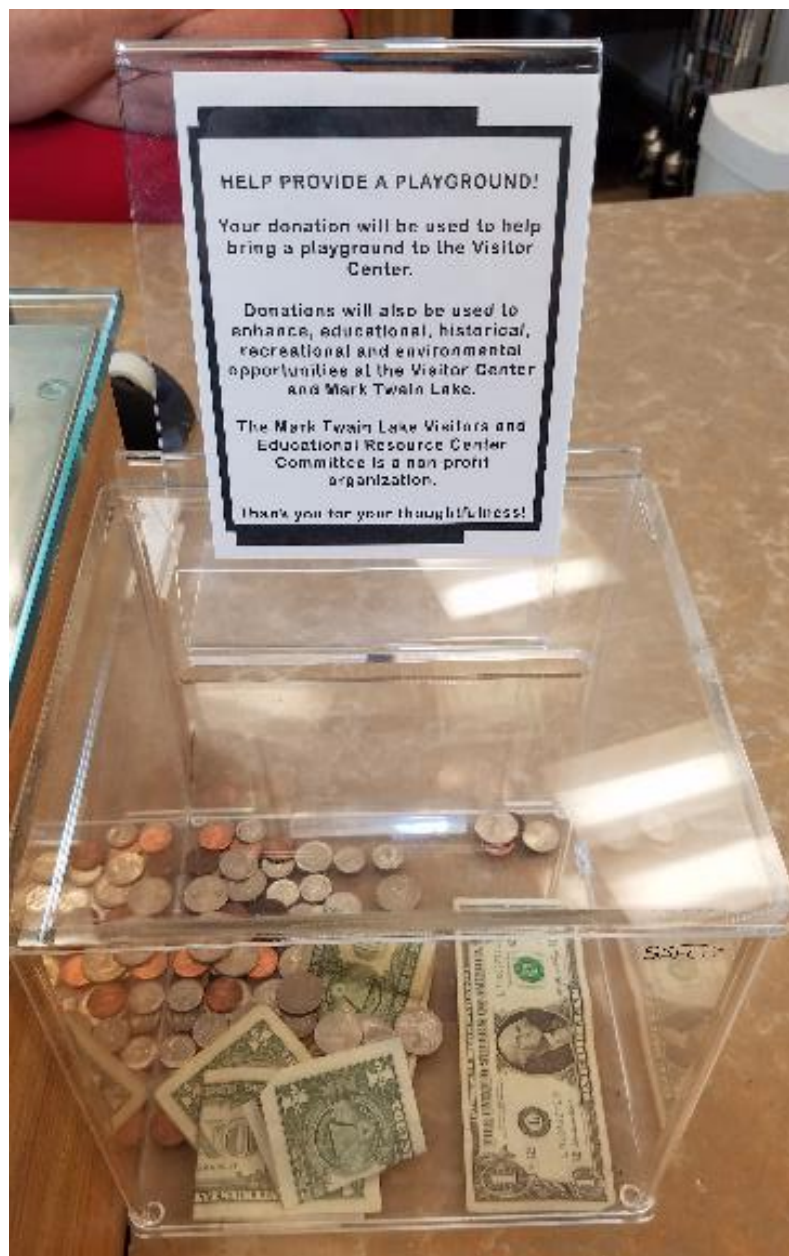
Raystown Visitor Center



Bonneville Visitor Center



Mark Twain Lake FOREST Council  
Contribution boxes at recreation areas  
and VC





# SUPPORT YOUR PARK



All donations support the programs, educational, and interpretive efforts of Grand Teton National Park. Grand Teton Association is a non-profit organization.



Full & 25%  
Open DMF  
On Summer  
20% & 50%  
DMF  
EMERGENCY MESSAGE  
of M. Rochester  
has an emergency  
for the Park  
Landscape

Tap into your visitor's competitive nature....  
States, universities, sports teams, etc.



# What is the Proper Way to Recognize Partners for Their Contributions?

Recognizing partners for their contributions visibly demonstrates the agency's appreciation and underscores the value of partner's contributions toward stewardship of the nation's lands and natural resources.



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# Principles for Partner Recognition

- Letters/certificates of appreciation, news releases, public events, signs, displays, plaques, can be used to recognize accomplishments
- Recognition should be within the context or program benefiting from the partnership



- Recognition will avoid any suggestion of commercialization, advertising or endorsement of a product, service or organization
- Monetary or cash award cannot be offered



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Season's Greetings Volunteers, Partners, and Donors:

As this exciting year ends, our Park Ranger staff here at The Dalles Dam would like to tell you about the programs we were able to do this year thanks to your participation and generosity.

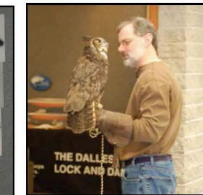
In 2012 your involvement allowed us to:

- Host a *Take A Warrior Fishing* event that let several local veterans get out on the Columbia River and enjoy the day relaxing by fishing with their families. This was a great way to show our appreciation to these honorable soldiers.
- Host a Family Fishing Clinic at Spearfish Lake that coincided with National Get Outdoors Day. Your donations aided us by supplying staff support, fish, bait, poles and prizes!
- Host our second annual The Dalles Dam Eagle Watch. Thanks to your efforts in providing staff support and programming, it was a success.
- Conduct our third annual 6<sup>th</sup> grade Water Safety Poster Contest. Your donations and support continue to keep our youth active in learning how to be safe around water.
- Restore native vegetation and remove invasive species at Spearfish Lake and other public areas.
- Promote public safety and beautify our public lands by removing litter and debris and through trimming trees.
- Promote public safety through the donation and installation of several new Life Jacket Loaner kiosks in our parks.
- Promote public education of Corps missions through donations of interpretive materials.
- Participate in The City of The Dalles Children's Fair teaching water safety techniques to families.
- Makeover the Historic Seufert Rose Garden through removal of weeds, laying new landscape fabric, pruning and mulching.

Thank you for assisting us by offering your support and contributions. Looking ahead in 2013, our resolution is to continue promoting health and wellness through recreational opportunities, water safety education and to encouraging environmental stewardship through public outreach events. We hope you will join us again in 2013 to make that happen! It has been a great year. Thank you and happy holidays!

Sincerely,

Amber Tilton, Park Ranger  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
The Dalles Lock and Dam  
Volunteer Partnership Coordinator  
Office # (541)-506-7818



# More Principles for Partner Recognition

- All physical forms of onsite recognition should be tasteful and non-obtrusive
- Onsite recognition associated with provision of services should be posted in close proximity
- Commercial slogans and taglines may not appear under any circumstances.  
“Just Do It.” “I’m lovin’ it” “Eat Mor Chikin!”)





# Patoka Lake Tailwater Recreation Area



## Partnership between:

- Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- USACE
- Funded by US Fish & Wildlife Service







# Donor Recognition Plan

- A donor recognition plan sets out the basic philosophy to guide donor recognition activities. It provides a framework for donor recognition at a project, ensuring that recognition is commensurate with the level of the donation.
- Donor recognition plans for projects that receive minimal contributions may simply be a memo stating that the project will send a thank you note in response to any donation over \$XXX (actual amount to be determined by district).
- Donation Recognition Plans should be included in the Project/ District Contribution Plan.



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# Ways to Recognize Partners

- By associating with your partners and recognizing their contributions you are reinforcing the tie that they have with your organization and mission.
- Public recognition for the work performed by your partners from District Commander or media.



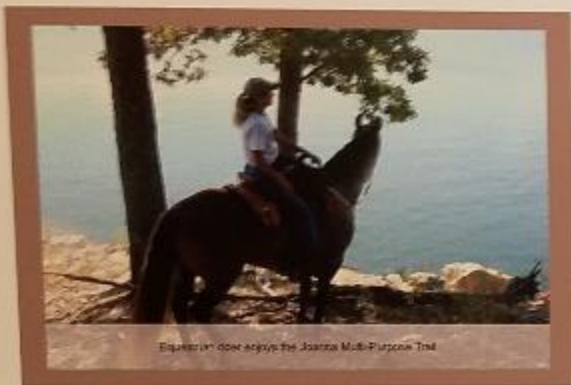
# Ways to Recognize Partners

- Think of the less tangible awards that your partners receive for working with you, for instance being recognized by the local community as “the group that hosts the beach clean up.”
- Volunteer recognition BBQ or dinner hosted by your cooperating association or other partners.
- Special use of a “premium” area of the park. (wilderness access)



# Mark Twain Lake Partner Spotlight

Each year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partners with thousands of individuals and organizations on recreation and environmental projects to enhance our nation's natural resources. At Mark Twain Lake, we are proud of our broad range of partners and eagerly seek to expand mutually beneficial relationships with others.



## Awards for Service

The NEMO River Valley Chapter, Back Country Horseman of Missouri were awarded the 2015 Coalition for Recreational Trails Award for the Joanna Trail Project.



The NEMO River Valley Chapter, Back Country Horseman of Missouri received a Commander's Award of Appreciation in 2014.

Longtime volunteer Bob Kendrick received the national Enduring Service Volunteer Award in 2016 for his dedication to Mark Twain Lake resources, events and partner opportunities. The award was presented by the Corps Foundation and Bass Pro.



## Friends Groups

The Mark Twain Lake Friends of Recreation and Environmental Stewardship Council, regionally known as the FOREST Council and the Mark Twain Lake Visitor and Educational Resource Center Committee are organized friends groups that partner with the Corps to promote environmental stewardship, recreation, tourism and provide educational programs and events at the lake and the region.



## Handshake Partnerships

The Handshake Program offers a source of seed money to Corps installations for partnership projects to initiate new, or enhance existing recreation and natural resources management opportunities. This funding is intended to encourage local organizations to partner with the Corps to construct, operate, and/or maintain local partnering projects. Mark Twain Lake has received 5 Handshake grants for development of the Frank Russell Pond Shelter, barrier free fishing access at the Pond, Equestrian Camping Sites, Indian Creek Trail development



# Incentives for Partners

- Free day use
- Free special events
- Free camping
- Lead a special hike



# Excellence in Partnerships Award

- The Corps has established an annual award intended to recognize outstanding contributions by a partner to the Corps recreation and environmental stewardship programs. This award is co-sponsored by the Corps Foundation.
- The Excellence in Partnerships Award is presented to the partner in conjunction with the Spring PAC team meeting.



- Divisions, districts and projects should be constantly on the lookout for outstanding examples to nominate each year.
- Headquarters solicits nominations during the latter part of each year.



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# Awards from your Cooperating Association

- Not limited to the same restrictions that exist for government recognition.
- Gifts can be given by your 501(c)
- Awards given by your friends group to other partners can take many forms ranging from small gifts to lavish banquets.



# Donation Plaques

For contributions valued at \$XX (TBD by manager) or more, a plaque or other appropriate sign may be purchased and placed on the project site to recognize the donation.





# Donor Boards Or Walls

For contributions valued at \$XX (TBD by manager) or above, a donor board or wall located and integrated into the project office, visitor center, or other appropriate visitor facility may be used to recognize the donation.



Donor board at the Tamástslikt Cultural Institute, Pendleton, Oregon



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## The Copper Leaf Sculpture

The copper sculpture above honors the individuals and organizations that work together to support land and water management activities at Mark Twain Lake. We salute our partners and volunteers for helping to promote and conserve our wonderful natural resources.

*Visit the front desk to find out how you, your family, or your organization can get your own access.*

## Current Partners and Volunteers

at Mark Twain Lake

The copper leaf sculpture honors the individuals and organizations that work together to support land and water management activities at Mark Twain Lake. Partners and volunteers increase awareness and preservation of the environmental, cultural, and historical resources that are part of the 55,000-acre land and water project. We salute our partners and volunteers for helping to promote and conserve these wonderful natural resources.

Mark Twain Lake is a special place and we want to share it with you.

Visit the front desk to find out how you, your family, or your organization can get your own access.

## General Mills

More than 80 percent of General Mills employees volunteer and many have chosen Mark Twain Lake as the place to volunteer. Their volunteerism and contribution is the essential ingredient required for the Environmental Education Day events. The same employees' donations brought the Vietnam Traveling Wall That Leads to the Lake.

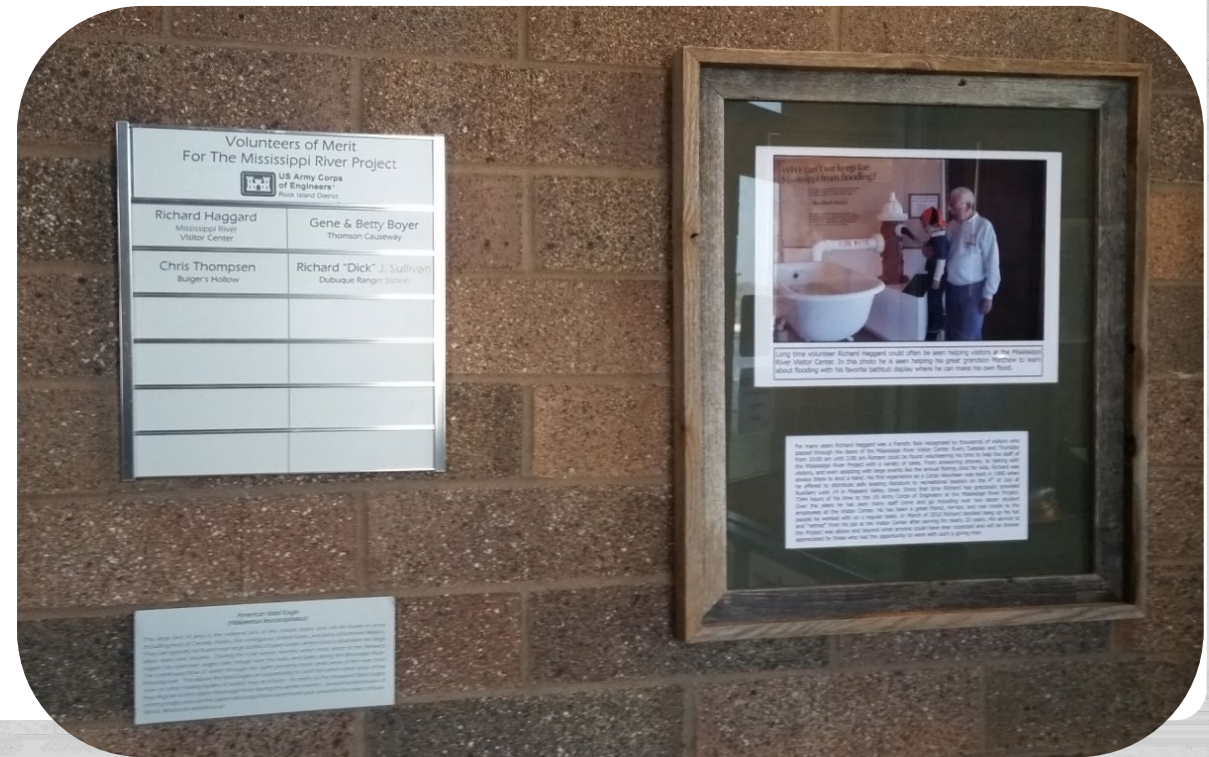
## BoatUS Foundation

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety, Clean Water makes it easier for boating families to stay safe with its national life jacket loaner program. BoatUS provided its jackets for the Mark Twain Lake life jacket loaner stations installed at the John Spaulding beach and ramp and Ray Behrens boat ramp.



# Donor Boards Or Walls Guidelines

- These boards or walls should utilize a format that allows recognition of donors by the placement of name plates or other markers that can be added and removed with relative ease.
- Names of corporate or business donors will appear in the same fashion as all other names.
- Corporate name scripts and logos will not be used on donor boards and walls.
- Donor boards and walls, either electronic or traditional, should be integrated into the design of the facilities.



# Partner Logos and the Corps Communication Mark

- The logo of a donor(s) may appear in conjunction with a credit line. The Corps Communication Mark may also appear on jointly produced products or interpretive materials.



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- The Communication Mark has been registered with the US Patent and Trademark Office. The ® symbol is to be displayed with the Mark only when reproducing printed promotional material that is intended for public usage and can not be used in a manner that appears to imply endorsement of the organization, company or product.

- Advertising and marketing slogans and taglines may not appear in conjunction with a credit line or the Communication Mark.



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# Contributions Exercise

Can we accept it?



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# SCENARIO 1:

Can we accept \$125k for building new exhibits in a visitor center?

**Yes or No?**

**Yes**, but needs to be reviewed/approved by District NRM chief and OC - not just Natural Resource Manager



## SCENARIO 2:

Bridgestone wants to donate a new picnic shelter on Corps Fee Land, and name it "The Bridgestone Picnic Shelter" Can we accept this?

What if they want to donate a picnic shelter, but need priority reservations for the area for team building activities? Can we accept this?

### Yes or No?

## No

No if the naming is a condition of the donation.

No, donors can't demand special use of areas beyond the access that a member of the general public would have. Otherwise, the donation of a picnic shelter is acceptable.



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## SCENARIO 3:

A local kayak retailer wants to donate used life jackets to your local project office. Can you accept the PFDs and use them on the life jacket loaner boards at your project?

**Yes or No?**

**Yes**, but you'll want to make sure the life jackets are in good used condition





## SCENARIO 4:

- A local plant nursery wants to donate 100 trees to be planted in your day use area.
- The area could really use shade trees and you know there are no funds to purchase trees this year.
- You don't have a project or district level contributions plan in place.
- The owner of the nursery is a distant relative of an adjacent landowner who recently was cited by USACE park rangers for cutting down trees on USACE fee land for a "better view" of the lake.

Is this acceptable?

**Yes or No?**

**Maybe.** Would want to have a discussion with Office of Counsel AND work to get a Contributions Plan in place.



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## SCENARIO 5:

- Your lake's Cooperating Association applied for a Health Initiative Grant.
- The Grantor requested a letter from the OPM stating that if the \$2,500 grant is awarded for a new bicycle repair rack that cooperating association is authorized to place the repair rack at a Corps trailhead.
- The OPM drafted the letter for the Grantor as requested and was notified that the cooperating association was awarded the grant.
- Upon notification, the OPM contacted RM, Real Estate and Logistic Management to ensure acceptance process was followed and that the bicycle rack repair station could be added to Real Property.

Was this an acceptable contribution?

**Yes or No?**

**Yes**



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## SCENARIO 6:

- A regional TV host for a deer hunting show contacted the Lake Natural Resource Manager about donating \$700,000 worth of food plot material to the Corps
- The NRM invited the donor to her office for a meeting about the potential donation and discussed why he wanted to donate such a large sum of money to the Corps wildlife management fund
- **Yes, this was acceptable.** But the Resources Manager didn't have the authority to accept it. Contribution should have been approved at the District level.
- The donor assured her it was because he loved the lake and had special hunting memories there.
- The NRM conducted a thorough internet search of the donor's company and personal activities, and decided to accept the donation.

Was this an acceptable scenario?

**Yes or No?**



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## SCENARIO 7:

- The Friends of Triangle Trails (FTT) wants a meeting with NRM staff at Jordan Lake to discuss ways to increase public use of the lake's trail system.
- Ranger Johnson meets with FTT and they discuss adding fitness stations to an existing trail.
- After approval from the Jordan Lake OPM and the District Logistics and RM offices, the FTT applies for and receives a grant from REI for \$90,000 to purchase 7 fitness stations to be installed by USACE.
- To recognize the partners, at the bottom of the instructional signs for each station, a message states: "Fitness Stations were provided by a partnership with" followed by the USACE, FTT, and REI logos.

Is this an acceptable contribution?

**Yes or No?**

**Yes**



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## SCENARIO 8:

- On-Board Boating Company has contacted NRM staff at Kerr Lake to discuss the planning of a wake boarding competition next summer.
- Ranger Henderson meets with the event sponsors and they discuss USACE concerns about shoreline erosion, water safety, alcohol use, and how to apply for a special event permit.
- On-Board Boating Company offers to hold three boating safety courses at Kerr Lake throughout the summer, and offers to donate life jacket signs to place at public boat ramps.
- Public boat ramps at Kerr Lake already have signage reminding boaters to wear a life jacket, so Ranger Henderson asks if they would be willing to donate “No Wake Zone” buoys to place in areas with severe shoreline erosion problems instead.
- The “No Wake Zone” buoys are listed in the project’s contribution plan, and would have a total cost of less than \$1,000.

Is this an acceptable contribution?

**Yes or No?**

**Not through contributions authority, but Yes, if done through a special use permit and the donations are accepted in lieu of the permit fees, as permissible in-kind services**



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## SCENARIO 9:

- A local organization holds a large mountain bike race on your trail system each fall.
- They would like to make a donation to your project for trail maintenance to offset budget shortfalls.
- The chapter president shows up with a check for \$1000 made payable to your project.
- Can you accept it and use it for trail supplies? What if they buy \$1000 of crushed stone and have it delivered to your project?

**Yes or No?**

**Yes**, but it would be much easier to accept materials than \$\$



## SCENARIO 10:

- A local fishing club has partnered with the local beer distributor to provide water safety related posters and materials to be posted at your project during their tournaments throughout the summer.
- The water safety message has been approved by your office locally and at the district level, however, the distributor has received funding from one of the "big" breweries and is requiring to post their logo on the poster.

Can you accept the donation of these water safety posters?

## Yes or No?

**No**, can't accept donations from alcohol related companies or products. Also need to consider the appearance of the message



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## SCENARIO 11:

An adjacent land owner to Lake Sigman has a soft spot for the Project, as his family owned and farmed the land prior to the dam being built. Lake Sigman does not currently have any campgrounds, and the land owner would like to donate 20 acres of land to develop a campground and recreation facilities.

# Yes or No?

**No.** Can't accept land under the Contributions Authority





## SCENARIO 12:

There is a Kids Fishing Day coming up this weekend and volunteers will be taking the participants out on the water to learn to fish. The Marina would like to donate the use of 5 pontoon boats for the event. Can we accept this contribution?

# Yes or No?

**No**, we cannot accept contributions from a prohibited source. In this case, the marina has a real estate lease with the Corps, therefore conducting activities regulated by the Corps and requiring official action from the Corps



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# Questions?



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