



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Fort Worth District**

# News Advisory

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## Corps of Engineers to host free water safety event at Lynn Creek Marina

*FORT WORTH, Texas* – On June 6 at Joe Pool Lake, a coalition of water safety organizations will gather to bring awareness to a continuing need for boating and water safety in North Texas. An estimated 360 million people visit U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recreation areas annually. According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 271 boating accidents claimed 61 lives in Texas and resulted in injuries to 173 individuals in 2008. The National Safety Council estimates 5,000 children ages 14 and under are hospitalized due to unintentional drowning-related accidents each year; 15 percent die in the hospital and as many as 20 percent suffer severe, permanent neurological disability. Most of these accidents – if not all of them - were preventable.

Now that summer is here, authorities are asking boaters and swimmers to take special care while on and near the water:

- Always wear a Coast Guard approved, properly fitted lifejacket or personal flotation device (PFD)
- Avoid alcohol on the water, and always use a designated driver for the boat and a safe ride home.
- Pay attention to the people in your party, especially those in the water
- Be especially careful on personal watercraft
- Children younger than age 13 **must wear** a Coast Guard approved life jacket while underway
- Enroll in a boater education class
- Learn to swim

**WHO:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and agencies of the North Texas Water Safety Coalition

**WHAT:** North Texas Water Safety Coalition Free Water Safety Fair/Kids Fish Free Tournament to highlight National Fish and Boating Week

- **June 6: Free Water Safety Fair.** Representatives from boating and water safety organizations will present key water safety messages, provide interactive water safety games and demonstrations **to the public (kids and adults)**. There is **no charge** for admittance to the water safety fair.
- One-on-one interview format.
- Boat patrol ride-alongs will also be available.

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 6 - 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Lynn Creek Marina, Joe Pool Lake, Grand Prairie, Texas

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**About the Fort Worth District** : The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: [www.swf.usace.army.mil](http://www.swf.usace.army.mil) .