



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Canyon Lake announce Labor Day events

FORT WORTH, Texas-U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Canyon Lake are prepared for a fun filled and safe Labor Day weekend. Park rangers along with Comal County law enforcement and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game wardens will be in and out of the water to ensure patrons are safe and informed.

The added force won't be empty handed either. They will be handing out water safety Frisbees, wristbands, duckies and bobbers on the beaches at Overlook and Comal Parks. Those enjoying North Park and Canyon Park's Swim Beach, can score a safety related goodie bag. And for the little artists, coloring books will be given away at Cranes Mill, Potter's Creek, Canyon and North Parks.

For a more interactive Labor Day safety event come to the Overlook and take the Fatal Vision Goggle Sobriety Test from 1 to 2 p.m.

Canyon Lake is visited by about 800,000 people annually. In 2011 there were nine water related deaths, but due to tireless efforts by all, there has only been one this year so far. But that is still one too many.

Lake users whether swimming, boating or even just camping or picnicking should always think about potential emergency scenarios. Below are some good water safety practices that could save your life.

- Learn how to swim and swim within your limitations and abilities
- Wear a properly fitted life jacket when in or near the water
- Swim only in designated areas and always swim with a buddy
- Children should always be supervised when in or near the water
- Do not dive from elevated areas such as bluffs, large rocks, trees, bridges, etc...
- Do not swim after floats that have drifted away nor rely on floats as a life jacket substitute
- Pay attention and comply with posted warnings and be mindful of exposed hazards
- Avoid alcohol and other drug use that impair physical ability and judgment
- Avoid risky behavior and challenges that could lead to injury or death
- Know the risks associated with boats, personal watercraft and your on the water activities

Always keep safety a priority over fun and remember life jackets float and you don't.

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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 design and construction at military installations in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District Web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil and SWF Face book at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Worth-District-US-Army-Corps-of-Engineers/188083711219308>

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