



# News Release

US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Kansas City District

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## **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issues water safety message and weekend lake conditions**

Kansas City, Mo. – Although the 4th of July holiday is over, many are still enjoying recreational opportunities at local lakes. Whether you enjoy water, land or off-road activities, Corps lake managers and rangers request you keep safety in mind during your visit.

Each year, approximately 6,000 people drown in the United States. Drowning is the SECOND leading cause of accidental deaths for persons 15-44 years of age. What is really surprising is that two-thirds of the people who drown never had any intention of being in the water!

Corps officials urge everyone spending time at the lakes to wear properly fitting life jackets whenever they are on or near the water. It only takes 20 seconds for a child to drown without a life jacket and 60 seconds for an adult. Statistics show that 96 percent of those who drown at Corps lakes may have survived if they had been wearing a life jacket, and more than half of the incidents involved alcohol. Please wear your life jackets when you're at the lake. It won't work if you don't wear it!

High lake levels mean new hazards for boaters as items which were previously visible above water are now submerged. Approximately 700 recreational boaters die each year due to boating mishaps.

As the nation's largest provider of water recreation, Corps lake representatives are committed to taking a leadership role in reducing the number of water-related accidents and drowning. Please visit our water safety Web site at <http://watersafety.usace.army.mil> to find water safety tips, a list of water safety education events throughout the country and many interactive games and activities for everyone to enjoy.

### **Kansas City District Lakes Weekend Reports**

#### **Blue Springs Lake Report**

- Lake level currently 803.2 feet
- Normal pool level 802.0 feet
- Outflow 15 cubic feet per second (cfs)

All facilities are open, no high water problems

#### **Clinton Lake Report**

- Lake Level - currently 879.21 feet
- Total Release – 1,000 cfs

All camping and boating facilities are open and operational.  
All other day use facilities are open and operational.

#### **Kanopolis Lake Report**

- Lake Level – currently 1467.74 feet

The lake level is 4.74 feet above conservation pool and considered more conducive to recreation and boat access.

- Total Release – 190 cfs

All campsites, beaches, boat ramps, hiking trails, and the All Terrain Vehicle area are open. Less than 5% of campsites are still inundated with debris from the May flood.

We're expecting a good turn-out.

### **Long Branch Lake Report**

- Lake level - 790.88 feet  
The lake is .12 foot below normal and falling.
- Total Release - 50 cfs

No recreational facilities impacted - conditions normal.

### **Longview Lake Report**

- Lake level currently 891.8 feet
- Normal pool level 891.0 feet
- Outflow 10 cfs

All facilities are open, no high water problems.

### **Melvorn Lake Report**

- Lake Level – currently 1042.80 feet
- Total Release – 20 cfs

One beach is inundated and closed.

Beach in Outlet Park is open—not effected by the high water

All boat ramps are open and courtesy docks are functional at the boat ramps.

Campground Status:

99% of current sites are reserved through the weekend.

Three picnic shelters are available through the weekend.

Outlying areas and roads: Flood waters will continue to rise on various roads; drivers will need to use caution while traveling around the project.

### **Milford Lake Report**

- Lake Level - currently 1147.15 feet
- The lake level is 2.75 feet above conservation pool
- Total Release - 600 cfs

We are slowly dropping our conservation pool back to 2 feet above normal.

All beaches, boat ramps & campgrounds are open around the lake. Courtesy docks are available at the boat ramps.

Campgrounds are open!

Eleven shelters are available.

The School Creek Off Road Vehicle area and all hiking trails are accessible.

### **Pomona Lake Report**

- Lake Level - currently 984.41 feet
- Total Release – 15 cfs

One park closed - Adams Grove

About 15% of sites in Wolf Creek and Michigan Valley Parks are under water (unknown for State Park campsites).

All Corps boat ramps are closed/under water; however, the State Park has two ramps open. All beaches are closed/under water.

Although there is high water at Pomona Lake, facilities are still available for use and we encourage the public to come out and enjoy the facilities that are open.

### **Smithville Lake Report**

- Lake Level currently 864.53 feet
- Normal pool level 864.20 feet
- Outflow 150 cfs

All facilities are open, no high water problems.

### **Tuttle Creek Lake Report**

- Lake Level - currently 1075.28 feet
- Total Release – 1,000 cfs

All camping and boating facilities are open and operational.

The beach at Tuttle Creek Cove Park is closed due to damage from the May/June flood events. All other day use facilities are open and operational.

### **Truman Lake Report**

- Lake Level – currently 723.75 feet  
Predicted to go to 727.19 feet by Sunday, July 8
- Total Release – 51,000 cfs  
16,000 cfs through the spillway  
35,000 cfs through the generators (5)

All beaches are inundated and closed

Courtesy docks are not available at the boat ramps.

Ramps will be left open for use as long as possible.

Please remain alert to the lake rise on parking lots.

Boaters should use extreme caution due to submerged and/or floating debris.

Water skiing and tubing are not recommended at this time due to floating debris.

High Water boat ramps are available at

Shawnee Bend

Berry Bend

Talley Bend

Campground Status

Approximately 35% of the 1100 sites available at nine campgrounds are now closed due to flooding, including all of Long Shoal campground.

Seventeen picnic shelters are currently available.

Equestrian and All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) areas remain open, but have been impacted by flood waters.

Berry Bend Equestrian Park is currently open; however, high water will affect some of the trail use.

Horse riders will need to use caution while riding trails.

Cooper Creek ATV area is open. Users will need to use caution as a portion of the riding area is inundated with flood water.

Outlying areas and roads: Flood waters will continue to rise on various roads surrounding the project.

These roads are signed; however, drivers will need to use caution while traveling around the project.

### **Wilson Lake Report**

- Lake Level – currently 1513.44 feet
- Total Release –15 cfs

100% campsite utilization

We remain 2.6 feet below conservation pool.

All boat ramps and facilities are functional and we are expecting a full house this weekend.

It is business as usual here at Wilson! Fireworks are scheduled for July 7 and the Wilson Lake Area Association will be hosting a Vessel Poker Run that afternoon.

Although the federal lakes were built for flood damage reduction, they also provide superb outdoor recreational opportunities. If you plan a camping trip to the lake, call the National Recreation Reservation Service toll free at 1-877-444-6777 or log onto the Internet at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) to make reservations and ensure a campsite is available upon your arrival.

For current lake level information visit [http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/water\\_reports/lakepool.fct](http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/water_reports/lakepool.fct) and /or <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Flood2007/>. For lake pass information visit <http://www.store.usgs.gov/pass/general.html> or call 1-888-ASK-USGS.