



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Nashville District**

# Cheatham Lake

## Lake Casts



**Spring  
2005**

### Shoreline Management Plan Update

Cheatham Lake is a popular site for a variety of outdoor recreational activities. Although recreational visits by the general public and requests for private shoreline privileges by adjacent residents continue to increase, the total amount of public lands and waters available remains constant. The Cheatham Lake Shoreline Management Plan provides guidelines and policies critical for the effective long-range management of shoreline resources. Balancing private shoreline uses with protection of the natural environmental conditions of Cheatham Lake is the key objective of this plan.

The current Shoreline Management Plan was implemented in May 2000. Following a review of this plan, a draft update was prepared. We held public information workshops on the update of the plan on February 17 at Cheatham County Central High School and February 24 at Tennessee State University. We will also accept written comments on the update of the plan for the record until March 24, 2005. Thanks to everyone who participated in one of the workshops.

Following an evaluation of the issues identified in the public involvement process and any other pertinent information that is developed, we will prepare a new edition of



the Shoreline Management Plan for implementation. We will issue news releases to let you know when the new plan takes effect. Please call our office at (615) 792-5697 or 254-3734, if you have any specific questions about your area.

### RANGER CHANGES

Spring brings some changes to our ranger staff. Following completion of the first year of the ranger training program and a promotion, Crystal Tingle will be reassigned to Old Hickory Lake. Becky Jolly joins our staff on March 28. Becky was assigned to Old Hickory Lake for the past three years. Prior to that, she worked as a ranger in the Wilmington, North Carolina District of the Corps of Engineers for nine years and the Savannah, Georgia District for two years.

Our rangers can provide information on the location of the public property line, shoreline use permits, flowage easements, bank stabilization, and other issues related to the management of the shoreline. Here are the current area assignments:

Becky Jolly - Cheatham Dam upstream to the Highway 49 Bridge in Ashland City

Tadd Potter - Highway 49 Bridge upstream to Briley Parkway Bridge in Nashville

Jerry Strother - Upper section of Lake Barkley from Cheatham Dam downstream to the Stewart County line. Jerry will retire on May 2, 2005, after nearly 31 years of public service.

For information on the portion of Lake Barkley within Stewart County, Tennessee, please call Ranger Jeff Hancock at the Stewart County Resource Office, Telephone (931) 232-7724.

**Don't Get Caught Without Your Lifejacket**



The greatest concentration of fishing activity at Cheatham Lake actually occurs in the tailwaters immediately below the dam. Because of the suddenly rising water levels and turbulent conditions that may occur, boaters must wear a lifejacket at all times in this area. This requirement applies to all occupants of your boat, whether the boat is underway, anchored, tied up, or aground. The mandatory life jacket area extends from the tailwater launching ramp upstream to the dam and is clearly marked with large yellow warning signs.

When boating in the tailwaters, be alert for the horn and red flashing lights that warn when the hydropower generators in the power plant are about to start. Be sure to keep out of the posted restricted areas at the power plant.

Anyone who plans on being in or around water should always wear a lifejacket. Make it a habit to snap it on because you never know when you could end up in the water. Lifejackets only work if you wear them, so don't get caught unprepared!

**PARK ATTENDANTS CONCLUDE THIRTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE**

Since they were married 32 years ago, Peggy and Cecil Fuller have enjoyed doing many things together. Fifteen years ago they found that they both loved camping on the lake. When they visited Harpeth River Bridge Campground on Cheatham Lake for the first time, they knew they had found their favorite spot. When an opening for volunteer park hosts occurred, Peggy and Cecil jumped at the chance to help care for the campground they enjoyed so much. Their service as volunteers led them

to sign on as park attendants. The end of the recreation season last fall marked their thirteenth and final year of taking care of the campers at Harpeth River Bridge Campground.

Their thirteen years of service resulted in many friendships and fond memories. In particular, Peggy remembered the enthusiasm of a Boy Scout troop that camped at the area. She enjoyed watching them fish and put their hearts and souls into working on their scouting requirements. Cecil recalled another day when an unexpected high wind blew the portable toilets over, and he and Ranger Cindy Jackson had to stand them back up. Larry Nash, Resource Manager, said, "We could always count on Peggy and Cecil to take care of our visitors and the facilities in the campground. They were great park attendants because they had a good sense of humor and thoroughly enjoyed what they were doing. They have more than earned a rest, but we'll miss them."



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**Volunteer Clearinghouse**  
1-800-865-8337  
Give a Helping Hand!  
[www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !**

Do you enjoy being in the outdoors, working with people, and sharing your skills and talents? Then you may enjoy becoming a volunteer at Cheatham Lake. Still not sure? Come give it a try Saturday, September 18, 2004, as part of National Public Lands Day. From participating in the shoreline cleanup to tree identification, everyone has something to offer. Come spend the day, and see what a positive contribution you can make to our environment and public lands.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
FOR 2005**

April 1- Campgrounds Open - Lock A and Harpeth River Bridge Campgrounds open for the season.

April 28- Environmental Education Day - Cheatham County elementary students visit Lock A Campground to have fun learning about the environment.

June 11- Cheatham Lake Fish Bustin' Rodeo - This is a free event at Cheatham Dam Right Bank Recreation Area for ages 15 and younger. Refreshments and prizes will be provided by local sponsors.

August 6 - Duck Blind Drawings - Waterfowl hunters can draw for blinds at Cheatham Lake, Haynes Bottom, and Bear Creek Wildlife Management Areas.

September 24 - National Public Lands Day - Sign up to volunteer a few hours labor to help improve public lands at Cheatham Lake. Lunch will be provided.



1-877-444-6777  
[www.reserveusa.com](http://www.reserveusa.com)

National Recreation  
Reservation Service  
Reserve Your Place Under the Stars

**HANGTAGS IN  
USE AT  
CHEATHAM DAM RIGHT BANK  
RECREATION AREA**

The Nashville District of the Corps of Engineers says "goodbye" to those annual pass stickers that were placed on your rearview mirror. The new annual pass for the Corps recreation areas that collect day use fees is

a tag that hangs from the rearview mirror inside your vehicle. A \$4.00 per car recreation use fee will be collected at the entrance station at Cheatham Dam Right Bank Recreation Area from May 13, 2005 through September 5, 2005. The Corps began charging day use fees in 1993 when Congress enacted a law to control the federal budget deficit and its impact on the national economy. These fees, which are set nationwide, help recover a portion of the costs associated with operating and maintaining recreational facilities.

By purchasing an annual pass, visitors who use the Right Bank area often can save time and money. The pass will be good for 12 months from the date of purchase. Duplicate passes will no longer be necessary, because the hangtag may be used on any vehicle owned by the person who purchases the pass. However, you may purchase as many annual day use passes at full price as you desire. The annual pass costs \$30 and is honored at any Corps park that collects fees for day use facilities. Golden Age and Golden Access Card holders receive a 50 per cent discount on the purchase of the annual pass.

**RESERVE A PICNIC SHELTER  
FOR YOUR 2005 EVENT**

You may reserve one of seven picnic shelters in four different recreation areas on Cheatham

Lake for your family reunion, birthday party, church picnic, or other special event. Shelter reservations are available from April 1, 2005 through October 31, 2005. The reservation fees have changed slightly from last year. Prices start at \$25.00 for 50 or fewer people at Sycamore Creek, Brush Creek, and Cheatham Dam Left Bank Recreation Areas. The Beachside, Redbud, and Willey's Shelters in Cheatham Dam Right Bank Recreation Area start at \$50.00, while the smallest shelter, the Cottonwood, starts at \$25.00. Additional charges apply for each additional increment of 50 people using the shelter. A \$4.00 per car recreation use fee also applies in Cheatham Dam Right Bank Recreation Area from May 13, 2005 through September 5, 2005. To reserve a shelter contact our office Monday through Friday from 7:30 am until 4:00 pm.



**GET READY FOR ANOTHER  
CAMPING SEASON!**

Springtime is here! It's time to shake the cobwebs off of your camping gear, air it out, and get ready for yet another year of camping adventures. If you haven't done so already, before packing up for that



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**Resource Manager's Office  
Cheatham Lake  
1798 Cheatham Dam Road  
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015**  
[www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/che/rec/](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/che/rec/)

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first outdoor trip of the year, it's a good idea to go ahead and reserve your site if you camp at Lock A Campground. Visitors to Cheatham Lake may choose from two campgrounds: Lock A and Harpeth River Bridge. They will be open from April 1, 2005 through October 10, 2005.

Lock A campground offers 45 sites with water and electrical hookups. Base campsite fees range from \$19.00 to \$23.00 per night. To reserve your place under the stars at Lock A, contact the National Recreation Reservation Service at [www.ReserveUSA.com](http://www.ReserveUSA.com) or 1-877-444-6777.

Harpeth River Bridge campground offers 15 campsites suitable for RV or tent campers, but without hookups. Potable water is now available in the campground. Base campsite fees are \$7.00 per night. Camping at Harpeth River Bridge is on a first-come first-served basis. For more information call the park attendant at (615) 792-4195. Please remember, camping is allowed only in these designated areas on the public lands around Cheatham Lake.

### ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS REQUIRED

Electrical installations on boat docks, water withdrawal pumps, and other private structures on the public lands and waters of Cheatham Lake must be weather-proof and meet all current applicable codes and regulations. The electrical service must be inspected and certified by the state or municipal electrical inspector, and a copy of the approval document must be furnished to the Resource Manager.

In addition to the initial inspection, re-inspection and submission of a new certificate is required every five years when the permit/license is due for renewal, if the existing electrical service is modified (e.g., rewired or outlets added), or if the adjacent property changes hands and the new owner applies to continue use of existing electrical facilities. Please contact your ranger for complete details on the requirements for electrical facilities on public lands and waters.