



# NEWS RELEASE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

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Contact:  
Lance D. Davis, 251-690-2506  
Lance.d.davis@usace.army.mil

## **USACE encourages water, boating safety for holiday weekend**

**MOBILE, Ala.** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District continues to encourage everyone to practice water and boating safety as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday weekend kicks off.

“We welcome visitors and their families to enjoy the use of our lakes and recreational areas this holiday weekend but want everyone to be safe by wearing life jackets and using caution while boating in the water,” Lance Davis, a public affairs specialist for USACE Mobile District, said. “A child can drown in less than 30 seconds; an adult in 60 seconds, but it takes less than a minute to put on a life jacket.”

Recreational users can find lifejacket-loaner stations at many Corps-operated areas and facilities for recreation, campground and day-use. Visit [www.sam.usace.army.mil/op/rec/](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/op/rec/) to find Mobile District managed lake projects, or to find any Corps lake project in the USA, go to <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/visitors.cfm>.

Visitors are also encouraged to use caution to prevent impact injuries.

“Impact injuries associated with boating can be prevented by reducing speed in congested areas, unfamiliar waters and at night; proper use of navigation lights; shutting off the motor when swimmers are near the boat; and paying attention to navigational markers,” Davis said. “We also recommend boaters to avoid the use of alcohol while operating boats and other watercrafts.”

USACE Mobile District offers the following tips to promote water safety and help prevent drowning:

### **Water Safety Tips**

Wear a life jacket because it could save your life.

Learn how to swim, but be reminded that even good swimmers can drown so please know your limits.

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**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS MOBILE DISTRICT**  
109 SAINT JOSEPH STREET, MOBILE, ALA. 36602-3630  
WWW.SAM.USACE.ARMY.MIL

## **Water, boating safety 2-2-2**

### **Water Safety Tips continued**

Swim with a buddy.

Swim in designated areas only.

Use your head and go feet first into the water.

Leave the water at the first sign of bad weather.

Watch your children - no reading, no phone and no napping.

### **Boating Safety Tips**

Always wear a life jacket when you are on a boat.

Always boat soberly.

Always boat with a friend.

Use your running lights from dusk until dawn when you are on the water.

Always let someone on shore know where you plan to take the boat.

Check the weather before you put the boat in the water.

Know and follow the water "rules of the road."

Learn how to swim.