



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

News Release

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Corps of Engineers urges caution at the lake for Memorial Day weekend

FORT WORTH, TX -- As Memorial Day approaches, everyone is making plans to spend it at their favorite lake. Officials with the Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, would like to remind everyone to play it safe during the first holiday weekend of the recreation season.

"This weekend will officially open the summer recreation season bringing with it thousands of water-loving people to our lakes," said Lt. Col. Robert Morris, Fort Worth District Engineer. "It's often a family event or the first chance to try out that new boat or jet ski."

The Fort Worth District operates and maintains 25 lakes in Texas which draw an estimated 25 million visitors each year.

"We want to remind folks to be alert and extremely cautious while they are in or around the water so they can come back again and again during the summer," Morris said. "This year, we've already had six people drown and every one of these deaths was preventable."

Common mistakes include lapses in adult supervision of small children, swimming beyond the boundaries of swimming areas, alcohol and drug abuse, reckless operation of personal watercraft, diving from banks into unknown depths, skiing in congested areas, overexertion, swimming in undesignated areas and overcrowding of boats.

Morris also cautions boaters to be especially alert since the lakes will be crowded.