



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

News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-04-041 Contact: Judy Marsicano

For Release: Immediate 10 Sept 04 Phone: (817) 886-1517

Corps of Engineers celebrates National Public Lands Day at lakes in Texas

Fort Worth, Texas - The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is commemorating the 11th annual National Public Lands Day on Saturday, Sept. 18, at nine of its lakes in Texas. Volunteers at each lake will join more than 80,000 volunteers across America in activities centered around the enhancement of outdoor recreation facilities and the stewardship of public lands.

National Public Lands Day, sponsored by the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation, Inc., will be conducted at an estimated 600 sites this year. Americans will join together to make improvements to the nation's largest resource and to honor the work and sacrifice of the Civil Conservation Corps, a cadre of men and women organized over 70 years ago by President Roosevelt. The CCC built over 800 national and state parks, planted almost 4 billion trees, built roads and hiking trails, and laid interstate telephone lines which became the basis for the Internet.

National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with just three sites and 700 volunteers. Today, the event has evolved to a partnership of federal, state and local land management agencies. Last year, nearly 80,000 volunteers contributed \$10 million worth of work at 550 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The Corps of Engineers has participated in the event since 1996 and has attracted more volunteers nationwide than any other agency. The Corps manages nearly 12 million acres of public land and water.

- 30 -

Visit the Fort Worth website at www.swf.usace.army.mil or www.npld.com for more information.

Editor's Note: The following page outlines NPLD activities at nine Corps of Engineers lakes in Texas.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
National Public Lands Day Activities
18 Sep 04**

Bardwell Lake: Volunteers will work to develop the second phase of a multi-use recreational trail at Bardwell Lake. Work to be done includes clearing the trail, removing tree limbs and debris, removing litter along current trails and proposed trails, and installing trail markers.
POC: James Chambers (972) 875-5711

Canyon Lake: Volunteers and staff will complete trail work.
POC: Tim Horn (830) 964-3341

Granger Lake: Volunteers will take part in a lakeshore clean up, install/inspect wood duck boxes, and plant wildflower seeds.
POC: Ben Bohac (512) 859-2668

Lavon Lake: Volunteers will participate in a lakeshore cleanup and spread wildflower seeds.
POC: Eric Pedersen (972) 442-3141

Lewisville Lake: Volunteers will participate in a shoreline cleanup with adjacent municipalities. After the volunteer activities there will be a fun fair showcasing the recreational opportunities and natural resources on federal lands.
POC: Emily Gross (972) 434-1666

Proctor Lake: Volunteers will work on equestrian trail and landscaping, plant trees and place fish attractors in the lake, and a lakeshore cleanup.
POC: Brent Hensley (254) 879-2424

Sam Rayburn Reservoir: Volunteers will perform maintenance on equestrian trails, relocate corrals, modify hitching posts, and install additional corrals.
POC: David LaRue (409) 384-5716

Waco Lake: Partnering with the City of Waco, volunteers will work in the newly created Waco Wetlands on the North Bosque River. Volunteers will plant native aquatic flora to reduce aquatic pollution and diversify habitat. Volunteers will also work on landscaping projects around the newly created Wetlands Visitor Center.
POC: Kathy Gately (254) 756-3433

Whitney Lake: * This event will be held September 11. Volunteers will work on landscaping the campground, gatehouse, equestrian campground, and information kiosk.
POC: Kathryn Haferkamp (254) 622-3332