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Lake Barkley opens up powerhouse, lock, resource management office for public tours

GRAND RIVERS, Ky. (May 8, 2012) – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District is offering the public free guided tours of Lake Barkley's Powerhouse, Lock and Natural Resource Management Office. These are the first tours of the powerhouse and navigation lock since visitation was restricted after September 11, 2001.

Approximately two hours in length, tours are scheduled May 19 and June 23; with tour start times of 9 and 11 a.m., and 2 p.m.

Registered tour participants will be required to check in at the Lake Barkley Natural Resource Management Office Visitor Center and receive a brief introduction prior to boarding a shuttle to the powerhouse and lock structures.

Lake Barkley Resource Manager Mike Looney said it is the Nashville District's mission to unlock the story of Barkley lock and dam and its many benefits to the nation.

"Guided access will be provided inside the power plant where participants can view the generators and gain an understanding of how the plant operates," said Looney. "In addition, guided tours will be provided at Barkley Lock, where visitors will see how barges pass thru the dam and gain a deeper understanding of the importance the commercial barge industry provides to the nation."

Tour size is limited and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. All guests including minors are required to submit a request form at least five days prior to the tour and receive an email confirmation from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District Security Office.

To submit an online tour request form and to learn more about the tours rules and details, please visit the Lake Barkley website at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/bar/rec/tours>.

(The public can obtain news, updates and information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District on the district's website at www.lrn.usace.army.mil, on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nashvillecorps> and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/nashvillecorps>. The public can also visit Lake Barkley's Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/lakebarkley>.)

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