



# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will honor new America the Beautiful Federal Recreation Annual Pass for Military**

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced today it will begin accepting the America the Beautiful Federal Recreation Pass Program's new Interagency Annual Pass for Military (Military Pass) at its more than 2,500 USACE-managed recreation areas nationwide.

Beginning on Armed Forces Day on May 19, service men and women - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and activated National Guard and Reserves, and their dependents who present the new Military Pass will receive a fee waiver to USACE-managed day-use areas (boat launches and swimming areas). The Military Pass, which is free, may be obtained in person at U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service facilities. Additional information on the Federal Recreation Pass Program is available at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/annual.html>.

Military members and their dependents may also present a Department of the Defense Identification Card or Common Access Card (CAC) to receive the day-use fee waiver at USACE-managed day-use areas.

In a separate effort, USACE will continue to waive camping fees for active duty military members and their dependents on mid- or post-deployment leave. To qualify for a camping fee waiver at a USACE-managed campground, a member or dependent must present the new Military Pass or CAC and a copy of their mid- or post-deployment (reintegration) leave orders. Camping fees are waived on a walk-up and space available basis, as well as for reservations made through the National Recreation Reservation Service call center at 1-877-444-6777. However, fees will not be waived for on-line reservations made through the on-line web site at <http://www.recreation.gov>.

Acceptance of USACE fee waivers is encouraged, but not required, at the more than 1,800 nationwide recreation areas managed by other entities on USACE lands.

"Our military service members and their families sacrifice so much for our country. The waiver of day-use fees at USACE lakes and recreation areas will make it easier and more affordable for them to get to the great outdoors with their families and relax," said Maj. Gen. Michael J. Walsh, USACE deputy commanding general for Civil and Emergency Operations.

USACE is the nation's largest federal provider of outdoor recreation, managing more than 400 lake and river projects in 43 states and hosting more than 370 million visits per year. With 90 percent of these recreation areas within 50 miles of metropolitan areas they provide a diverse range of outdoor activities close to home and to people of all ages. For more information on USACE recreation sites and activities, visit [www.CorpsLakes.us](http://www.CorpsLakes.us).

"The Nashville District is pleased to provide this service to our military members and their families," said Diane Parks, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District Operations chief. "We have many recreational areas that are close to military facilities and that military families currently enjoy."

The Nashville District manages 10 lakes on the Cumberland River and 160 recreation areas. It hosted more than 33 million visitors in 2011. These recreation areas provide a wide range of recreational opportunities for adults and children. Not only military but all families are encouraged to visit Corps lakes. It is also important to always be safe on the water -- wear lifejackets when boating and when swimming, swim in designated swim areas and never swim alone. For more information visit us at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/recreation.htm> or contact the Nashville District public affairs office at 615-736-7161.

(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](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil), on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nashvillecorps> and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/nashvillecorps>.)

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