



NEWS RELEASE

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Corps of Engineers announces 2011 recreation facility opening/closing dates at Lake Thurmond

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA – With the 2011 recreation season rapidly approaching, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced its opening schedule for the picnic areas and campgrounds at the [J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake Project](#).

Picnic areas opening May 1 in Georgia include Gill Point, Amity Park, Big Hart, Lake Springs, and West Dam Recreation Area. Parksville, located in McCormick County, S.C., will also open on May 1.

In addition to the picnic area openings, Broad River, Raysville, Winfield and Petersburg (all sites) campgrounds opened March 1. The remaining campgrounds, including Mount Carmel, Modoc, Hawe Creek, Hester's Ferry, Clay Hill, Big Hart, and Ridge Road, opened April 1.

With the campground reservation window for the month of October approaching, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced an earlier closure of four campgrounds at Lake Thurmond. Modoc, Big Hart, Winfield and Raysville campgrounds will close Sept. 30.

The early closure of Winfield campground is due to logging in the area, while the early closures of Modoc, Big Hart and Raysville campgrounds are due to budget constraints. Hawe Creek, Hester's Ferry and Clay Hill campgrounds will also close on Sept. 30 as usual.

Broad River and Mount Carmel campgrounds close after Labor Day. Portions of Petersburg, LeRoys Ferry and Bussey Point campgrounds remain open year-round.

Campground and day-use shelter reservations can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service by calling 1-877-444-6777 or by visiting www.recreation.gov.

Also beginning this summer, guests purchasing annual passes and firewood permits with cash at the Visitors Center must bring exact change. The Corps' attendant will no longer be able to make change but will continue to accept checks and credit cards.

For more information, contact the J. Strom Thurmond Project Office at 1-800-533-3478, or (864) 333-1100.

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