



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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For Immediate Release:
Sept. 20, 2011
News Release No. 11-71

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Army Corps of Engineers supports National Public Lands Day, Sept. 24

SAVANNAH, Ga. – The [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District](#)—along with thousands of volunteers throughout the country—is gearing up to celebrate this year’s 18th Annual [National Public Lands Day](#) Sept. 24. National Public Lands Day is the largest hands-on volunteer restoration effort in the country.

The Savannah District is coordinating clean-up activities at its three dam and reservoir projects on the upper Savannah River—lakes [Hartwell](#), [Richard B. Russell](#) and [J. Strom Thurmond](#). Each lake project has hosted a clean-up campaign in the weeks leading up to National Public Lands Day and will conclude the campaigns on Saturday.

There is still time to volunteer for clean-up activities at the Savannah District’s reservoirs. Groups and individuals can contact the lake office to sign-up and be a part of National Public Lands Day.

- **Hartwell Dam & Lake Project**
(Hartwell, Ga.; Anderson, S.C.) – Volunteers sought for litter collection on public lands, waters and recreation areas. Clean-up held in partnership with the Lake Hartwell Association. Volunteers are invited to an appreciation picnic with food, activities and door prizes on Sept. 24. Call toll-free: 888-893-0678
- **J. Strom Thurmond Dam & Lake Project**
(Augusta, Ga.; Clarks Hill, S.C.) – Volunteers sought to pick up litter and debris along public lands and waters, including shoreline, islands, recreation areas, coves, old road ends and bridge areas. On Sept. 24 starting at 8 a.m., park rangers and volunteers will meet at Elijah Beach Shelter at Clarks Hill Park to complete various work projects. A volunteer appreciation lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the workday around noon. Call toll-free: 800-533-3478
- **Richard B. Russell Dam & Lake Project**
(Elberton, Ga.; Abbeville, S.C.) – Volunteers sought to pick up trash on shorelines and islands surrounding the lake. Held in partnership with Georgia’s Rivers Alive and South Carolina’s Beach Sweep/River Sweep. Prizes are available for volunteers while supplies last. Call toll-free: 800-944-7207

Last year, nearly 150,000 volunteers nationwide pitched in to collect litter and debris; remove fence and invasive plants; build and improve trails; plant trees and shrubs; and participate in numerous other projects on public lands and waters. At U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) events last year, more than 13,000 volunteers worked approximately 46,000 hours to remove more than 800 tires, clear litter and debris from 260 miles of shoreline, build 48 miles of trails, and plant about 1,000 trees and shrubs.

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USACE has been involved with National Public Lands Day since its inception in 1994 and has consistently been one of the event's largest providers of sites and volunteers. As the nation's leading federal provider of outdoor and water-based recreation, USACE manages 421 lake and river projects in 43 states. With nearly 90 percent of these projects located within 50 miles of metropolitan areas, USACE sites provide a wide range of safe, affordable outdoor recreation opportunities close to home.

To locate National Public Lands Day events near you, visit <http://www.publiclandsday.org/>. For more information on USACE recreation opportunities visit www.CorpsLakes.us.

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ABOUT US: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' [Savannah District](#) manages [three lakes and hydroelectric dams](#) along the Savannah River. It also oversees a multi-billion dollar [military construction](#) program at 11 Army and Air Force installations in Georgia and North Carolina. Corps' projects range from barracks, hospitals and clinics to maintenance facilities, headquarters buildings and aircraft hangars. The Savannah District also has oversight and maintains additional civil works projects – from the Savannah and Brunswick harbors to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

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