



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps to celebrate 50th anniversary of Hartwell Dam *Former construction workers, historical photos & memorabilia sought*

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA – Nifty, nifty—Hartwell’s turning fifty! The [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Hartwell Dam and Lake Project](#), in partnership with stakeholders around the lake, has begun planning events and activities to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of the completion of the Hartwell Project—and we need your help!

The Corps seeks contact information for former workers and contractors who were involved in the construction or pre-construction of the dam. Workers will be invited to attend a commemoration ceremony on April 27, 2012—exactly 50 years after the first generator went online at the Hartwell Power Plant. Other invitees to the ceremony will include community members, stakeholders, government officials, and Corps employees and retirees. Media are encouraged to attend the ceremony and will be given further instructions in the weeks preceding the event.

The Corps also seeks historical photographs or memorabilia related to the construction of the dam to display during the event. Any loaned items will be returned to their owners after the celebration.

Anyone with information or items they wish to include in the ceremony should contact Chief Park Ranger Zach Harkness toll-free at (888) 893-0678 ext. 310.

Other anniversary activities will be scheduled throughout the year and will be announced as details become available. News and updates will also be posted on a new 50th anniversary web page on the Corps’ Savannah District website at www.sas.usace.army.mil/50

Hartwell by the numbers:

- Construction of the Hartwell Project took place from 1955 – 1962.
- Construction of the dam began in 1955 and was completed in 1959.
- Impoundment of the reservoir began in February 1961. The lake reached its full pool elevation of 660 feet on March 12, 1962.
- The power plant was completed in 1961; the first generator went on-line at on April 27, 1962.
- Hartwell Lake contains 55,900 acres of water and has 962 miles of shoreline; 23,563 acres of public land surrounds the lake.
- The lake is located in two states (Georgia and South Carolina) and 6 counties (Georgia – Hart, Franklin, and Stephens counties; South Carolina – Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties).

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- Hartwell Dam was built with more than 880,000 cubic yards of concrete (enough to build a sidewalk from the dam to San Francisco) and more than 3 million pounds of reinforcing steel.
- The depth of the reservoir behind the dam is approximately 180 feet.
- The top of the dam is 204 feet above the Savannah River Bed.
- Hartwell Lake is one of the top five most-visited Corps lakes in the nation and attracts more than 10 million visitors annually.

Read more on Hartwell Lake's history at <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/lakes/hartwell/history.html>

Download historical photos of the Hartwell Project at <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/sample/histphotos.html>

- 30 -



Photo caption: Progress of the Hartwell Dam construction, view west from South Carolina embankment. USACE photo.

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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