



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Savannah District

News Release

Corps recycles Christmas trees at Hartwell Lake

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Savannah, Georgia – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Hartwell Lake will accept Christmas trees for recycling Dec. 26, 2008 through Feb. 15, 2009. Christmas trees can be dropped off at Big Oaks Recreation Area in Hart Co., Ga., Twin lakes boat ramp in Pickens Co., SC, Coneross Campground boat ramp in Oconee Co., SC and at Poplar Springs boat ramp in Franklin Co., Ga. All decorations – tinsel, lights, garland, bulbs, etc. – must be removed from the trees before dropping them off.

The recycled trees will be used as fish attractors in Hartwell Lake. The trees will be tied in bundles, weighted with concrete anchors, and submerged in various locations marked with fish attractor buoys.

Small trees and brush provide cover for fish, particularly as nursery areas for juvenile fish. In addition, they provide habitat for aquatic insects -- essential food during the early stages of most fish species.

The trees can be also be picked up by fishermen for personal use until Feb. 15, 2009. Trees should be anchored in eight-to-12 feet of water. Do not place Christmas trees in the main lake channel or around private docks.

For more information, contact the Hartwell Lake Operations Manager's Office at 888-893-0678, ext. 335. Visit the Hartwell Lake website for fish attractor locations and GPS coordinates at: <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/lakes/hartwell/fishing.htm>

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