



MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

For Immediate Release:
June 19, 2012
News Release No. 12-36

Contact:
Tracy Robillard, Public Affairs Specialist, 912.652.5450
Tracy.K.Robillard@usace.army.mil

Water safety media event planned at Hartwell Lake June 27

SAVANNAH, Ga. – The [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers \(USACE\) Hartwell Lake Office](#), [Georgia Department of Natural Resources](#), and the [South Carolina Department of Natural Resources](#) will host a boating and water safety media event **Wednesday, June 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** at the Big Oaks Recreation Area at Hartwell Lake.

This event is planned in advance of one of Hartwell's busiest times of the year, the Fourth of July holiday. Last year on July 4, there were two recreation-related fatalities at Hartwell Lake and one fatality at Richard B. Russell Lake. None of the victims were wearing a life jacket.

The Corps of Engineers and other agencies consider the media a vital part of communicating water and boating safety messages to the public. The media event will give reporters an opportunity to speak with boating safety officers and park rangers about the differences in state boating laws, the effects of boating under the influence of alcohol, boating equipment requirements, life jackets, and more.

Additionally, patrol boats will be available to take reporters out on the lake to capture video footage and photos.

Media are encouraged to RSVP in advance with Park Ranger Asher Alexander by calling 706-856-0336 or sending an e-mail to: Asher.L.Alexander@usace.army.mil

Directions: Big Oaks Recreation Area is located next to the Hartwell Lake Office and Visitor Center on U.S. Hwy 29 in Hart County, Ga.

From South Carolina, follow US Hwy. 29 into Georgia, Big Oaks is located approximately one mile past the Georgia/South Carolina state line on the right side of the road (there is a sign).

From Georgia, Big Oaks is located approximately six miles from the City of Hartwell, Ga. Following US Hwy 29 North out of Hartwell, Big Oaks will be on the left (there is a sign) just past the Hartwell Lake Operation Manager's Office and Visitor Center.

For more information, contact Asher Alexander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hartwell Lake Project Office, at 706-856-0336 or toll-free at 1-888-893-0678, ext. 336.

- 30 -

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.