GENERAL

The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) establishes policy and furnishes guidelines for the protection and conservation of the desirable characteristics of the lake while maintaining a balance between public and private uses. The SMP provides for the effective long-range management of the shoreline resources of Beaver Lake. The objective of the SMP is to manage and protect the shoreline; establish and maintain acceptable fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetic quality and natural environmental conditions; and promote the safe and healthful use of the lake and shoreline for recreational purposes by all Americans.

This guide has been compiled in an effort to provide a basic reference to general information concerning activities permitted on public land around Beaver Lake. In is not meant to be all-inclusive and does not represent all permitted activities. Complete rules and regulations governing public use of Corps of Engineers projects are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 327. Copies of these Rules and Regulations are available at the Beaver Project Office. Interested parties or individuals are encouraged to contact the office for information on specific activities.

PRIVATE EXCLUSIVE USE

Ownership of private land does not convey any exclusive rights to the use of the adjoining public lands. Management decisions are made to maximize benefits for the general public and adjoining private landowners. The public's right of access and use of the permit area must be maintained and preserved.

SHORELINE USE PERMITS

An application must be submitted for a permit prior to constructing boat mooring facilities, altering the terrain or modifying vegetation on public land. It is unlawful to mow grass, cut or trim trees or other vegetation, dispose of trash or sewage, build structures of any kind, remove rock, soil or vegetation, or drive on public property without a permit or written permission from authorized project personnel. Currently, permit applications will be considered for the following:

a. Floating Facility: $30 for five years
b. Vegetation Modification: $10 for five years

1. PRIVATE FLOATING FACILTIES are permitted only in areas designated as Limited Development Areas. The official wall map is on display at the Beaver Project Office in Rogers, Arkansas. Applicants for floating facilities must have ready access to the shoreline either by ownership of adjoining property or deeded perpetual access across another's property, or subdivision lake access. The facility must serve as the homeport for the boat(s) of the owners of the dock, and the owner of each boat moored in the dock must own interest in the dock. Renting slips in a floating facility is prohibited.

How to Apply for a Shoreline Use Permit:

a. Contact the Duty Ranger at the Beaver Lake Office Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at (501) 636-1210, extension 328. Appointments are recommended if visiting the office. A site inspection request form will be completed.

b. The boat dock or shoreline ranger will call to schedule an appointment at the property to discuss your request. Site requests for new boat docks can take several weeks to be scheduled. All required applications and required documents will be provided to you at the time of the site visit.

c. All completed forms and other necessary documents must be returned to the Beaver Lake Office within 60 days. Paperwork can be mailed or hand delivered to the office.

d. It will take approximately 2-4 weeks to evaluate and process your application. No facilities may be constructed or installed on public property until you receive a letter approving your request.

2. PEDESTRIAN ACCESS PATHS to the lake, six feet or less in width, may be permitted. The path must follow a meandering route to prevent erosion and avoid the need for removal of trees and vegetation. The permit does not convey the right to construct any structures (steps, bridges, etc.) in connection with the path. No landscape lighting is permitted.

3. VEGETATION MODIFICATION

a. FIRE PROTECTION Mowing or under brushing may be permitted for fire protection purposes only. The limits of mowing/under brushing will depend on the proximity of habitable structures to the government boundary and other private boundaries. The maximum allowed limits of mowing will be a radius of 100 feet from the foundation of a habitable structure to the public land.

b. PUBLIC ACCESS MOWING Where it is in the best interest of the general public, mowing of the shoreline in areas of heavy public use will be permitted adjacent to a platted subdivision or a community association with a dedicated, maintained public access to the shoreline that terminates in the lake. An area of 100 feet may be mowed. The area must be open to the public, and only one area per subdivision will be permitted.

c. USE OF HERBICIDES When vegetation modification of project lands is accomplished by chemical means, the application of herbicides will be in accordance with appropriate federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations and must be approved by the Operations Manager.

4. WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT Requests for this type of shoreline improvement must be accompanied by a detailed landscape plan. The plan will provide for better management of the area for the enhancement of wildlife propagation, conservation of the aesthetics and the prevention of erosion.

5. EROSION CONTROL All erosion control measures must be in compliance with Corps of Engineers policy.

6. CONDITIONS Construction of paths and other shoreline modifications will be subject to the following conditions:

a. Only hand-operated tools and noncommercial riding lawn mowers may be used. The use of heavy equipment such as tractors and bulldozers is not permitted.

b. Trees larger than 2-inches in diameter (measured 4-feet above the ground) may not be removed. No flowering trees or shrubs, including but not limited to dogwood, redbud, serviceberry, deciduous holly, hawthorn species and buckberry bush may not be cut regardless of their size.

c. Trimming , limbing or topping of trees is prohibited for any reason.

PROJECT BOUNDARY LINE

The real property fee acquisition line for Beaver Lake, as a general rule, was blocked out along regular land subdivision or property ownership lines to include all lands below elevation 1,128 feet above m.s.l. or to include the lands required for public access areas. In addition, flowage easements were acquired above the blocked out fee acquisition line up to, as a general rule, elevation 1,135 or 1,148 feet above m.s.l. A flowage easement gives the Government the perpetual right to flood privately owned land, if necessary, for the operation of the project and to prohibit any structures for human habitation. Other types of structures on flowage easement must be approved prior to construction. In those areas where acquisition of easements on extremely small areas was not practical, the blocked out line for fee acquisition was extended to include the easement contour. As a result of this blocking out process, the Government boundary is a very uneven line rather than a simple contour line around the lake. The entire boundary line on Beaver Lake has been surveyed and monumented and is defined by survey monuments placed at ground level. The survey markers are 3 ½ -inch diameter round brass caps stamped to show the monument number, the year surveyed, and the agency, Little Rock Corps of Engineers, U. S, Army. A five-foot white steel fence post is set approximately one-foot from the survey marker or monument as an aid to location. Normally the project boundary is a straight line between survey markers. Some trees along the boundary line are marked with a white blaze or band as an additional aid to location of the line. These trees, however are usually off-line and only indicate that the boundary line is nearby.

ENCROACHMENTS

Adjoining property owners are encouraged to build permanent structures a sufficient distance back from the project boundary line to allow for maintenance of the structure and reduce the possibility of an encroachment by the subsequent addition of decks, porches, steps, patios, extension of landscaping or backyard appearance, etc. Other than pedestrian access, or general public recreation activities, any activity on public land not authorized by a permit/outgrant may be considered an encroachment, trespass, or degradation of public property and is a violation of the Rules and Regulations contained in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations 327.

REAL ESTATE INSTRUMENTS

Requests involving commercial development, rights-of-way, changes in the landform (steps, stairs, waterlines, power lines, grading, cutting or fills) launching ramps, roads or establishment of land-based support facilities for private floating facilities will be evaluated by the Little Rock District Real Estate Division. Approval will be granted by lease, license or other legal instrument issued by the Chief, Real Estate Division. Contact the Real Estate Specialist at the Beaver Lake Office for assistance in preparing your applications. Written requests will be accepted by the Beaver Lake Office and forwarded to the Little Rock District Office for final review and processing.

WATER QUALITY

One of the authorized purposes of Beaver Lake is water supply. The lake provides safe and dependable public drinking and industrial water supply as well as aquatic habitat and recreational opportunities. The broad goal is to promote water quality adequate for safe and healthy use as well as conservation of wildlife, fish and other beneficial aquatic life.

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Your interest and assistance in preserving the natural beauty of the lake shoreline will be appreciated now and in the future. For more information, contact the Operations Manager, Beaver Project Office, 2260 N. 2nd Street, Rogers, AR, 72756 or call (501) 636-1210. Fax number is (501) 324-5472. Business Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except legal holidays. Duty Rangers are available for assistance Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m.-Noon and 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Appointments are recommended. Visit our website at:

http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/parks/beaver/index.html

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The information presented in this brochure was accurate at the time it was printed,
December, 2004, however regulation or policy changes may result in revisions of this guide.

Guide to Shoreline Use at

Beaver Lake

U. S. Army Corps
Of Engineers
Little Rock District