

# Shoreline News

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**Natural Resource  
Mission Statement**

*To manage and conserve those natural resources, consistent with ecosystem management principles, while providing quality public outdoor recreation experiences to serve the needs of present and future generations.*



Aux-Arc Park Located by the Ozark Lock and Dam

## Prescribed Burns - A Management Tool

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) perform environmental stewardship activities throughout the Russellville Project. Some examples of the land management activities include forest restoration and prescribed burning. Each year in late winter and early spring, the USACE Environmental Stewardship Team work collectively using prescribed fire to manage hundreds of acres annually of forested and grassland type ecosystems. Not only will this management practice increase wildlife habitat and assist in forest management, prescribed burning will also



decrease the potential of hazardous wildfires. Despite the source of fire, many forest and grass ecosystems depend on fire for regeneration and existence.

Prescribed burning is one of the best natural resource management tools used by USACE in accomplishing many desirable goals for wildlife and forest management. In many cases it is the most economical way to impact the highest amount of acres while transforming forest landscapes in the shortest amount of time. The controlled surface backfires, slowing but intensely burn while removing unwanted organic fuels that litter the forest floor. In return this removal is beneficial for wildlife and

the forest by increasing organic nutrients, site preparation for seed bed regeneration, wildlife habitat, and in controlling/reducing undesirable species of plants. Examples of wildlife that benefit from this type of management include white-tail deer, wild turkey, and the decreasing population of the northern bobwhite quail.

The use of fire to benefit man and its environment is not a new concept. Historically prescribed fire was used by Native Americans and early European settlers for clearing land for agricultural practices, grazing improvement, increase wildlife habitat by maintaining open stands of oak and pine forest, and clearing brush for settlement.

*A Little Tidbit - If you would like to plant a native species on public property, let us know before you grow!!*



## Recreation Season

Looking for somewhere to go on vacation, why not enjoy the wonders of the Arkansas River and surrounding bays. Several parks are located up and down the Arkansas River and connecting bays offering, camping, picnicing, mountain biking, and much more. Most parks are open year round.

If you have any suggestions for improvements to our parks, we would appreciate an e-mail. Our e-mail address has been included on the last page of the newsletter. Please help us keep the

parks clean, by picking up campsites, boat ramps, fishing areas, and swim beaches. The river holds many recreation opportunities but please respect its power and keep all swimming and wading in designated swimming areas.

Toad Suck Field Office		
Park	Open	Comments
Cherokee Park	01 Mar - 31 Oct	
Maunelle Park	All Year	C Section Closed 01 Dec - 28 Feb
Sequoyia Park	All Year	
Sweedens Island Park	01 Mar - 31 Oct	
Toad Suck Park	All Year	A & D Section Closed 01 Nov - 28 Feb
Lake Dardanelle Field Office		
Park	Open	Comments
Old Post Road Park	All Year	
Piney Bay	All Year	G, E, & F Section Closed 01 Nov - 28 Feb
Shoal Bay Park	All Year	G & H Section Closed 01 Nov - 28 Feb
Spadra Park	All Year	
Ozark Field Office		
Park	Open	Comments
Aux-Arc Park	All Year	C Section Closed 01 Nov - 28 Feb
Citadel Bluff Park	01 Mar - 31 Oct	
River Ridge Park	01 Mar - 31 Oct	
Springhill Park	All Year	B Section Closed 01 Nov - 28 Feb
Vine Prairie Park	01 Mar - 31 Oct	
NRRS Reservation Number - 1-877-444-6777		
Reservation Website - www.recreation.gov		
Lake Dardanelle Website - http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/parks/dardanelle/index.htm		
Ozark Lake Website - http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/parks/ozark/index.htm		
Toad Suck Website - http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/parks/toadsuck/index.htm		

Park Open/Closed Dates

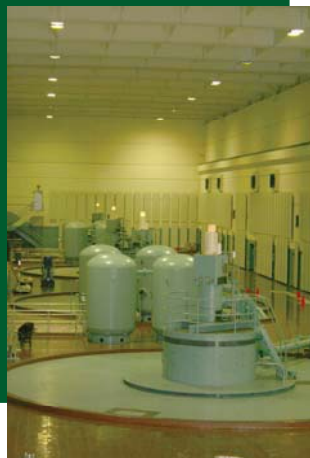


"I think the environment should be put in the category of our national security. Defense of our resources is just as important as defense abroad. Otherwise what is there to defend?"

- Robert Redford



"Above all, **always wear your life jacket.** It will keep you floating and ready for rescue!"



# Spring Cleaning



The Army Corps of Engineers reminds all persons residing adjacent to the Lake Dardanelle shoreline to know where the government property line is and avoid "spring cleaning" on public property.

*A Little Tidbit -*

*Remember let the trees*



*prune themselves, do not limb or trim!!*

Trimming a few limbs may seem harmless even healthy for the tree, but ignore

the urge and let Mother Nature, prune as she sees fit.

Avoid burning on public property, it can sterilize the ground with its intense centrally-located heat. Prescribed burning is done by Russellville Project Office ranger staff during certain times of the year.

Remove all personal property from adjacent public areas. Public property is not an extension of private property.

Save your back, leave the leaves for the bugs to snack on. Leaves break down and build soil.

Want permission to remove a dead snag, think about it for a second, leave the snag, it offers protection, food, and shelter to a variety of wildlife species.



*A Little Tidbit - Every user of Lake Dardanelle, is a steward, place your trash in receptacles.*



# Hypothermia

As Spring approaches, Lake Dardanelle enthusiasts will be heading for the water. Warm, clear days begin to occur and entice many to enjoy an afternoon of fishing and fresh air.

When heading for the water, please remember a few safety tips that will keep you returning to your favorite fishing hole for years:

\*The average water temperature of Lake Dardanelle from October to April is a chilly 58 degrees!

\*Cold water releases heat out of the body 25 times faster than air.

\*If you fall overboard, focus on getting as much of yourself out of the water as possible.

\*If you can't get out of the water, don't panic; draw your knees to your chest, protecting the major areas of heat loss. If others are present, huddle together to decrease body heat loss.

\*Above all, **always wear your life jacket.** It will keep you floating and ready for rescue!



# Get Involved - Hydropower/Navigation Tours

Have you ever wondered what travels down the Arkansas River, or how electricity is harnessed through the power of the river? If you have, the Corps would love to demonstrate why Hydropower and Navigation Missions are vital to the Arkansas River Valley and the Nation.

Lock, Dam and Hydropower Tours are being scheduled

throughout the year. Anyone interested in taking a tour should contact the Project Office at 479-968-5008 for more information.

The Corps is also actively seeking opportunities to speak to local civic groups and organizations concerning Corps missions and current happenings. Anyone interested, please contact the Project Office.



# Just So You Know - Cottonmouth

The Cottonmouth is a heavy bodied, dark colored snake varying from dark olive-brown to nearly black. Dark crossbands are usually indistinct, black stripe from snout through the eye and onto neck, and the upper lip is grayishblack or brown, bordered by white. Adults average from 24-36 inches in total length. Cottonmouths will eat almost anything they can overpower and swallow, fish, frogs, baby turtles, snakes, rodents, and birds. When surprised or threatened the Cottonmouth will open the mouth and hold it open, thus exposing the white lining of the mouth, hence the name.



## The Do's and Don'ts of a Snakebite!

**Do not** attempt to kill or capture the snake. (You could be bitten again in the process.)  
**Do not** use a tourniquet. (If tied to tight it could cause the loss of an appendage due to lack of blood flow.)  
**Do not** make cuts or incisions on or near the bite. (You could cut nerves, tendons, or blood vessels.)  
**Do not** try to suck the venom from the bite with your mouth. (You might have a tooth cavity or other

sore that would allow venom to enter the body.)

**Do** remain calm. (Statistically speaking, you are more likely to die from a lightning strike than from a venomous snakebite.)

**Do** remove shoes, jewelry, or tight clothing from the bitten appendage.

**Do** drive the victim to the nearest medical facility. (Remember the best first aid in the case of snakebite is a set of car keys!)

**Do** ask for a skin sensitivity test to antivenin (sometimes called antivenom) before it is administered.

- Information obtained from Arkansas Game and Fish Publication "Life in the Rocks," by Kelly Irwin

### A Little Tidbit -

*Native wildflowers offer aesthetic value, a source of food, habitat, and cover for wildlife. Simply spread the seeds out and watch them grow year after year.*

*Please avoid the appearance of a garden, sporadically throw out the seeds for a more natural look.*

*A good resource is Wildflowers of Arkansas by Carl G. Hunter*



## Featured Ranger - Jeff McCarty

Jeff McCarty is a senior ranger here at Russellville Project Office. He started his career in 1979 as a summer ranger at the Ozark Field Office. He graduated from Arkansas Tech University in 1981. Jeff has spent time at Beaver Lake, two years at our District Office in Little Rock, and two years at Keystone Lake before coming to Russellville Project Office in 1987. Jeff is a resource all his own, he has deployed several times, Hurricane Ike, Katrina, Rita, and Ice Storms in

Northern Arkansas. If there are questions in this office, Jeff is one of the first we ask, he has vast knowledge and holds the value of the Arkansas River close to his heart. He is a conservationist and an important part of the Environmental Stewardship team. Jeff is the main contact for any regulatory



action, such as bank stabilization requests, and real estate requests on Lake Dardanelle and Ozark Lake. He also works all major encroachments (violations of Title 36 and/or the Shoreline Management Plan). Jeff has three children, with his wife Shiela, Jena, Jancy, and JayMac.

## Historic Highlight - Dardanelle Rock

Dardanelle Rock is a prominent landmark on the Arkansas River. It guided early explorers and frontiersmen; served as a vantage point for Native Americans and Civil War Soldiers and continues to attract those who love the beauty of the outdoors today.



Dardanelle Rock is unique and enduring. It has witnessed historic events such as the treaty signed under the Council Oaks, the first steam boats coming up the Arkansas, its held steadfast vigilance over sojourners on the Trail of Tears; witnessed man's struggle to

tame the Arkansas, turning it into a viable economic asset and recreation paradise, and has seen science fiction become a reality in the construction and operation of Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO).





**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
Little Rock District

**Russellville Project Office**  
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**We would love to hear your ideas to  
improve Lake Dardanelle!**

**E-mail: [CESWL-RV@usace.army.mil](mailto:CESWL-RV@usace.army.mil)**

**Phone: 479-968-5008**

**Fax: 479-858-7129**

*Your Resources for Today and Tomorrow!!*



## Our Nation's Symbol



Soaring Bald Eagle

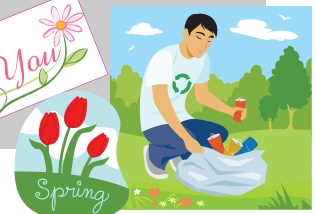


The Bald Eagle is now off the endangered species list due to diligent efforts nationwide to protect the bird. Every year, the Russellville Project Office along with other agencies nationwide complete a Bald Eagle Survey, where we count Mature, Immature, and Golden Eagle species. This year's survey conducted by the Russellville Project Office was completed January 12, 2010. We covered the Arkansas River and its tributaries, from Fort Smith area above Lock 13 to Little Rock, Lock 7. Overall 69 Adult Bald Eagles were counted along with 36 immature eagles for a grand total of 108 Eagles (3 Eagles were undetermined if Mature or Immature). No Golden Eagles were observed this year. This number is substantially for this area. We have not counted over 100 eagles since the late 90's at this project office. The Bald Eagle was near extinction in the United States, but now has a stable population and has been officially removed from the list of endangered species. The Bald Eagle was

officially reclassified from "Endangered" to "Threatened" on July 12, 1995. "Threatened" is the less protected of the two protected categories. However, the bald eagle is still well protected under this classification. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the authority to determine which protections should apply to each threatened species. As the national bird of the United States, the Bald Eagle appears on several official seals, including the Presidential Seal of the United States.

### A Little Tidbit -

*The Corps of Engineers would like to extend our thanks for the many hours of trash clean-up performed every year along the shoreline by our neighbors!! The clean-up truly makes a huge difference in the quality of Lake Dardanelle!*



### A Little Tidbit -

*We are putting together an e-mail list for distributing information about Lake Dardanelle, and changes that may apply to your Shoreline Use Permit...if you would like to be apart of this list, please send your e-mail address to [jennifer.r.hoban@usace.army.mil](mailto:jennifer.r.hoban@usace.army.mil)*