

Lake Hartwell Dam Spillway Gates Tested

On March 13, 2024, the Corps of Engineers tested the spillway gates at the Lake Hartwell dam, which is one of the hydro power dams on the Savannah River. Dam safety teams tested the dam for approximately one hour, and the public was able to attend. According to the structural engineer, the safety tests ensure the gates function properly should a high-water event require an emergency release.

The release provided a spectacular view of the dam, and as reported, the release on the reservoir levels was minimal.

Dock Boat Floats Adrift

Lake Hartwell is still experiencing dock floats drifting on the lake. Many of you have assisted with this issue by towing them to the nearest ramp area. Thank you so much to those of you who have done this task. It is greatly appreciated by all!

For those of you who wish to help with this problem, Here are some instructions for your convenience:

1. Gather some supplies including line, screw eye or rod, hammer, and drill to penetrate the hard plastic shell of the float.
2. Drill a hole in the plastic shell, drive in a rod, and attach a line.
3. Run about 20 feet of line behind your boat to the float and cruise to the nearest Corps ramp.
4. At the ramp, pull the float(s) into shore and secure float(s) to a tree or stump. You DO NOT need to call the Corps as personnel regularly collect floats from the ramp areas,

Thank you for your continued support in cleaning up Lake Hartwell!
You make a difference!!!



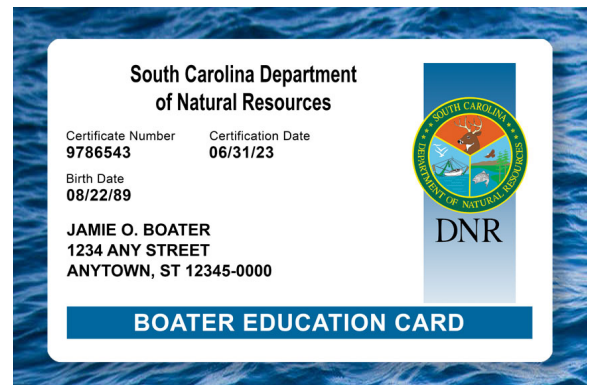
Meeting with Hartwell POA

Attendance turnout was high as the Hart County Property Owners Association (HCPOA) hosted the Lake Hartwell Association (LHA) on the evening of January 15, 2024. HCPOA members, LHA members, lakefront property owners, and other community members gathered to hear LHA Vice President Terry Jackson's presentation on LHA and its work. HCPOA president Bill Fogerty introduced Jackson as the LHA's "main liaison to the Corps." Jackson mentioned the increase in dock permits over the past few years, reflecting the growing amount of people living on the lake. He encouraged the audience to know the shoreline management plan and talked about lake cleanup efforts, which are typically held twice per year by the LHA.

Volunteers are needed for these activities, but LHA membership is not required for cleanup efforts. Lake cleanup volunteers are needed not only for beautification purposes, but also for general cleanliness and safety. Jackson touched on the importance of managing adrift dock floats. Jackson also addressed lake levels and drought levels affecting many lakefront property owners. The Corps publishes a weekly chart about lake levels in the Savannah River Basin, including Lake Hartwell, and Jackson explained how to interpret the data as well as its uses.

The LHA seeks general membership as well as people to fill specific board positions, such as communications, lake level planning, sponsorship, and recruitment. Jackson, an Anderson County resident, encouraged the audience to get involved with the LHA and sign up to join, stating that the South Carolina side of the LHA is more well-staffed and that they need more help and insight from Georgians.

South Carolina Boater Education Underway



The Boating Education Bill, recently made into law, was championed by two families that lost children due to boating accidents. Now both Georgia and South Carolina require boaters born on or after July 1, 2007, to complete boater safety education before operating a boat, personal watercraft (jet ski), or a specialty prop craft powered by a 10-horsepower or greater motor.

You can obtain your boater education through the South-Carolina-approved online boating course boat-ed.com or by participating in a Boating Safety Course taught by certified instructors, which may be requested through the Department of Natural Resources. There is no minimum age requirement to take either course.

According to the annual Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics, operator inexperience was the second leading cause of recreational boating accidents, and 74 percent of boating deaths reported in 2022 were in vessels driven by inexperienced operators. By having a basic understanding of the rules and regulations as well as how to safely operate a powerboat or jet ski makes the lake safer for everyone.



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Have Questions?

Send your lake related questions to:

LHAnews@lakehartwellassociation.org, and we'll publish your question as well as our answer in our next newsletter.

FOR EXAMPLE: At our annual meeting in 2023, a frequently asked question was "What is the distance that a boater may come by my dock, especially when they are fishing?"

ANSWER: There is no designated amount of distance for boaters to be from docks. Boaters' only rule is that they do not go on your property.

Save the Dates!!!

Fall Clean Up — Saturday, September 14

Lake Hartwell Association Annual Meeting
—Thursday, September 26

"Catch" Someone...

Doing Something Good for Our Lake

Take a photo & send it to

LHAnews@lakehartwellassociation.org with your name, the name of the person(s) in the photo, the date, & what "good" thing you saw.

This is a great way to share best practices and provide recognition.



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS - SPRING 2024

LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION, INC
for the sake of the lake

