

# B. Everett Jordan Dam and Lake

Summer 2008

## Issue 2 Lake Life

The US Army Corps of Engineers staff are excited about starting a webpage newsletter to keep you up to date on our happenings and events. This and upcoming issues will provide information on such topics as current lake events, water safety, local flora and fauna, fun stuff for kids, and much more... Please enjoy and let us know of topics of interest for future newsletters or any questions and suggestions.

## Remembering Last Summers Drought

The B. Everett Jordan Project is authorized for flood control, water supply, water quality, recreation, and fish and wildlife conservation. Normally, the lake level is maintained at about 216 feet mean sea level, however last summers drought conditions dropped the lake to a dangerously low level of about 212 feet. With the lake low on some 16.6 billion gallons of water, conservation methods were set into place.

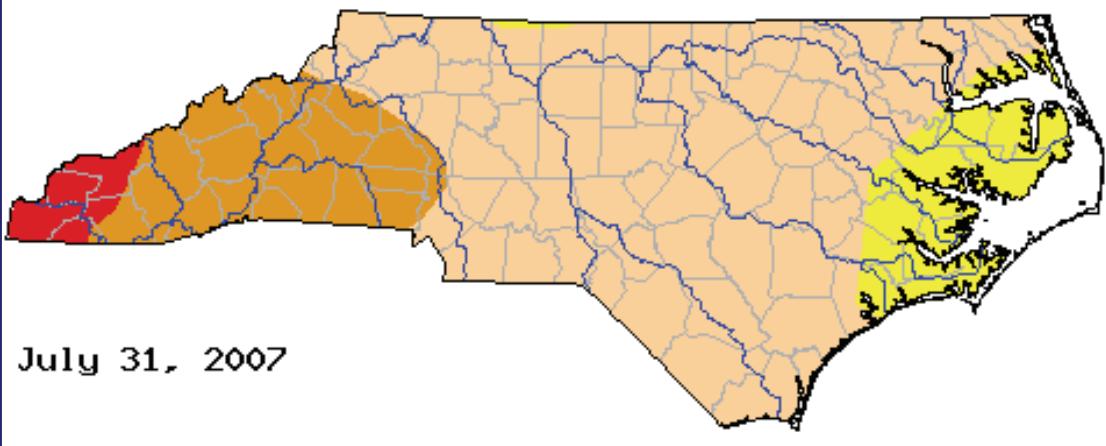
Luckily this summer, plenty of thunderstorms have rolled through the area and lake levels are as they should be— but the drought is not over. Let us not forget those lessons learned of the past and incorporate water conservation into our everyday lives. Water conservation is the most cost-effective and environmentally sound way to reduce our demand for water.

### Water Conservation-

- \* Water your lawn only when it needs it
- \* Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints
- \* Don't let the hose run while washing your car
- \* Install water saving shower heads
- \* Run only full loads in the washing machine and dish washer
- \* Shorten your showers
- \* Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks
- \* Capture tap water— while waiting for hot water, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on house plants or gardens



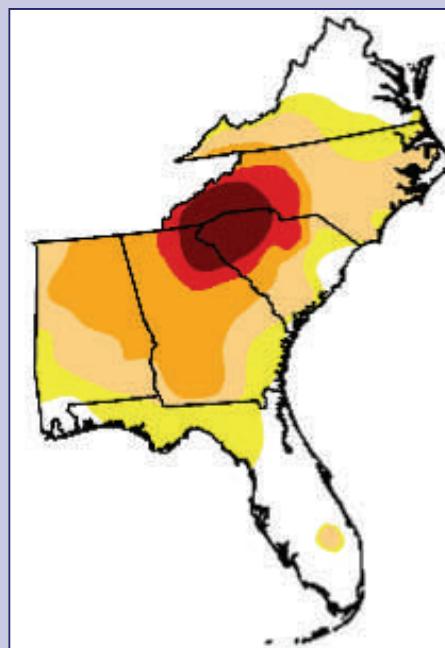
# Drought Conditions Persist- July 2007 Compared to July 2008



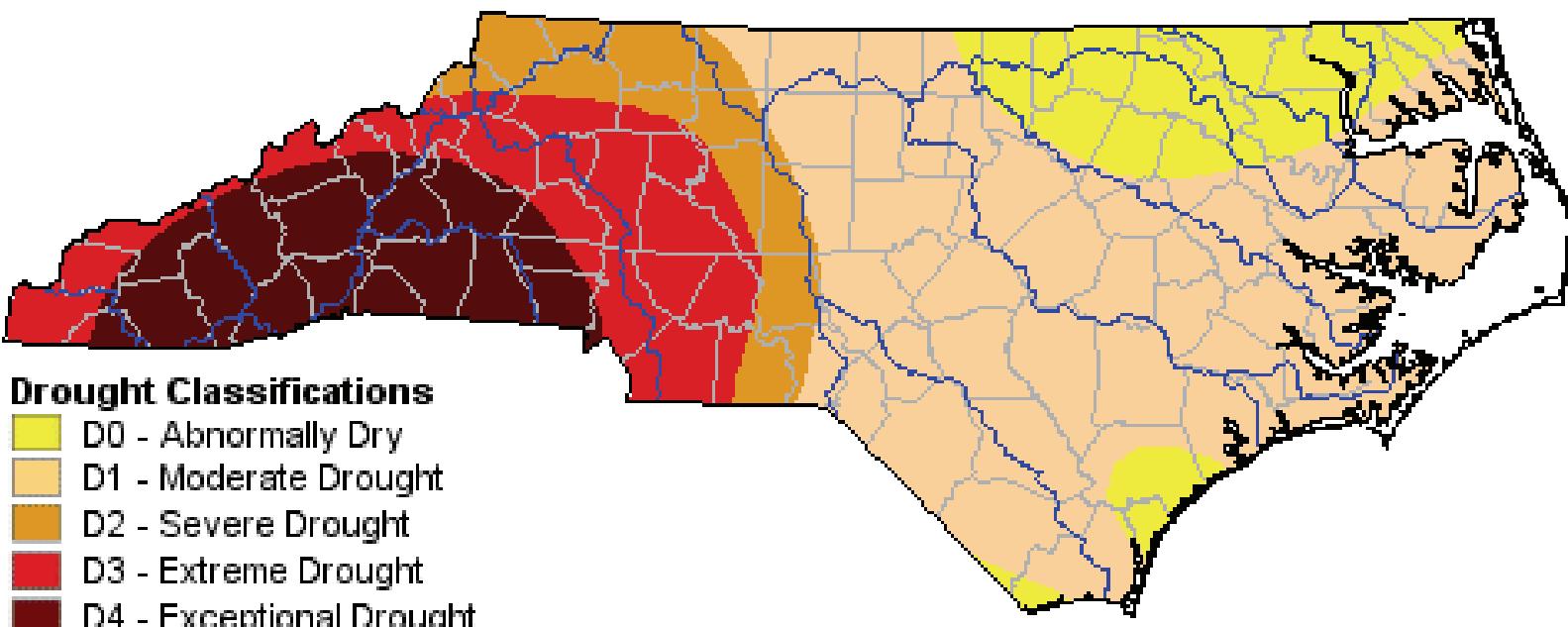
The NCDMAC advises all water users in the counties that are indicated on the US Drought Monitor Map as suffering from Moderate Drought (D1) conditions to enact the following precautions in addition to previous advisories until further notice:

- Adhere to local water use restrictions.
- Participate, as appropriate, in regional and local coordination for the management of water resources.
- Stay informed on drought conditions and advisories ([www.ncdrought.org](http://www.ncdrought.org)).
- Project water needs and available water supply for a ninety day period from the issuance of this advisory.
- Assess your vulnerability to the drought conditions and adjust water usage to prolong available supply.
- Inspect water delivery system components (e.g. irrigation lines, fixtures, processing equipment, water system lines, etc.), repair leaks and ensure that existing equipment is operating as efficiently as possible.
- Minimize nonessential uses of water.

## D1 - Moderate Drought



## U.S. Drought Monitor of North Carolina– July 29, 2008



# GPS your way to the Lake

<u>Point of Interest</u>	<u>Longitude</u>	<u>Latitude</u>
USACE Visitor Assistance Center	-79.07062	35.65475
NC State Parks Visitor Information Center	-79.01697	35.73266
NC Educational State Forest	-79.04454	35.77710
Poes Ridge Boat Ramp (open 24 hours)	-79.08496	35.64267
Robeson Creek Boat Ramp (open 24 hours)	-79.10012	35.70324
Farrington Point Boat Ramp (open 24 hours)	-79.01795	35.79927
New Hope Overlook Boat Ramp	-79.04606	35.68422
Ebenezer Church Boat Ramp	-79.02020	35.70060
Seaforth Boat Ramp	-79.03456	35.73625
White Oak Boat Ramp	-79.01470	35.74113
Poplar Point Boat Ramp (campers only)	-79.01685	35.72648
Parkers Creek Boat Ramp (campers only)	-79.04239	35.76373
Crosswinds Boat Ramp (campers only)	-79.00169	35.74672
Robeson Creek Canoe Launch	-79.09652	35.71638
Crosswinds Marina	-79.00805	35.74377
White Oak Beach	-79.01320	35.74153
Seaforth Beach	-79.03353	35.72603
Ebenezer Church Beach	-79.02577	35.70694
Parkers Creek Beach	-79.04336	35.74319
Poplar Point Beach (campers only)	-79.02031	35.72268
Crosswinds Beach (campers only)	-78.99540	35.74426
Vista Point Beach (campers only)	-79.05102	35.70245
Tailrace Fishing Pier and Picnic Area	-79.06745	35.65228
Fishing Pier	-79.00745	35.75191
Bank Fishing	-79.02472	35.79909
Bank Fishing	-79.01645	35.69378
Parker Creek Recreation Area (day use)	-79.04092	35.73866
Seaforth Recreation Area (day use)	-79.04100	35.73766
White Oak Recreation Area (day use)	-79.01242	35.73793
Ebenezer Church Recreation Area (day use)	-79.01612	35.70847
Vista Point Recreation Area (day use)	-79.05910	35.70947
American Tobacco Trail Head– New Hill	-78.94658	35.71446
American Tobacco Trail Head– Wimberly Road	-78.92098	35.76113
New Hope Overlook Campground	-79.04722	35.67865
Poplar Point Campground	-79.00651	35.72939
Crosswinds Campground	-79.00018	35.74069
Parkers Creek Campground	-79.04091	35.73901
Vista Point Campground	-79.05928	35.70960

# Visitor Assistance Center Bird Checklist

The following is a list of birds that have been spotted in the local area around the dam, the grassy spillway, and the surrounding woodlands including the thinned forest stands along Jordan Dam Road. See if you can find them all, and please let us know if you see or hear something that is not on the list.

- Mallard (a domestic pair, not wild)
- Turkey Vulture (common, using dam tower as roost, perch area)
- Black Vulture (common)
- Double-crested Cormorant (common on open waters near buoy line in front of dam)
- Mourning Dove (common, especially at VAC feeders)
- Rock Pigeon (nesting on tower)
- Chimney Swift (overhead, neotropical migrant)
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird (neotropical migrant)
- Red-bellied Woodpecker (woodlands near Poe's Ridge Boat ramp)
- Eastern Wood-Pewee (burned, thinned stands, neotropical migrant)
- Great Crested Flycatcher (cavity nesting neotropical flycatcher)
- Red-eyed Vireo (abundant in woodlands with deciduous trees, neotropical migrant)
- Blue Jay (year-round in woodlands)
- American Crow (year-round)
- Fish Crow (abundant around the lake most of the year, much less common in winter)
- Purple Martin (martin houses, neotropical migrant)
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow (flying over the lake and spillway foraging, neotropical migrant)
- Tree Swallow (flying over the lake and spillway foraging, most are neotropical migrants)
- Cliff Swallow (a large colony nesting on the dam tower, neotropical migrant)
- Barn Swallow (foraging over the spillway area, neotropical migrant)
- Tufted Titmouse (resident cavity nester, will use boxes)
- Carolina Chickadee (resident cavity nesters, will use boxes)
- Carolina Wren (several singing, resident)
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (woodlands, neotropical migrant)
- Eastern Bluebird (common year-round, nesting in boxes)
- Brown Thrasher (year-round, edges and shrubby areas)
- European Starling (sitting on one of the martin houses)
- Cedar waxwing (uncommon nester in piedmont, likely these still wandering)
- Pine Warbler (common, year-round, nests in pines)
- Common Yellowthroat (common in shrubby areas, especially in summer)
- Hooded Warbler (woodlands with thick understory/shrub layer, neotropical migrant)
- Yellow-breasted Chat (in shrubby areas and edges, neotropical migrant)
- Summer Tanager (especially common in thinned, open stands, neotropical migrant)
- Northern Cardinal (common resident)
- Blue Grosbeak (shrubby areas and edges, neotropical migrant)
- Rose Breasted Grosbeak (seen on feeders, common in woodlands, neotropical migrant)
- Indigo Bunting (abundant in shrubby areas and edges, neotropical migrant)
- Easter Towhee (resident in shrubby areas and edges)
- Chipping Sparrow (common in open woodlands and along edges of lake in shrubby areas)
- Red-winged Blackbird (year round, summer along edges of lake in shrubby areas)
- Common Grackle ( year-round, in large flocks in winter)
- House Finch (at feeder, year-round)
- American Goldfinch (abundant year-round, at feeders and woodland edges, nests later in summer)
- Osprey (fishing downstream of dam)
- Bald-eagle (nest upstream on lake seen occasionally near the dam)
- Red-tailed Hawk (perched near grassy fields and in flight)
- Great Blue Heron (downstream of dam along rip-rap)
- Wild Turkey (open woodlands)



# Boating Safety Courses

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary-**

[http://coastguardaux.com/f9\\_11/](http://coastguardaux.com/f9_11/)

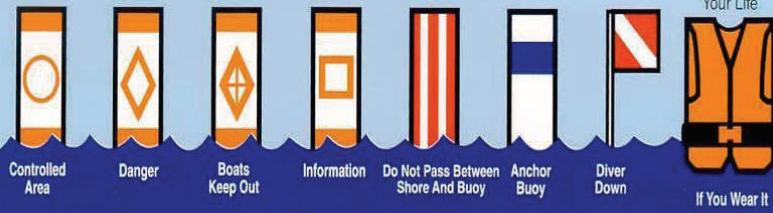
**U.S. Power Squadron-**

<http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/cfind.cgi>

**N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission-**

[http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs\\_index\\_05\\_boating.htm](http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_05_boating.htm)

**Know and Obey All Buoys and Markers**



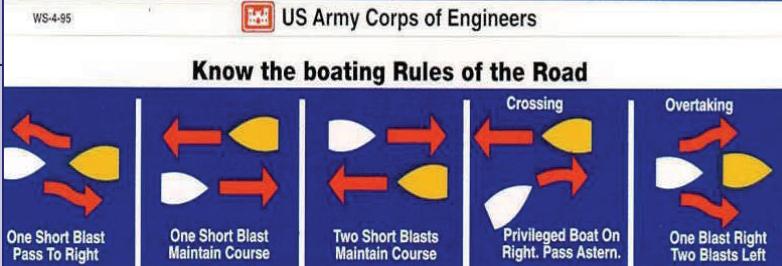
This Can Save Your Life

## Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats

### Vessel Length in Feet      Equipment

<16    16<26    26<40    40<65

### Requirement



X	X	X	X	Certificate of Number (state registration)	All documented vessels equipped with propulsion machinery must be state registered. Certification of Number must be on board when vessel is in use. (some states require all vessels to be registered)
X	X	X	X	State Numbering	Plain black letter/numbers not less than 3 inches in height must be affixed on each side of the forward half of vessel. State validation sticker must be within 6 inches of registration number.
	X	X	X	Certificate of Documentation	Original and current certificate must be on board. Vessel name/hailing port marked on exterior part of hull (not less than 4 inches tall). Official number permanently affixed on interior structure (not less than 3 inches tall)
X	X	X	X	Life Jackets (PFDs)	-One type I,II,III, or IV wearable PFD for each person on board. -In addition to above, must carry One Type IV (throw able) PFD.
X	X	X	X	Visual Distress Signal (VDS)	-One electric distress light or three combination red flares. -1 orange distress flag and 1 electric distress light or 3 hand-held or floating orange smoke signals and 1 electric distress light or 3 combination flares
X	X	X	X	Fire Extinguisher	- one B-I - one B-II or two B-I - one B-II and one B-I or three B-I
X	X	X	X	Ventilation	All vessels must have natural ventilation (at least two ducts fitted with cowls). All vessels built after 1980 must have rated power exhaust blower.
X	X	X	X	Sound Producing Devices	- a vessel less than 39.4 ft. must have some means of making a sound signal - a vessel 39.4 ft or greater must have a sound signaling appliance capable of producing sound audible for 1/2 mile for 4-6 seconds and must have a bell.
X	X	X	X	Backfire flame arrestor	Required on gasoline engines installed at 1940, except outboard motors.
X	X	X	X	Navigational lights	Required to be displayed from sunset to sunrise and in areas of reduced visibility
	X	X		Oil pollution placard	Must be at least 5x8 inches, made of durable material and posted in the machinery space or at the bilge station.
	X	X		Garbage placard	Must be at least 9x4 inches, made of durable material and displayed in a conspicuous place notifying all on board the discharge restrictions.
X	X	X	X	Marine sanitation device	If installed toilet, vessel must have an operable MSD type I, II or III.
X	X			Inland Navigation Rules	The operator of a vessel 39.4 ft or greater must have on board a copy of these rules.

# Water Safety

## Need one? Then Borrow One!

In the summer of 2002, the Corps of Engineers at Falls and Jordan Lake began a successful partnership effort with the State of North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation to provide Life Jacket Loaner Stations at all Swim Beaches around the two lakes.

Children and adults alike use the three available sizes and return them when they are done. Rangers check the jackets once a week to replace ones that are lost or damaged.



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

### Wear It, Wear It Right Life Jackets Save Lives!

#### 1 CHECK THE LABEL

The label will tell you:

- Whether the life jacket is Coast Guard approved
- The size of the jacket
- How the jacket can be used

Sizes run from infant to extra extra large. Adult life jackets will not work for children until they weigh about 90 pounds. Children's life jackets should have a loop on the collar and a strap between the legs.



#### 2 CHECK FOR DAMAGE

Check that there are no broken parts and no mold or rips in the fabric.



#### 3 FASTEN UP

Fasten up all buckles, zippers and straps. Adjust straps so that the jacket fits snugly.



#### 4 CHECK FOR PROPER FIT

- Lift the shoulders of the life jacket
- Make sure it does not slip above the chin or ears
- It should feel snug, yet comfortable. A properly fitted life jacket keeps your head and shoulders above water.

You will be able to swim with it, too.



#### 5 WEAR IT!

A life jacket only works if it's worn. Take the time to be prepared. Make sure you have and wear the right life jacket before you go out in the water.



Congrats Becky!

Becky Frazier is an Ameri-Corps VISTA Volunteer with the Chatham Citizen Corps Council working with Safe Communities and an active member of the Chatham County Jordan Lake Water Safety Committee. Recently, Becky won a Letter of Commendation from Region 3 of the National Water Safety Congress for her efforts to teach people to swim and keep them safe while recreating at Jordan Lake.

## Do you have a water safety idea?

Please consider joining the Chatham County Jordan Lake Water Safety Committee.

The Chatham County/ Jordan Lake Water Safety Committee is dedicated to:

Creating a safe environment for water related activities countywide, continuously educating the public in areas of water and boating safety, providing swimming lessons and water safety instructions, and placing water safety equipment at all Jordan Lake swimming areas. The mission will be realized via collaboration with individuals, agencies, and organizations community-wide, while maximizing volunteer efforts with minimal operating expense.

If interested please contact, Becky Frazier at 919-663-5867 or

Carmen Boyette at 919-542-4501x27 or Carmen.b.boyette@usace.army.mil

The next meeting will be on August 28th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the State Parks Management Center.

Tragically, people drown each year in open waters. Sadly, since 1983, 44 people including children, young adults, middle-aged adults, and senior citizens have lost their lives at Jordan Lake. Water Safety is a huge part of the US Army Corps of Engineers' outreach program and the managing partners here at Jordan Lake. Together we work with local community groups, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, and others to help educate people about the hazards of recreating in open waters.

# Save Trees by making your own Recycled Paper

**DID YOU KNOW... It takes about 20,000 trees to make the Saturday edition of a big city newspaper? That's more than a million trees a year!**

## Ingredients-

used paper, screen on a frame, tub or bucket, blender or hand mixer, water, old newspapers

## How To-

\*Tear paper into 1-inch squares. Soak in water several hours or overnight.

\*Scoop out 1/2-cup of paper and put into blender, add about two cups water from the soaking container. Blend about 30 seconds.

\*Over a sink, pour the pulp onto the screen and let the water drain out. Place a layer of newspaper over the pulp and gently press out the excess water.

\*Turn the screen and newspaper over (so the newspaper is at the bottom) and set it on a table (cover the table first!).

\*Carefully lift the screen off the paper.

\*Place another layer of newspaper onto the wet paper and gently press out more water. Turn it over and remove the layer of newspaper. Repeat this step a few times.

\*Gently peel off the damp, recycled paper. Place it on a newspaper or table to dry overnight. You can also use a rolling pin to help flatten or press the paper. If you want, put the paper between two cloths (two kitchen tea towels work well) and gently iron on your iron's lowest setting until dry.

## Other things to try-

\*Try using different types and colors of paper.

\*Vary the amount of water you use. Less water makes thicker paper.

\*Try de-inking the paper by adding a teaspoon of bleach (be careful not to get any bleach on your clothes!) after blending.

\*Add a teaspoon of liquid starch after blending to create a finish on the paper surface.

\*Put decorations, such as dried flowers or leaves, on your paper after you pour it onto the screen.



## **SnapShots of Jordan Lake**

**If you have any great pictures of Jordan Lake and the surrounding recreational areas that you would like to share in our next newsletter, please e-mail them to:  
[tara.n.arnette@usace.army.mil](mailto:tara.n.arnette@usace.army.mil)**



**Picture by Kevin Sheehan- Jolly Jordan Optimist Regatta**



**Picture by Brad Carey- Whirlpool at Dam Tower**