



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

News Release

Public Affairs Office
1000 Liberty Avenue
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No. 04-155

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2004 RECREATION FEE SCHEDULE

PITTSBURGH – This news release summarizes rates and dates of availability for family and group camping areas and facilities at day use areas at lakes managed by the Pittsburgh District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the 2004 recreation season.

Reservations for campsites at four Pittsburgh District lakes – Youghiogheny River, Berlin, Tionesta and Shenango River – can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS), an interagency one-stop service center for recreation reservations, toll-free at 1-877-444-6777. The NRRS is currently operated by ReserveAmerica (www.reserveusa.com). A certain percentage of campsites at NRRS campgrounds and campsites at the Pittsburgh District projects not in the NRRS program are still available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

All user fees are based on the facilities provided, the extent of regular maintenance required and the direct or indirect amount of federal expenditures. Fees charged by other public agencies for the use of similar facilities and fees charged at comparable private campgrounds are factors in determining the fees to be charged.

Those who would like to experience camping, but are reluctant to make a significant investment in equipment beforehand, may want to spend one or several days/nights at a Rent-A-Tent campsite. Rent-A-Tent sites are available at Shenango and Loyalhanna Lakes. The Rent-A-Tent campsite includes use of a 9-foot by 12-foot cabin tent (sleeps 5-6), a 10-foot by 12-foot dining fly, a 36-quart cooler, sleeping pads, electric camp stove, camp light, picnic table, fire ring and fire extinguisher. While reservations are accepted at these sites, some restrictions apply. Rates are \$20 per night at Loyalhanna and \$29 per night at Shenango.

Golden Age and Golden Access Passports, which allow holders to receive a 50 percent reduction on camping fees at Corps-operated campgrounds, are available at the Corps' lakes where fees are charged. Golden Age Passports are available for a one-time fee of \$10 to individuals 62 years or older. The passports must be applied for in person and proof of age must be presented. The Corps issues Golden Access Passports for blind and disabled individuals who meet the established qualifications. To qualify for a Golden Access Passport, the individual must show proof of medically determined blindness or permanent disability and their eligibility for receiving benefits under federal law. Golden Access Passports are issued free of charge.

The fee for reserving a picnic shelter at a Corps-managed recreation area varies between \$35 and \$60 per day, depending on the location, day of the week, and availability of electricity. Crooked Creek Lake also offers \$30 to \$35 half-day reservations on weekends and holidays due to the popularity of the shelters at that lake. Shelter reservations are generally available by contacting the park office, but Berlin Lake is phasing in a system where reservations for the Mill Creek Day Use Area Pavilion will be made exclusively through the NRRS. Picnic shelters at Pittsburgh District projects are open to the public at no charge other than when they are reserved.

The following is a list of campground opening and closing dates and fees for the 2004 camping season:

Project	Campground	Date Opening	Date Closing	Class	Without Electric	With Electric	Rent-A-Tent
Berlin Lake	Mill Creek Campground ¹ (in Mill Creek Recreation Area)	May 19	Sept 8	A	\$13-\$17	\$18-\$22	
Crooked Creek Lake	Crooked Creek Campground	May 21	Sept 12	B	\$10		
	Crooked Creek Primitive Area	May	Sept	C	\$45/weekend	Group Area	
East Branch Lake	East Branch Campground ²	May 7	Oct 17	B	\$12 Off-season: No charge	\$15	
Loyalhanna Lake	Bush Area	May 14	Oct 18	B	\$12	\$18	\$20
	Bush Primitive Area	Jan 1	Oct 31	B	\$16	Group Area	
Shenango Lake	Shenango Recreation Area ¹	May 7	Sept 26	A	\$15-\$17	\$19	\$29
Tionesta Lake	Outflow Campground ²	April 16	Sept 25	B	\$10 Off-season: No charge		
	Tionesta Recreation Area ¹	May 24	Sept 26	A	\$16	\$18-\$25	
	Kellettville Campground ²	April 16	Sept 25	C	\$10 Off-season: No charge		
Youghiogheny Lake	Outflow Area ²	Apr 9	May 20	A	Spring/Fall Self Registration: \$12 Bike/Hike site: \$3 per person Off-season: No charge	Spring/Fall Self Registration: \$14 Full Hookup: \$20 Group sites: 1A: \$35 2A: \$15-\$35 Off-season: No charge	
		Sept 13	Oct 11				
	Outflow Area ^{1,2}	May 21	Sept 12	A	\$16 Bike/Hike site: \$6 per person	\$20 Full Hookup: \$35 Group sites: 1A: \$35-\$110 2A: \$30-\$70	
	Tub Run ¹	May 21	Sept 6	A	\$16-\$17	\$20	
	Mill Run Campground ²	May 1	Sept 12	C	Self Registration: \$12 Off-season: No charge		

¹ NRRS

² Open all year with reduced facilities during the off-season. Dates shown are fee collection periods.

An additional fee will be charged to visitors of campers at the Mill Creek Recreation Area campground, Berlin Lake, Oh. and Shenango Recreation Area campground, Shenango Lake, Pa. Section 16 U.S.C. 4601, *Outdoor Recreation Programs*, authorizes the charging of a user fee to visitors who are using the specialized facilities within the camping area. The fee charged will be \$3 per person, but will not exceed 50 percent of the single user unit campsite fee for individuals visiting in a group. Fees for extra vehicles are charged at some campgrounds and fees may also be charged for the use of the dump stations where applicable.

In addition to the above campground openings, the Corps will be collecting Recreation Day User Fees at the following recreation areas:

Project	Area	Facilities	Dates
Berlin Lake	Mill Creek Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 19 – Sept 7
Crooked Creek	Beach	Swim Beach	June 1 – Sept 30
East Branch Lake	East Branch Launch	Boat Launch	May 7 – Oct 17
Loyalhanna Lake	Bush Recreation Area	Boat Launch	April 23 – Oct 30
Shenango Lake	Mahaney Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 7 – Sept 26
	Shenango Recreation Area		
	Clark Area Recreation Area		
Tionesta Lake	Tionesta Launch Area	Boat Launch	April 17 – Sept 26
Youghiogheny Lake	Somerfield North	Boat Launch	April 9 – Sept 30
	Mill Run Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 1 – Sept 30
		Swim Beach	May 3 – Sept 30
	Spillway Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 13 – Sept 30
		Swim Beach	May 3 – Sept 30

Deficit reduction legislation, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-66), gives the Corps authorization to collect day use fees. The funds will be used to help pay operations and maintenance costs in the Corps' recreation program.

A fee of \$1 per person, up to \$4 per vehicle, will be charged at developed Corps-operated swimming beaches. A fee of \$3 will be charged at boat launch ramps having one or more of the following: restrooms, security lighting, picnicking facilities or other developed recreation facilities. Fees will be collected by using a combination of honor boxes and gate collectors. There will be no fee for children under 12 years of age. Campground users will not pay day use fees in addition to camping fees. The dates listed above summarize when fees will be collected but individual recreation areas may be available for use before and after those dates at no charge to the public.

An annual pass may be purchased for \$30. This annual pass permits the holder and accompanying passengers to use all boat launching ramps and swimming beaches at Corps-operated areas without further charges. For each original \$30 annual pass purchased, one duplicate annual pass for a second family vehicle may be purchased for \$15. Passes will be displayed on the back of the vehicle's rear view mirror.

Golden Age and Golden Access Passports will also be honored. Holders will be eligible to purchase the annual pass for half price or use the day use facilities, together with guests, for half the fee. Both the Golden Age and Golden Access Passport discounts will apply to both the original pass and the duplicate pass purchase.

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