



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps of Engineers Announces 2012 Recreation Season Fees, Availability

PITTSBURGH – The US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, is releasing its fees and dates of availability for camping and facilities at day use areas for the 2012 recreation season. Pittsburgh District lakes can be found in Western Pennsylvania, Northeastern West Virginia, Eastern Ohio, Northw estern Maryland and Western New York.

Golden Age and Access Passports and *America the Beautiful Senior and Access Passes* will be honored. Pass holders and their companions will receive a 50 percent discount on day use and camping fees. (For additional information regarding changes in discount passes for recreation fees see <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/passes.cfm>.)

Reservations for campsites at four Pittsburgh District lakes – [Berlin Lake](#), [Shenango River Lake](#), [Tionesta Lake](#) and [Youghiogheny River Lake](#) – can be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS), an interagency one-stop service center for recreation reservations. Reservations can be made by calling the NRRS, operated by ReserveAmerica, at 1-877-444-6777 (toll-free) or on its web site [www .recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). Campsites at Pittsburgh District lakes not in the NRRS program, and a certain percentage of campsites at NRRS campgrounds, are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Those w ho w ould like to experience camping, but are reluctant to make a significant investment in equipment beforehand, may w ant to spend one or several days/nights at a Rent-A-Tent campsite. Rent-A-Tent sites are available at Shenango River Lake at a rate of \$35 per night. 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. Interested campers can contact Shenango Lake at 724-962-7746 for details.

User fees are based on the available facility, 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 appropriate fees to be charged. The follow ing is a list of campground opening and closing dates (first and last nights w hen camping is available) and fees for the 2012 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 23	Sept 8	A	\$14-\$18	\$20-\$24	N/A
Crooked Creek Lake	Crooked Creek Campground	May 18	Sept 4	B	\$10	N/A	N/A
	Crooked Creek Group Area	April 1	Sept 30	D	\$45	N/A	N/A
East Branch Lake	East Branch Campground	April 13	Oct 8	A	\$15	\$20	N/A
Loyalhanna Lake	Bush Area	May 18	Sept 16	B	\$16	\$20 - electric only \$22 - elec & water	N/A
	Bush Primitive Group Area	April 1	Sept 30	C	\$30	N/A	N/A
Shenango Lake	Shenango Recreation Area ¹	May 18	Sept 3	A	\$17 - \$19 Multi-unit site: \$32	\$22	\$35 Includes electric
Tionesta Lake	Outflow Campground ²	April 13	Oct 31	B	\$12 Off-season: No charge	N/A	N/A
	Tionesta Recreation Area ¹	May 21	Sept 16	A	N/A	Full Hookup: \$28 Group site: \$25 (electric only)	N/A
	Kellettville Campground ²	April 13	Oct 31	C	\$10 Off-season: No charge	N/A	N/A
Youghiogheny Lake	Outflow Area ²	April 13 Sept 10	May 17 Oct 7	A	Spring/Fall Self Registration: \$13 - \$14 Bike/Hike site: \$5 per person Off-season: No charge	Spring/Fall Self Registration: \$16 - \$18 Full Hookup: \$26 - \$29 Group sites: 1A: \$35 2A: \$15-\$35 Off-season: No charge	N/A
	Outflow Area ^{1, 2}	May 18	Sept 9	A	\$18 Bike/Hike site: \$8 per person	\$22 Full Hookup: \$38 Group sites: 1A: \$35-\$110 2A: \$30-\$70	N/A
	Tub Run ¹	May 18	Sept 2	A	\$18-\$19	\$22	N/A
	Mill Run Campground ²	May 1	Sept 3	B	Self Registration: \$13	N/A	N/A

					Off-season: No charge		
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¹ NRRS

² Dates shown are fee collection periods. Open beyond fee season with reduced or no facilities during the off-season. The Tionesta Outflow and the Outflow and Mill Run campgrounds at Youghiogheny are open all year. The off-season at Tionesta's Kellettsville Campground is November 1 to mid-December.

An additional fee will be charged to visitors of campers at the Mill Creek Campground at Berlin Lake, the Shenango Recreation Area Campground at Shenango Lake, the Tionesta Recreation Area Campground at Tionesta Lake and the Tub Run Campground at Youghiogheny Lake. The fee charged at Berlin Lake is \$1 per person or \$3 per vehicle. At Shenango Lake, at Tionesta Lake's Tionesta Recreation Area Campground and at Youghiogheny Lake's Tub Run Campground, \$3 per vehicle will be charged. 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 in 2012:

Project	Area	Facilities	Dates
Berlin Lake	Mill Creek Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 23 - Sept 8
Crooked Creek Lake	Beach	Swim Beach	May 18 - Sept 3
Loyalhanna Lake	Bush Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 15 - Sept 30
Shenango River Lake	Mahaney Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 18 - Sept 3
	Shenango Recreation Area		
	Clark Area Recreation Area		
Tionesta Lake	Tionesta Launch Area	Boat Launch	April 13 - Oct 31
Youghiogheny River Lake	Somerfield North	Boat Launch	May 25 - Sept 3
	Mill Run Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 25 - Sept 3
		Swim Beach	May 25 - Sept 3
	Spillway Recreation Area	Boat Launch	May 25 - Sept 3
		Swim Beach	May 25 - Sept 3

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 12 years of age and under. 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.

A Corps of Engineers Day Use Pass may be purchased for \$30 at the projects where day use fees are charged. This annual pass permits the holder and accompanying passengers to use all boat launch ramps and swimming beaches at Corps-operated areas without further charges. The pass is a plastic tag which hangs from the rear view mirror; attached to the tag are stickers representing the month and year in which the pass was purchased. Passes are good for 12 months from the date of purchase. New stickers may be attached to the same tag in subsequent years. The month and year stickers are to be directly affixed to the vehicle for open vehicles and those lacking a rear view mirror. *Golden Age and Access Passports* and *America the Beautiful Senior and Access Passes* will be honored at day use areas, allowing the pass holder to purchase one annual pass for half price or use the day use facilities, together with guests, for half the fee. Although the Corps will not be charging for use of the boat launch at East Branch Lake again in 2012, annual passes may still be purchased there in addition to the projects listed above. Passes may be purchased at the park office or through the mail.

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 \$35 half-day reservations on weekends and holidays due to the popularity of the shelters at that lake. In addition to the lakes listed in the tables above, picnic shelters can be reserved at Conemaugh River Lake and Tygart Lake. Shelter reservations are generally available by contacting the Park Office, but at Berlin Lake reservations for the Mill Creek Day Use Area Pavilion are made exclusively through the NRRS. Picnic shelters at Pittsburgh District lakes are open to the public at no charge other than when they are reserved. The Golden Age/Access and America the Beautiful Senior/Access discount passports do not apply to picnic shelter reservation fees.

Recent changes in fee collection policy nationwide have severely restricted the ability to make change at recreation areas staffed by Corps personnel. "Change funds", which had provided set-up funds to stock the cash registers, are no longer allowed. Personal checks and money orders are acceptable forms of payment, as is the use of a credit card or debit card at fee collection booths at the NRRS campgrounds. Visitors preferring to use cash should be prepared to pay the exact amount since we cannot guarantee the ability to make correct change.

Flood damage reduction is one of the primary purposes of Pittsburgh District's reservoir projects. Many are also operated to meet downstream water quality and water supply goals. Recreation, while an important consideration, is not the only factor that comes into play when regulating water levels in our lakes. Operation of the dams in accordance with their approved guidelines may result in temporary or seasonal closure of launching ramps and beaches within the fee collection period due to either high or low water conditions in the lake. Campgrounds may also be affected by high water events related to storms. Therefore, it is always a good idea to contact the lake before visiting to make sure that the recreational facilities of interest are available for use.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is the leading provider of outdoor recreation on all Federally-managed public lands in the United States. With a recreation base that is built around water, the Corps has a dedicated focus on water safety. Please make your visit to any of our recreation areas a safe and enjoyable one. Taking water safety precautions saves lives.

VISIT OUR LAKES!

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