



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-06-032 Contact: Clay Church

For Release: Immediate 1 June 2006 Phone: (817) 886-1310

The North Texas Water Safety Coalition and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announce Free Water Safety Fair

FORT WORTH, Texas – The month of May emphasized the need for water safety education in North Texas after six people died in water related accidents while visiting Corps of Engineers lakes. The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers often reaches out to the public to teach water safety. One way is by partnering with the North Texas Water Safety Coalition who is sponsoring a free Water Safety Fair this Saturday, June 3, 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lynn Creek Marina on Joe Pool Lake, 5700 Lake Ridge Pkwy. Grand Prairie, Texas, 75052.

The fair is designed to educate people about common causes of drowning or injuries which include lapses in adult supervision of children, swimming beyond marked boundaries and undesignated areas, alcohol and drug abuse, reckless operation of watercraft, diving from banks into unknown depths, skiing in congested areas, overexertion and overcrowding of boats.

The coalition is made up of 13 different groups that will be supporting the event. The fair will feature ten booths with activities that will teach water and boating safety to participants. Some activities include lifejacket fitting, boat entry procedures, sinking boat scenarios, and boat rides.

Other websites of interest:

www.boat-ed.com/tx - Texas Boating Regulations and Boat Safety Course Online

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/laws - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Boating Laws

For more tips on how to be water safe, visit the Corps' water safety web site at <http://watersafety.usace.army.mil/> For a fun cartoon on life jacket safety, visit Bobber the Water Safety Dog at <http://bobber.info/>