

Recreation Mission



- The St. Paul District provided very limited formal recreational facilities up through the 1960s. Most of the dam sites accommodated tent campers on an informal basis until the completion of master plans for recreational site development were completed between 1964 and 1977.
- Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 authorized the Corps to construct, maintain and operate park and recreational facilities in reservoir areas. The act also authorized the issuance of leases to other governmental agencies to provide the same type of services.
- The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 authorized the collection of special recreation use fees for camping and other purposes and established the requirement to provide at least one free primitive campground at any lake or reservoir operated by the Corps of Engineers.
- Formal recreation facilities were constructed and placed in operation throughout the 1970s and 1980s. Facilities provided included roads, parking lots, campgrounds, security lights, electric hook-ups, garbage receptacles, fish cleaning facilities, vault and pit toilets, comfort stations, boat ramps, docks, fishing platforms, overlooks, picnic shelters, wastewater treatment plants, collection systems, dump stations, holding tanks, drain fields, picnic sites, beaches, playground equipment, game areas and potable water supplies.

