



Orange Water and Sewer Authority

A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.

NEWS RELEASE March 23, 2010

University Lake and the Cane Creek Reservoir will reopen for recreation on Saturday; basic fees will be waived in honor of Lightning Brown Day

At 7 AM on Saturday, March 27th, University Lake and the Cane Creek Reservoir will reopen for boating, fishing, picnicking, sunbathing and other recreation.

OWASA has designated March 27th as Lightning Brown Day in honor of the late Mr. Brown, a community activist and member of the OWASA Board of Directors in the mid-1990s. All boat rental, boat launching and lake use fees except those for electric trolling motor rentals will be waived on Lightning Brown Day.

Due to the earlier transition to daylight savings time this year, there is not enough light to safely open the lakes for recreation in the early spring before about 7 AM (EDT).

However, during most of OWASA's lake season, the recreation hours at University Lake will be 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM on Fridays through Sundays. The normal hours at the Cane Creek Reservoir will be from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturdays.

Location of OWASA's lakes

University Lake is on the west side of Carrboro near Jones Ferry Road. The recreation area is at the end of University Lake Road, which can be reached via Old Fayetteville Road south of Jones Ferry Road.

The Cane Creek Reservoir is about 8 miles west of Carrboro on the north side of NC 54, just west of Stanford Road.

Safety

Lake patrons are encouraged to put safety first.

OWASA's lakes are alcohol-free, and life jackets are generally available for adults and children. OWASA does not charge for use of its lifejackets. Some people may need to use their own life jackets due to unusual size or other special conditions. Lake users are required to use life jackets under safety rules.

Fishing

University Lake and the Cane Creek Reservoir are stocked with bass, crappie, catfish, bluegills and other fish. A State fishing license is necessary except on July 4th.

OWASA offers canoes and flat-bottomed boats for rent. Citizens may use small private boats if they are brought on a car or in a truck. (Trailers are not allowed.)

The limits on private boats are intended to help prevent aquatic weeds, which cause problems for fish and in water treatment, from being introduced into the reservoirs. For this reason, boats must be cleaned of mud and vegetation.

To help protect water quality, OWASA allows only electric motors, which are also inspected.

Citizens with disabilities will receive assistance from OWASA staff as needed in order to enjoy boating and using the recreation area at the lake. University Lake has a fishing pier for use by people with disabilities.

Fees

For OWASA customers and Orange County residents	
Boat rental	\$4/half day plus lake use fee
Lake use fee, ages 12-64	\$4/half day
Lake use fee--children under 12, seniors 65 and over	\$2/half day
Private boat launching	\$3 plus lake use fee
Electric trolling motor rental	\$14/half day
Non-Orange County residents	
Boat rental	\$7/half day plus lake use fee
Lake use fee, ages 12-64	\$5/half day
Lake use fee--children under 12, seniors 65 and over	\$2/half day
Private boat launching	\$6 plus lake use fee
Electric trolling motor rental	\$20/half day

The 2010 lake recreation season will end on Sunday, November 14th.

For more information

Ken Loflin, Water Supply and Treatment Manager, 537-4232 or kloflin@owasa.org

Eric Barnhardt, Lakes Warden, 942-5790 or ccreek@owasa.org

Bob Glosson, Senior Assistant Lake Warden, 942-8007 or ulake@owasa.org

400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro, NC 27510
 phone: (919) 968-4421; fax: (919) 968-4464
 e-mail: webmaster@owasa.org; web site: www.owasa.org