



Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

2020 Lake Recreation Season Guidelines: Updated May 29, 2020

Orange Water and Sewer Authority opened Cane Creek Reservoir and University Lake for recreation on a limited basis on Friday, May 29, 2020.

Both reservoirs will be open to a reduced number of visitors via a reservation system, among other restrictions. In order to visit either reservoir, you will have to register ahead of time. Any visitors who arrive at the reservoir without a reservation will not be admitted.

All lake-use fees will be waived for the initial opening of the reservoirs. Payment information will be updated on the OWASA website as adjustments are made.

To apply for a reservation, fill out the form on the Recreation page of the OWASA website during the designated time each week. If more applications are submitted than slots are available, a random drawing will take place. You may enter the drawing once each week.

Boating permits are for a single boat with a maximum of two occupants (i.e. the boater with the reservation and one additional passenger). Bank and pier fishing slots will not be allowed a visitor.

The gates to each reservoir will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 9 a.m. for entry to those with reservations. Once the gates are locked at 9 a.m., no other entries will be permitted – even if you were granted a reservation.

OWASA will not be renting equipment (i.e. boats, motors, PFDs, etc.) to visitors at this time. Boaters must supply all of their own equipment, and OWASA staff will continue to inspect equipment before allowing it to be used on the lakes.

In addition to our existing rules and regulations concerning use of our facilities, all visitors will be required to follow COVID-19-specific guidance posted at each reservoir and the directions of OWASA staff. The recreational offices will remain closed to the public. Restroom facilities will be open to the public. Hand sanitizer stations will be set up at various locations at each reservoir.

Social distancing guidelines will be enforced in locations as needed throughout each site, including but not limited to boat launch locations and fishing from either piers or banks. Visitors are encouraged to wear face coverings in instances when social distancing cannot be maintained.

OWASA reserves the right to alter these policies as new information is available regarding the spread of COVID-19.

