

Life ON THE Lakes

INFORMATION ABOUT LAKES
HAMILTON AND CATHERINE



Protecting Arkansas Lakes

Entergy Arkansas' Rempel and Carpenter dams, and their adjacent lakes on the Ouachita River, were built to generate electricity. For nearly a century, these structures have provided clean, renewable energy that helps Entergy to be one of the cleanest power generators in the country.

As the owner, Entergy Arkansas plays a major role in protecting the state's lakes for the enjoyment of all. The company owns the dams and the lakes' shorelines and lakebeds, managing about 9,000 acres of property around both lakes.

Safety is an Entergy core value. We extend our focus on safety to our management of the lakes. For example:

- We preserve the navigability of the lake by producing and communicating requirements that restrict the impact from the construction of piers, docks, seawalls, boat ramps, etc.
- We educate residents on electrical safety requirements related to their property that is built on the lakes.
- We work to ensure compliance with 911 addresses to meet the requirements of emergency responders.
- We manage disposal of lake debris, including large logs, derelict docks, etc.
- We manage recreational development on the lakes to disperse development and inhibit watercraft congestion.
- We evaluate commercial construction development requests with an eye to preserving the area's natural beauty.

Entergy Arkansas also preserves the aesthetic, scenic and recreational value of lakes. As good stewards of the land, we have made significant land donations.

Our first donation occurred in 1931 when company founder Harvey Couch leased 37 acres to form Arkansas FFA's Camp Couchwood. In 1939 we donated 135 acres to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to create Andrew Hulsey Fish Hatchery.

More recently, in 1981 we donated the 118-acre Electric Island to the Nature Conservancy to preserve the undisturbed nature of the island. Our most recent donation was 30 acres in 2001, valued at \$1.75 million, to the City of Hot Springs to create Entergy Park. Additionally, we lease at a nominal price 140 acres for use by Lake Catherine State Park.

Recreationally, our management of the lakes provides water releases to provide tubing and kayaking from Rempel Dam to Malvern.

Environmentally, we fund shoreline and fisheries improvement and bald eagle habitat restoration. We also protect Fish Spawning & Nursery Areas and wetlands along the shores to protect sensitive areas for fish spawning and natural habitat areas from development and other disturbances.

In addition to being the electric service provider for Arkansas residents, we take pride in our stewardship of some of the state's natural wonders.



Entergy Corporation Renews its Commitment to a Lower Carbon Energy Future

Entergy announced in April new steps it is taking to bring value to its customers while supporting a lower carbon future and communities that are more sustainable and resilient. The steps are outlined in the company's new Climate Report.

The climate report builds on Entergy's longtime history of leadership in addressing climate change risks and details the company's ambitious new strategy and ongoing efforts to manage those risks, further reduce emissions, navigate climate policy uncertainty and plan for future investments that deliver value for the company's customers, employees, communities and owners.

"In 2001, Entergy led the industry by becoming the first U.S. utility to voluntarily limit carbon dioxide emissions," said Leo Denault, Entergy's chairman of the board and CEO. "Today, we have the opportunity to do more. We're pleased to announce a new climate objective. By 2030, Entergy will emit 50 percent less carbon dioxide for every unit of electricity than we did in 2000."

Entergy and its subsidiaries already operate one of the cleanest large-scale generation fleets in the United States, as noted in the Benchmarking Air Emissions report by M.J. Bradley & Associates. The company is on target to meet its current environment goals, which lasts through 2020. To read Entergy's Climate Report and Scenario Analysis, visit entergy.com/ClimateReport.

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2019

Rommel Tailrace Closes at 10pm Nightly

Out of concern for security and safety, Entergy Arkansas began closing the gate on the road to the tailrace area at the base of Rommel Dam at 10pm nightly. The gate is re-opened around 5am.

“Safety is always our top priority,” said Michael Fallon, production superintendent for Entergy. “We have had an issue with unauthorized camping down there, and that’s very dangerous because the water level can come up rapidly in a storm.”

The company added signage at and near the gate and enhanced gate visibility to ensure visitors take notice of the change.

The tailrace area is a popular launch spot for float trips down the Ouachita River, usually ending at the Malvern Whitewater Park at Rockport.



Four teams braved the cold on Feb. 16 to remove almost 10,000 lbs. of trash from coves and the shorelines of Lakes Hamilton and Catherine.

Entergy partners with the Trash Bash Council, comprised of members from Garland and Hot Spring County, to coordinate two area clean-up events each year. Cleaning up the trash benefits both residents and visitors.

The next Trash Bash is set for Sept. 14. For information on participating, visit www.arkansastrashbash.org

Recreational Water Releases on Arkansas Lakes

While Entergy Arkansas’ Rommel and Carpenter dams were built to generate electricity, an added benefit is the recreational opportunities they provide.



Every weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and on the associated holidays, the company releases water from Rommel Dam. Releases provide visitors with opportunities to tube and kayak on the Ouachita River in the cool flowing water. Releases generally occur between noon and 5 p.m.

In addition to the weekend releases, we usually provide four or five special releases. These may occur on weekdays or weekends and are of longer duration. Half of these releases are geared toward supporting swift-water rescue training for first responders. The others are approved for community events like the Arkansas Canoe Club Fall Rendezvous.



Jeremy Harper, Fire Chief of the Malvern Fire Department, reports their goal is to have 80% of their personnel trained for swift water rescues because they often have to respond to both storm and non-storm related events. He stated that these scheduled releases provide first responders the

opportunity to travel from neighboring states for both classroom and in-the-water training. Captain Larry Vincent of the Hot Springs Fire Department, where more than a dozen of their personnel is trained in swift water rescues, appreciates access to training close to home that minimizes travel costs, allowing more individuals the opportunity to attend. “Swimming from shore to shore in the current is much harder than you would think and the opportunity to practice this in training helps reinforce the need to maintain physical fitness for the first responders.” reported Captain Vincent.

Fish Structures

When going fishing, we all want to know where the fish are. Habitat, cover and structure are places commonly looked for in deciding where to cast that bait. Many freshwater bodies of water have been cleared of their natural cover and don't have enough structure where fish can hang around. Cover is important in providing security and surface that organisms fish feed on can attach to.

Adding artificial fish habitat, or cover, can attract many game fish for the angler. Some common types of artificial covers are PVC structures, wooden stake beds, wood pallets, bamboo clusters, etc. Most any tree or shrub will serve as fish cover. Hickory, cedar, and elm are common in this area of the state. Most fishermen will debate which trees work the best. Pines or mimosa trees will work but tend to decay more quickly as the wood is softer.

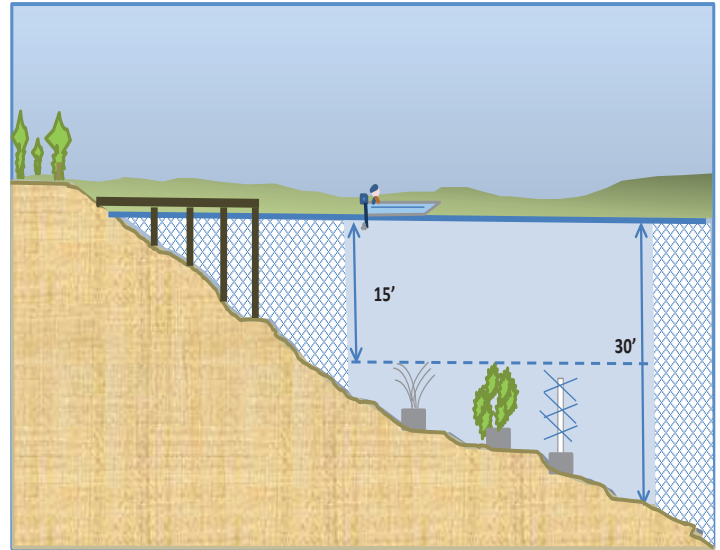
It is common each winter during the drawdowns of lakes Hamilton and Catherine for many to install artificial cover in the lakes. This can be good but it should not be done indiscriminately. There are many things to consider so they are not only successful but safe to the general recreational users of our lakes.

WHEN PLACING FISH STRUCTURES...

As the property owner/manager of the shoreline and lakebeds of both lakes Hamilton and Catherine, Entergy allows and encourages fish structure to be placed to improve fish habitat. **But, this structure is required to be adequately weighted down and placed at a depth that will not create a problem for navigation and recreational use of the lakes (see graphic).** If the fish structure is not adequately weighted down and or is determined to create a navigational hazard, you may be charged with illegal dumping of material into the lakes.

The shoreline of lakes Hamilton and Catherine are extremely developed and are drawn down each winter. Artificial cover should not be placed around areas used for swimming. It should be firmly anchored to the lake bed in water where there will be at least 15 feet of water over the cover so not to pose a boating hazard. Fish cover placed in this depth will typically provide the best results in winter and summer when thermal stratification of the lake pushes the fish deeper.

Once placed within public waters there is no ownership of fish habitat. All can access and use it.



Let the Good Times Reel – 2019 Fishing Tournaments

Forest Wood Cup

The Forrest Wood Cup returns to Lake Hamilton Aug. 9-11, the first time since 2005.

Fishing League Worldwide manages the tournament. Two factors contributed to the tournament's return: expected improved fishing conditions and superior cellular coverage.

The top 40 pros from the 2019 FLW Tour qualify for the 2019 Forrest Wood Cup, which will consist of 52 professional anglers. In addition to the top 40 pros from the Tour, qualifiers will also include the highest-finishing pro from each of five U.S. divisions and the International division at the 2018 Costa FLW Series Championship, the 2019 BFL All-American boater champion, the 2019 TBF boater champion, the 2019 FLW College Fishing champions, the 2018 Forrest Wood Cup champion and the 2018 FLW Tour Angler of the Year.

Pro anglers compete for up to \$125,000 in each tournament, including Ranger Cup contingency bonuses. Paybacks include \$10,000 through 50th place and \$5,500 through 60th place. Entry fees will increase to \$35,000 total, and pros must commit to fish all seven regular-season events.

Mr. Crappie Invitational Crappie Tournament

Top American crappie-fishing teams will compete in the Mr. Crappie Invitational Crappie Tournament on Lake Hamilton this October.

Crappie-fishing teams from all over the United States will be coming, including teams from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Texas and other states.

At 7 a.m. Oct. 4, 100 teams will take off from the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission's ramp at the Hulsey Fish Hatchery. Spectators will be welcome to come and learn from the crappie pros.

The World's Largest Crappie Fry will start at 11 a.m. on Oct. 5 in the parking area behind the Convention Center. Free tickets to the crappie fry will be given out at booths inside the Expo until the supply of fillets runs out.

Hot Springs Fishing Challenge

The eighth Annual Hot Springs Fishing Challenge on lakes Hamilton and Catherine in Hot Springs is nearing completion. Seventy-one fish were tagged and released into the lakes by Visit Hot Springs' partner, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Andrew Hulsey Fish Hatchery.

The challenge began May 1 and concludes July 31. Anyone who catches one of the tagged fish stands to win a prize.

One prize fish, known as Big Al, could be any of the five species of fish in the Challenge. Big Al is worth \$15,000 to anyone who catches him. Clues will be given if he has not been caught.

Prize fish wearing orange tags were released in undisclosed locations on the two lakes. In addition to Big Al, there are 70 more chances to win prize money. Two fish in each lake are worth \$5,000 each, 46 are worth \$1,000 and 20 are worth \$500.

The Challenge participation is free for anyone with a valid Arkansas fishing license.

Update on Permit Transfer Inspections

You may have noticed some differences around the lakes. As part of the permit transfer process, approximately 250 inspections were completed by independent inspectors in 2018.

Two of the most common inspection findings were missing 911 address signs and unshielded lighting.

A properly shielded light uses a low-watt, yellow-colored bulb. Above the bulb is a hat-shaped shield that allows light to shine only downward. The bulb must not be visible within 50' of the lakeside of the facility.

Other inspection findings included the identification of:

- Multiple submersible pumps which are illegal for use on lakes Hamilton and Catherine. These were removed, reducing major potential shock hazards.
- Multiple unsafe shoreline facilities that were also removed from the lakes.



All transferred facilities are required to be brought up to 2017 National Electric Code. You can check these items on your dock to comply:

- Are your switches and outlets rated for use in outdoor settings and in weatherproof enclosures?
- Is all your wiring in conduit?
- Are your electric outlets protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter in either your breaker box or installed in a junction box on the land side of your facilities?

Contact a licensed electrician if you have questions or to make corrections.

US Stations Announces New Local Podcast "Hot Springs This Week"

The "Hot Springs This Week" podcast is all about the fun things you can do in Hot Springs – visits with some of the most interesting people in Hot Springs – and updates on what you should know about lakes Hamilton and Catherine – and the flows on the Ouachita River.

Check under the Podcasts heading at www.myhotsprings.com or go directly to:

To listen in and keep up with what is going on, go to www.myhotsprings.com/hot-springs-this-week-podcast/



Who to Call When...



Lights out on the bridge- This can be a navigation and safety concern. The Arkansas Department of Transportation, which maintains the lights, can be reached at 870-623-8312.

Reporting an accident- Two agencies handle boating regulation and enforcement: Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and Garland County Marine Patrol. If you have a boating accident, or see one, call AFGC at 501-525-0929 or the Garland County Sheriff Office at 501-622-3660.

Overflowing storm drains/storm water soil run-off- Inside the city limits call Hot Springs Storm Water Division at 501-321-6773. Outside the city limits call Garland County Inspections Department at 501-609-9067. You can also report it to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality at 501-682-0744.

Someone is burning or depositing yard waste in the lake bed- This is against Arkansas Law and you can report it to the Garland County Inspections Department at 501-609-9067.

Someone is digging, 4-wheeling, or using other equipment in the lake bed- This is damaging to the lake bed and can increase soil runoff please let us know at 501-844-2101.



Floods



Flooding happens during heavy rains, when rivers overflow, when ocean waves come onshore, when snow melts too fast, or when dams or levees break. This is the most common natural-weather event. Flooding may be only a few inches of water, or it may cover a house to the rooftop. Floods that happen very quickly are called flash floods.

Am I at risk?

Floods can occur in every single U.S. state. Some floods develop slowly, and some can build in just a few minutes. People who live in low-lying areas – near water or behind a levee or dam – are at even greater risk.

Did you know?

Flooding can change familiar places, like walkways, roads and fields. Avoid walking through water. It might be deeper than you think!



FACT CHECK

- Which of the following does NOT cause a flood?
 - Tropical storms and hurricanes
 - Spring thaw and melting snow
 - New construction
 - None – they can all cause floods
- True or False?** 1 foot of water is enough to make most cars float.
- True or False?** 6 inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet.

ANSWERS (10/11)
(12) True! Stay away from moving water!



For more facts and info on floods visit
<http://www.ready.gov/kids/know-the-facts/floods>
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/>

What to do...

If you notice a problem at a dam – call 911. Local authorities know who to contact when there are concerns with the local dams on the Ouachita River.

If you notice a river/lake is unexpectedly high and rising on a clear day –

immediately head for higher ground and call 911 to report the situation.

If a road is covered with water – remember that floodwaters are deceptive. As the old saying goes, “Turn around, don’t drown.” Roadways can become compromised by floods and these weak spots are not always visible. Avoid flooded areas if you can.

If your car stalls in a flooded area – abandon it as soon as possible. Floodwaters can rise rapidly and sweep a car – and its occupants – away.

If a flood traps you in your house – move to the second floor and, if necessary, to the roof. Take warm clothing, a flashlight and portable radio with you. Then wait for help; don’t try to swim to safety. Rescue teams will be looking for you.

If you receive a reverse 911 call – first, take it seriously. Next, listen carefully and follow all of the instructions from the phone call. If it is to warn you of a flood, it may tell you to stay in your home or head to higher ground immediately. Do so as quickly as possible.

Entergy Arkansas, LLC monitors Carpenter and Rammel dams 24/7, but if you notice an unusual situation concerning the lake levels or the dams, call 911 to report it. Thanks to FEMA publication 593-237B (9/90) for information used in this article.

FLOODING? BE SAFE!

Turn Around Don't Drown





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What Requires a Permit?

All shoreline facilities, structures and ground-disturbing activities on Entergy Arkansas, LLC Project 271 lands, or water, require a permit from Entergy Arkansas prior to installation or activity. Some of the most common types of facilities, structures and activities that require a permit include:

- Boat docks
- Piers
- Landings
- PWC ramps/lifts
- Decks
- Walkways
- Boardwalks
- Bridges
- Boat Ramps
- Steps
- Seawalls
- Riprap
- Fill/dredge
- Excavation
- Roads
- Waterlines
- Buoys
- Utility facilities
- Water withdrawal
- Heat/Air exchange piping
- Inflatable platforms/trampolines
- Boat lifts (when outside the slip)



Any changes to the footprint, roof line, support structure or change in the size of an existing facility requires a new application/permit.

To learn more about Entergy Arkansas' shoreline facility permit program and the requirements and specifications for private facilities on Entergy Arkansas' property, visit our web site at www.entergy.com/hydro or contact us at (501) 844-2101.

Do you know of lakefront property owners who are not receiving this publication?

Send their names, addresses & emails to:

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Help Us With Our Mailing List

Please contact Entergy Arkansas, at 501-844-2101 or send an e-mail to tlee2@entergy.com with any corrections.