



*For Immediate Release*

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**AUTHORITY OPENS CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS AT POSSUM KINGDOM LAKE**

January 29, 2010 --The youngest members of the family are the focus of the Brazos River Authority's latest recreational project at Possum Kingdom Lake. As part of a major upgrade to the public use areas at the lake, the Authority has opened new children's playgrounds at North D & D campground and at Sandy Beach Park.

The \$120,000 project was paid for through the use of revenues obtained from the Water Recreational User Fee Program. Revenues received through this program are dedicated to funding public recreation projects at Possum Kingdom Lake. The two playgrounds offer the latest in child-safe playground equipment with swings, slides, spinners, twisters, climbing areas and learning panels sitting atop a 12-inch thick layer of wood chip-style materials to cushion the ground throughout the play area. The playground also offers parent-friendly sitting areas.

"We are very excited to open the new playgrounds at Possum Kingdom Lake," said Mike Iltis, area project manager. "These play areas offer a safe alternative for children that may be too young for the on-water activities enjoyed by their older siblings and parents. Each playground has an age-appropriate area for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds."

The playground project is part of a renovation and upgrade of lakeside public use areas that has included the refurbishment of boat ramps and courtesy docks and the addition of picnic shelters, BBQ grills, fire rings and an additional 5-mile segment to the PK Hike and Bike Trail project.

"We will be working throughout the spring months to complete our public use projects," Iltis said. "Our goal is to open Phase III of the Hike and Bike Trail by Memorial Day."

For additional information on the recreational updates at Possum Kingdom Lake, please call the Public Information Office at 888-922-6272.

***About the Brazos River Authority***

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The Authority built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the Authority contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority owns and operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Georgetown, Dime Box, Clute-Richwood and Sugar Land. Through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority, the Brazos River Authority operates wastewater treatment plants at Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System in Round Rock, the city of Hutto and the city of Liberty Hill.

The Authority owns and operates water treatment systems at Lake Granbury (which supplies potable water to wholesale customers in Hood and Johnson Counties), and the City of Taylor. The Authority also operates a potable water treatment plant for the City of Dime Box. A water treatment plant for the City of Leander is operated by the Brazos River Authority through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority.

The Authority also engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 157 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.