



For Immediate Release

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PLAN AHEAD FOR 2011 BOATER EDUCATION COURSES

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, in 2009, 76 percent of all boating fatalities involved watercraft piloted by an operator that had not received boating safety training. The Brazos River Authority offers Boater Safety Courses at Lake Granbury and Possum Kingdom Lake throughout the spring and summer.

Though a boater safety course is not required by law for adults, boaters under the age of 18 are required by the Texas Water Safety Act to obtain certification to operate any type of personal watercraft, vessels with a motor exceeding 10 horse power and windblown vessels longer than 14 feet.

The course includes information on operating watercraft in all types of water conditions, from ponds to offshore and ideal situations to worst case scenarios. It is available for ages 12 and older, though children may not be certified until they are 13. Program cost is \$10 payable in cash only. Participants must provide a social security number and a picture identification card (driver's license, student I.D. or library card accepted).

Lake Granbury

Children younger than 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Classes begin at 8:30 a.m. and end about 4:30 p.m. Lunch is not provided; however, the class will break between noon and 1:30. All sessions are held at the Lake Office at 4552 Mambrino Highway. For further information and to register, call Lake Ranger Randy Johnston at (817) 573-1407. Class dates are:

- April 23
- May 21
- June 18
- July 23
- Aug. 20

Possum Kingdom Lake

Children younger than 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Classes run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a one-hour break for lunch. Lunch is not provided. For more information or to register, call (940) 779-2321, extensions 222 or 229. Class dates are:

Eastside Fire Station – Farm-to-Market Road 2353, next to the PK Chamber of Commerce

- April 9
- May 14
- June 11
- July 16
- Aug. 13
- Sept. 17

Westside Fire Station – Green Acres and Highway 1148

- June 18
- July 30

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.