Borrow a Lifejacket for Free!

Lake Mead and Lake Mohave rangers have set up Lifejacket Loaner Stations at Boulder Beach and Cottonwood Cove. Visitors are welcome to borrow a lifejacket to wear in and near the water and return it when they are done.

There are lifejackets in sizes infant to adult and instructions to help visitors choose the right size. Visitors can borrow a lifejacket at no cost to use during the day and return it before they leave.

“Our goal is to get everybody; kids, adults, teenagers, to wear their lifejackets while recreating in or near the water at Lake Mead,” said Park Ranger Autumn Paulson.

A recent study of fatality reports, dating back five years, showed that the number one cause of unintentional death at Lake Mead National Recreation Area was drowning. This loss of life can be prevented by wearing a lifejacket.

Visitors who don’t wear lifejackets can unexpectedly find themselves in life threatening situations while swimming in the lakes. In 2012 and 2013, 100 percent of drowning victims were not wearing a lifejacket.

Last summer, two women using pool toys at Boulder Beach were swept away by the wind and were unable to swim back to shore. Luckily, someone spotted the women and a ranger was notified and rescued them by boat.

The Lifejacket Loaner Program was introduced in summer 2013 and was a great success. Rangers reported that the Stations were emptied of lifejackets when people were at the beach and there were zero shoreline drownings.

Please return the loaner lifejackets before dusk to allow rangers to inspect and properly store them. Remember to never leave children unattended.

Reservoirs offer excellent recreational opportunities for boating, water-skiing, fishing and related water activities. Although boating conditions on reservoirs vary only slightly from other inland waters, some have special characteristics which may affect your safe enjoyment of them.

Lake Mead is a fluctuating reservoir meant to handle changing water levels and changing Colorado River flow. This summer, the lake is projected to drop 10 feet in elevation. Lake Mead’s water level is dependent on snow fall in the Rocky Mountains.

Despite declining water levels, Lake Mead remains one of the largest reservoirs in the U.S. and can still accommodate millions of visitors annually.

Treat every visit to Lake Mead like it is your first visit. Be cautious because every day this summer, rocks and islands may appear or lie just below the surface. Go slow when near points, islands, shorelines or reef areas.

Follow all safe boating and navigation rules. Maintain a proper lookout at all times and a safe speed for the conditions.

Lake Mead rangers want everyone to have an enjoyable and safe summer!
**Visitor Information**

**Emergencies**
In case of an emergency, dial 911 or contact the police using your marine band radio on channels 16 or 22A. Report suspicious activity and non-emergencies to 702-293-8998. Emergency call boxes are located throughout the park. See the map on the back page for locations.

**Fires**
Summer Fire restrictions are in place. Fires are permitted using fire pits in developed areas. Wood or charcoal burning devices may be used on shorelines where vegetation is at least 100 feet from the shoreline, Firewood may be purchased at marinas and most local grocery stores.

**Firearms**
Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under applicable federal, state and local laws to possess them in the park. Firearms are prohibited in federal buildings, such as visitor centers and ranger stations. It is the responsibility of the visitors to understand and comply with all applicable firearm laws before entering the park. Target shooting is prohibited.

**Social Media**
Join the conversation! Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lakemead to learn about programs and other events. Post your questions and a ranger will get back to you. Follow us on Twitter at @LakeMeadNRA to learn about park news. View pictures of the park and events on flickr at www.flickr.com/lakemeadnra and our videos at www.youtube.com/LakeMeadNRA.

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**What's Your Routine?**

As summer begins to heat up, boaters flock to Lake Mead National Recreation Area to cool off in the waters of lakes Mead and Mohave.

In order to stay consistent on boating safety techniques, some boaters create a routine to use every time they go out on the water.

Billy Blackwood, a boater for more than 43 years, has narrowed down his routine for a perfect day on the lake.

Through trial and error, Blackwood began constructing his routine which provides his family a fun and safe day on the water.

“Everything goes smoother when you have a routine,” Blackwood said. “You have less of a possibility of being in an accident or having an emergency.

“Driving a boat is just as important as driving a vehicle,” he said. “You have got to pay attention just like you would while you’re driving your car on the freeway. Just like you check your oil, turn your tires or gas up your car, you should be just as persistent with your boat.”

Before leaving his house for a day on the water, Blackwood starts his routine by doing a boat inspection to make sure he has all the safety equipment and all the mechanics are in check.

Launching a boat is a major part of the routine and requires two people, according to Blackwood; one to control the boat and one to control the trailer.

In case of mechanical issues on the water, Blackwood recommends that boaters stay a quarter-mile from the shoreline while stopping their boat so that wind or waves can’t push the vessel into the shore.

Finally, Blackwood always counts and recounts his passengers.

“I never take for granted thinking that I’ve got everyone on board. You have got to always remember how many people and who is on board,” Blackwood said. “Look in front, behind and on the sides of your boat before even putting the key in the ignition.”

This summer, start your own safe boating routine. For more information about safe boating, visit www.nps.gov/lake.

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**Tips for safe boating**

Before you throw anything away at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, ask yourself, “Is this trash?” The answer is probably “No.”

The only items that need to go into trash dumpsters in the park are food, polystyrene (Styrofoam®) and clothing. All other nonhazardous waste is recyclable and can be tossed in the single-stream recycling dumpsters. There’s no need to sort your plastics, glass or cans. Just toss them in the bright green bins instead of the regular dumpsters.

The Department of Interior’s goal is to divert at least 50 percent of nonhazardous solid waste by 2015. If the park’s more than six million visitors use the single-stream recycling dumpsters, meeting that goal is possible.

Thank you for keeping your park clean and trash free!
Visitor Services

Lake Mead

Callville Bay Resort and Marina
702-585-8958, rentals: 800-255-5561
www.callvillebay.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto/boat)
Boat rental
(houseboats & small vessels)
Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

Echo Bay
702-394-4000, toll free: 800-255-5561
www.lakemeadrvvillage.com
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto)
Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)
Activity center/meeting room

Lake Mead Cruises
702-293-6180
www.lakemeadcruises.com
Scenic boat tours and private charters with food service and snack bar on floating dock.

Lake Mead RV Village
702-293-2540
www.lakemeadrvvillage.com
Visitor trailer village
RV park (some lake views)
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)
Activity center/meeting room

Las Vegas Bay
702-293-1191 Las Vegas Boat Harbor
702-293-3484 Lake Mead Marina Complex
www.boatinglakemead.com
Fuel (auto)
Campgrounds
Dry boat storage

Las Vegas Boat Harbor Complex
702-293-3484 Lake Mead Marina Complex
www.boatinglakemead.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (boat)
Boat rental (houseboats & small vessels)
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)
Dry boat storage
Boat repair
Cafe'
Restaurant
Lounge
Quagga boat wash
Shower
Banquet/meeting room

Willow Beach Harbor
702-767-4747
www.willowbeachharbor.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto/boat)
Boat rental (small vessels, canoe & kayak)
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

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Launch ramp
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Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

Explore the
Visitor Center Park Store

Located off Highway 93, minutes from Hoover Dam and Boulder City, the Alan Bible Visitor Center offers the award-winning film “Life in the Desert”.

Explore the park store’s wide selection of Lake Mead NRA and Hoover Dam books, kid’s items, movies, postcards, music, jewelry and much more.

Water Partners

This year, Lake Mead NRA is continuing to team up with several partners to provide Water Safety Education programs in and out of the park boundary, at schools and at special events, such as Junior Ranger Day and Ready, Set, Wear It Day.

No matter where your child swims, neighborhood pool or boating at Lake Mead NRA, remember this: learn to swim; wear a lifejacket; always have adult supervision.

This year’s partners in Water Safety Education are: U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Southern Nevada Sea Partners, City of Henderson Parks and Recreation Aquatics Division, Nevada Department of Wildlife Boating Safety Education.

Water safety this summer:
• Lifejacket Loaener Program at Boulder Beach and Cottonwood Cove
• Education staff delivering water safety programs in and out of the park
• “I got caught wearing a lifejacket” T-shirt Program
• "Coastie" and "Rad Tad"

Please call the Visitor Center, 702-293-8990, for more information on Ranger-led water safety programs. Upon completion of a program receive a Junior Ranger Water Safety Patrol card!

Lake Mohave

Black Canyon/Willow Beach River Adventures
702-294-1414
www.blackcanyonriveradventures.com
Scenic flat water raft trip through Black Canyon with views of Hoover Dam. On the water food service available.

Cottonwood Cove Resort and Marina
760-297-1464, rentals: 800-255-5561
www.cottonwoodcoveresort.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto/boat)
Boat rental (houseboats & small vessels)
Motel
Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out

Lake Mohave Resort, Katherine Landing
928-754-3245, reservations: 800-752-9669
www.lakemohaveresort.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto/boat)
Boat rental (small vessels)
Motel
Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

Lake Mead

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Boat rental (small vessels)
Motel
Campgrounds
Visitor trailer village
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

Willow Beach Harbor
702-767-4747
www.willowbeachharbor.com
Marina/boat slip rentals
Launch ramp
Fuel (auto/boat)
Boat rental (small vessels, canoe & kayak)
Campgrounds (tent camping)
RV park
Pump-out
Store (gift/convenience)

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