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News Release

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Mark Twain Lake, May 12, 2008 - Mark Twain Lake is under going some changes. Long-time Operations Manager Dennis Foss retired on May 2, 2008 after 37 years of exemplary federal service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Assistant Operations Manager Sandra Spence will be Acting Operations Manager until a replacement is chosen this summer. The Operations Manager serves as the district official for Mark Twain Lake and the Clarence Cannon Dam/Power Plant. The Manager is responsible for the overall planning and administrative functions of the project.

The Clarence Cannon Dam and Mark Twain Lake Project is 54,000 acres in size and a formidable sight in Northeast Missouri. The multipurpose project was authorized by Congress as an answer to many years of flooding by the Salt River. Along with flood damage reduction, other benefits include hydroelectric power, recreation, fish and wildlife conservation, water supply and navigation.

There are many recreational activities to be enjoyed at Mark Twain Lake. In fact the lake and some of it's opportunities are among the top in Missouri. Mark Twain Lake was voted the Best Hidden Treasure in the Northeast Region by Missourians in the April 2008 edition of *Rural Missouri*. Nearby Perry, Missouri captured the Best Antiquing title and Hannibal was named Best Day Trip. In 2006 the Ray Behrens and Frank Russell Campgrounds were listed in America's Top 100 Family Campgrounds determined by Reserve America. They also named Mark Twain Lake is in the Top 25 Fishing Spots and the Joanna Trail is in the Top 25 Hiking Trails.

Spend your vacation or a quick getaway at Mark Twain Lake and the area. Experience some of the award winning opportunities the region has to offer. You can camp at one of nearly 500 campsites, some with full hook-ups. Hike, bike or ride horses on the Joanna or Lick Creek Trails. Fish, hunt, swim or boat at the lake. Enjoy the scenery or wildlife or stop at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the Boudreaux Recreation Area. Visit the power house exhibit area on weekends from 10 AM to 5 PM. Explore the Mark Twain State Park or Birthplace Museum in Florida.

Operations Manager Sandra Spence invites you to enjoy the many fun things available at Mark Twain Lake and reminds you to always wear a life jacket when on or near the water. Go to <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/marktwain/> to find out more or contact us at the Project Office at 573-735-4097, email marktwaininfo@usace.army.mil or during office hours Monday through Saturday 8 AM to 4:30 PM.