

Recreation Season Gets Underway

Water Level Update: With the recreation season right around the corner, water levels at High Rock Lake and Badin Lake are above their historical averages. After lowering High Rock Lake for pier maintenance in February, Alcoa Power Generating Inc. (APGI) has refilled the lake. The drawdown was tremendously popular, with more than 1,500 requests from property owners at High Rock Lake. More than 350 permits were issued.

Drought Conditions Persist: While recent rains have brought much needed relief to the Yadkin region, the U.S. Drought Monitor still has portions of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin classified as experiencing moderate or severe drought. APGI is working with the Yadkin Drought Management Team (comprised of state officials, homeowner organizations and other stakeholders) to closely monitor the drought conditions. If drought conditions worsen, this group will work together to protect the water supply and minimize the impact of the drought.

Supporting Healthy Fisheries: The Yadkin lakes boast some of the best fishing in North Carolina. Maintaining stable water levels during the fish spawning season (from April 15 to May 15) is critical to supporting healthy fisheries. APGI voluntarily keeps water levels from fluctuating more than 1 foot during this time at the request of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.



New Recreational Opportunities, Increased Flexibility Await Lakefront Homeowners

New fishing piers, public parks and camp sites. More stable water levels and better water protection during droughts. Greater flexibility when designing and building piers. Those are just a few of the benefits that await you once APGI receives a new federal license for the Yadkin Project.

- **MORE FLEXIBLE RULES FOR PIER CONSTRUCTION:** Changes to the Shoreline Management Plan will offer lakefront homeowners more flexibility regarding the design and construction of new and replacement piers.
- **MORE STABLE WATER LEVELS:** New operating guidelines will provide more stable water levels and offer better protection of the water supply during drought conditions.
- **MORE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:** APGI will donate more than 1,000 acres to expand Morrow Mountain State Park and create new public parks. In addition, the company will spend more than \$1 million to improve recreation — with a new swim area on High Rock Lake, and new fishing piers, camp sites and other recreational opportunities throughout the Yadkin lakes.
- **BETTER WATER QUALITY:** New technology will be installed at the dams to further enhance water quality at the Yadkin Project. APGI currently meets required water quality standards.



The implementation of these benefits continues to be delayed by relicensing appeals. APGI is eager to provide these benefits, but many of these issues (including revisions to the Shoreline Management Plan) are tied to a new license and cannot be implemented in the middle of the relicensing process.

Water Safety Tips

With the weather finally warming up after a long winter, people will soon be flocking to the lakes to boat, fish and swim. Have fun and be safe! Remember, wearing a life jacket is the single best way to stay safe on the lakes.

WHEN YOU ARE BOATING...

- Always wear a life jacket. NC law requires children under 13 to wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
- Watch for severe weather.
- Avoid alcohol. Alcohol impairs judgement and is a contributing factor in about one in five boating fatalities.
- Get a free safety inspection from the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- Take a free boating educating course from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. Courses are required for boat operators under 26 years old.

WHEN YOU ARE SWIMMING...

- Never swim alone.
- Stay in designated swim areas.
- Always keep a close eye on children and inexperienced swimmers. These swimmers should always wear a life jacket.
- Avoid alcohol. Do not swim if you have been drinking.
- Watch for severe weather. Do not get in the water if you see lightning.

To promote water safety, APCI sponsors a public awareness campaign each year and provides nearly \$100,000 to law enforcement agencies for increased patrols of the lakes.



**PLAY IT
SAFE**
ON THE LAKES



Always wear your life jacket.



Stay Connected. Stay Informed.

Have You Seen? Video of the Badin Water Tower coming down — a first step in the redevelopment of the former Badin Works site. Find this and more online at www.alcoa.com/yadkin.

Coming Soon: News about the re-emergence of bald eagles around the lakes, announcement of local grants issued by the Alcoa Foundation and information about boating and water safety celebrations.

Stay Informed: Sign up for email news alerts about water levels, drought conditions, relicensing issues and other news @ www.alcoa.com/yadkin.

Visit the Yadkin Project blog @ <http://yadkinproject.blogspot.com>.