



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Water Department

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Rainfall creates expanded opportunities at local reservoirs

San Diego City Lakes open to water contact activities – Celebration this Saturday

SAN DIEGO – As a result of the record rainfall that San Diego County received this winter, boaters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts can expect favorable conditions as they return to San Diego City reservoirs this summer. Some lakes that were previously closed have recently reopened to public recreation, and others now provide expanded waterways for the boating public.

In recognition of *National Safe Boating Week*, and to celebrate the reopening of the City Lakes for the summer, the Water Department is hosting the **San Diego Lakes Fair at San Vicente Reservoir on Saturday, May 21, 2005 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** This event will feature a display of state of the art vessels, as well as fishing and wakeboarding demonstrations. In addition, City Rangers will be on hand to provide boating safety information; the U.S. Coast Guard will provide free vessel safety inspections; and the City's Parks & Recreation Department will give away complimentary popcorn to attendees. The event is free and open to public, however boaters will be subject to the usual launching and water contact fees.

"In addition to providing a safe and reliable water supply to millions of local residents, the San Diego Water Department is proud to be able to support public recreation at our lakes and reservoirs," said Frank Belock, Director of the City of San Diego Water Department. "The San Diego City Lakes are a major regional attraction and a great resource for local boaters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts. Our Lakes Recreation Program has an outstanding record of managing public access to our reservoirs."

The Water Department has reopened select San Diego City Lakes for water contact programs for the summer season, providing waterskiers and wakeboarders a freshwater alternative to the waters of Mission Bay. Lake Hodges, a popular destination for kayakers, has reopened for public recreation including boating and fishing. In addition, El Capitan Reservoir is now open for public access and recreation and includes a special zone for jet-skis and personal watercraft enthusiasts.

Boaters and anglers will also find new improvements and exciting amenities at San Diego City Lakes. Thanks to funding from the California Department of Boating & Waterways, the public can also enjoy new docks at most of the City Lakes and new picnic and restroom facilities on "Jet Ski Point" at El Capitan Reservoir.

To access more information on San Diego City Lakes and recreation programs, call (619) 465-3474 or visit www.sandiego.gov/water.

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