



## **US Army Corps of Engineers**

Norfolk District

# **News Release**

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## **Gathright Dam fishing restrictions eased**

**NORFOLK, Va.** – Following a review of Gathright Dam's security posture after the September 11 terrorist attacks, the Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District has eased fishing restrictions on its federal government property below the dam.

Effective immediately, fishing resumes, along with vehicular access to the Tailwater fishing area of Gathright Dam. New hours are from 5 a.m. to one hour after sunset, when the gate closes. This resumption of fishing does not include any of the dam's downstream areas located on private, city or county property.

Local police and Corps staff now patrol the area. While anglers must still possess a valid fishing license, all visitors must now obtain a permit at the Gathright Visitor Center. This free permit informs people of the rules for using the fishing area, where they can park during hours when the gate is closed if security is heightened, and strengthens access control. The Visitor Center is normally opened from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., seven days a week.

While Gathright Dam is recognized nationally for its excellent recreational fishing, should our nation's homeland security threat increase, Corps officials may again have to restrict access or close the area.

For more information, call Meade Stith, Norfolk District at 757-441-7641, or Bud Brinkley, Gathright Dam and Lake Moomaw, at 540-962-1138.

