

The Craney Island Project is open to recreational visitors Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.. The Craney Island Project is closed on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, all Federal holidays, and at other times due to site conditions as determined by the Chief of the Project Office. Visitors are advised to call the Craney Island Project Office at (757) 484-1021 prior to visiting to confirm that the project is open to visitors.

Rules and Regulations for Recreational Use of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area: The recreational use of Corps of Engineers Water Resources Development Projects, including the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area, are set forth in Title 36 U.S.C. , Chapter 111, Section 327 and summarized in Engineer Pamphlet 1165-2-316 dated May 2000. Special rules for the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area are set forth in this policy memorandum which includes a list of items and activities that are specifically permitted or PROHIBITED. In addition to the Federal rules and regulations, recreational users of Corps of Engineers projects are subject to all applicable state and local laws.

Procedures for the Recreational Use of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area:

- Hours of Operation for Recreational Use: Recreational use is permitted during the hours of 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday through Thursday (open some Fridays, visitors should call 757 484-1021), excluding Federal holidays. The site may be closed at any time to recreational use due to operational requirements. In the event that the Chief of the Craney Island Project Office closes the site to recreational users, a notification sign will be posted on the entry gate at 4599 River Shore Road.

- Access to the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area: Recreational users are required to use the entry gate at 4599 River Shore Road. Users may request entry by using the intercom box located near the gate.

- Sign-in/ Sign-out Procedures: All recreational users must sign the visitors log book located at the visitor desk in the Craney Island Project Office Administrative Building. Recreational users may use the short-term parking space near the entry door while signing-in. Upon completion or recreational activities, users must sign-out at the visitor desk prior to departure. First time users are required to read this policy memorandum and sign an acknowledgement form indicating that they understand the recreational use policies.

- Privately owned vehicle requirements: All privately owned vehicles must comply with all applicable state and local vehicle laws and regulations and must be insured for not less than the minimum limits required by law in the state the

vehicle is registered. All operators of privately owned vehicles must be licensed in compliance with the applicable state motor vehicle operator laws and regulations. Vehicle operators may be required to show a valid operators license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance.

- Release of Liability: All recreational users, eighteen years of age or older, are required to read and sign a "Release of Liability" form prior to any recreational use of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area. The forms should be executed annually at the time of the first visit.

- Operation of motor vehicles on the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area: All motor vehicles must be operated in compliance with all posted speed limits and traffic signs. In no case will vehicles be permitted to exceed 25 MPH.

Special Notes:

- Roads and parking areas are unpaved and may contain debris that can damage vehicle tires.

- Road and parking area surface conditions vary and vehicles may become stuck. Vehicle operators are advised to check the conditions prior to using roads or parking areas that may be too soft for their type of vehicle. Please note that government vehicles and personnel are not permitted to move or extract privately owned vehicles.

- The entry gate at 4599 River Shore Road has a sensor that opens the gate automatically for vehicles leaving the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area.

- Safety and accident prevention: Recreational users should report any safety hazards, accidents, and injuries to the Chief of the Craney Island Project Office. There are **no emergency services available** at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area. If emergency assistance is needed, recreational users should call **911** and follow the instructions of the emergency dispatcher.

- Endangered and threatened species: Several types of endangered and threatened species may use the Craney Island Dredged Material Management area for nesting and feeding. Recreational users should avoid any posted nesting areas and any non-posted areas where bird activity indicates possible nesting or if nests or young birds are observed.

- Construction activities: Government and contractor operated heavy construction equipment and vehicles are working at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area. Recreational users should make every effort to avoid

areas with construction activities and exercise caution in the vicinity of construction equipment and vehicles.

Specifically Permitted Recreational Activities:

- Recreational sport fishing and crabbing are permitted. Such activities should be in accordance with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. Recreational users must have any required state fishing license in their possession and may be required to show proof of such license.

- Recreational bird watching and similar nature studies are permitted. Such activities should be compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations and should be conducted so as to not disturb the wildlife in feeding or nesting areas. Bird watchers may voluntarily enter the species and number of birds they observe in the bird watching log book at the visitor's desk in the Craney Project Office Administrative Building.

- Natural resource educational activities are permitted. Instructors or group leaders should contact the Chief, Craney Island Project Office to make arrangements for educational group activities.

- Parking of Privately Owned Vehicles is permitted ONLY in designated visitor parking areas.

Specifically PROHIBITED Activities:

- Commercial fishing, crabbing, netting, or any other commercial fishing activities on the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area and for a distance of approximately 1000 feet from the shoreline are PROHIBITED.

- Solicitation, vending, and commercial sales activities of any type are PROHIBITED.

- The possession or introduction of any firearms, bows, crossbows, air guns of any type, paint-ball guns, fireworks, rockets, explosives, trapping devices, or any similar devices capable of causing injury is PROHIBITED.

- The possession or introduction of any alcoholic beverage, controlled substance, illegal drug, or other similar substances is PROHIBITED.

- Hunting, trapping, falconry, or any similar activity that may cause harm to wildlife on the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area and for a distance of approximately 1000 feet from the shoreline is PROHIBITED.

- Swimming is PROHIBITED.

- The operation of power boats, sail boats, para-sails, sail boards, personal watercraft (jet skis, jet boats, etc.), or other similar watercraft is PROHIBITED.
- The operation any model aircraft, model rockets, or other similar devices is PROHIBITED.
- The possession or introduction of pets, domestic animals, falcons or raptors of any type, or the release of wildlife is PROHIBITED.
- The operation of off road vehicles, all terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, and similar vehicles that are not registered and licensed for operation on public roads is PROHIBITED.
- Damage, destruction, or removal of any vegetation is PROHIBITED.
- Damage or destruction of any gate, lock, camera system, or other security device is PROHIBITED.
- Parking, except in designated visitor parking areas is PROHIBITED.
- All recreational activity on the east side of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area and any other area designated by an appropriate sign is PROHIBITED.
- The operation of vehicles on the containment area dikes and division roads is PROHIBITED.
- Entering or otherwise disturbing posted bird nesting areas is PROHIBITED.
- Littering is PROHIBITED.
- Interference with or failure to comply with the instructions of Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area Government Employees is PROHIBITED.

Violations of Rules and Regulations: The violation of these rules and regulations could result in the suspension or termination of the recreational use privileges at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area. In addition, violation of the regulations set forth in EP 1165-2-316, Rules and Regulations Governing the Public Use of Corps of Engineers Water Resources Development Projects, could result in a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. Furthermore, all state and local laws remain in

effect with respect to the recreational use of the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area.