Introducing the New Private Facility & Shoreline Activity Application Process

Entergy Arkansas has made a significant number of changes to the permit application process to improve customer experience and streamline the overall process. Beginning September 1, permit requests can be completed online and submitted via email. If you don’t want to hand draw your dimensional drawings, a new mapping tool will be available that will auto generate dimensional drawings for you or your authorized representative. With it you can search for your location and draw in exactly what you would like to build/do along the shoreline. It will also automatically populate your permit request form, allowing you to skip that step, creating an all-in-one package electronic submittal and making it even easier to apply. On this mapping tool, you will be able to submit requests to update existing facilities, draw in modification requests or add new facility/activity requests.

You will find the link to the new electronic applications and mapping tool under www.entergy.com/permitinfo or from a link in our guideline booklet found at www.entergy.com/shorelineapplication. All new permit applications, or questions about an application, can be emailed to our new email address LakePermits@entergy.com. Listed below are a few additional changes made and dates these changes will be effective.

Processing Time

Late 2020 through 2021 were unprecedented times for Entergy Shoreline Management, combining a record number of permits received while also onboarding new staff. We sincerely appreciate everyone’s patience and understanding. We caught up on all the permits submitted and are once again within the 6–8-week time frame for an application review and processing.

You will note from the articles in this newsletter that there are a lot of changes that have been made to make the application process simpler for you and streamline the review and in-house processing as well.

We thank you for your patience during this unprecedented time period, and we look forward to working with you while we implement changes to our permit request and processing protocols.

Want more lake news? Subscribe to the entergy.com/hydro email list and join us at Facebook.com/lifeonthelakes.
SHORELINE NEWS

Contact us
Entergy Shoreline Management has two new general email inboxes that are monitored by multiple people so there is always someone available to read and respond to inquiries.

While you can email either address with an inquiry or general permitting question, lakepermits@entergy.com has been set up to address permit applications and submitting supporting documents, flagging photos for shoreline activity permit applications, post construction photos, and questions on guidelines/permitting options.

Permit transfer inquiries, inquiries on existing permits, Inspection reports, proof of repairs in response to inspection requirements, requests for contact information changes, and requests to be added to the mailing list should be sent to shoreline@entergy.com.

 Permit Tags
Tags for facilities located on Entergy Arkansas Project 271 Lands will be updated and installed on every facility on Lakes Hamilton and Catherine over the next two years.

They will no longer list a permit number. Active valid permits are currently tied to the ownership of the parcel of land the facility is attached to and are referenced by record numbers such as EA22-0000. The presence of a tag will not certify that a facility is permitted but will simply identify that the facility is located on Entergy's Federal Project Lands. They will include the standard language found on previous tags regarding gaining approval for modifications or transfers of ownership followed by how to contact the Shoreline Management Department.

Please contact our office as at shoreline@entergy.com with questions or concerns.

Shielding Lights for Safety
Imagine boating on the lake at night and having a bright spotlight hit you in the eyes. Suddenly you can’t see where you’re going. This is exactly the reason we have certain guidelines for lighting on the lake – it keeps the areas lit, but it’s also pleasant to look at.

Nearly every address inspected on the lakes is non-compliant with Entergy’s Guidelines regarding lighting fixtures. This includes lighting along seawalls, boardwalks, dock facilities, etc.

Entergy Guidelines require all lighting must be low-watt yellow AND all fixtures must have shields that direct the light down to the surface and not at the water.

Think of shielding like an oversized lampshade that prevents the bulb from being seen from the side.

- Some clear or frosted glass bulbs stick out from their casing – that’s not within guidelines because they do not adequately shield the light.

- The bulb should be recessed, so that it is shielded on the sides and directs the light source down, rather than out. If you have open bulbs you can easily replace them with inherently shielded yellow flood found at local hardware stores. Just make sure they are directed down and not out. For those with formal fixtures, there are fluorescent fixtures that are designed to allow the yellow bulbs to be recessed into the metal hood and for fixtures mounted to the side of posts or mounted to the top of posts there are several options.

If you aren’t sure, Google dark sky light fixtures, and most of what you find would qualify. If you have any questions please feel free visit www.darksky.org or send a photo example of the fixture you are looking to install to shoreline@entergy.com.

Entergy’s guidelines are to minimize light pollution while also looking to minimize the impact of shoreline lighting on night vision for those navigating the waters at night.
Aquatic Vegetation

The annual aquatic vegetation survey with Entergy Arkansas and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission takes place each year in August. Together we go out and review the amount and types of vegetation present in the lakes and use that information for vegetation management and drawdown planning. Recent surveys indicate there has been some decrease in the amount of vegetation in some areas, but in general it has remained at a level that is promising for fisheries health. There is also the balance between a healthy fishery habitat and recreational users to consider.

There are beneficial free-floating microscopic algae that give the lakes a greenish hue and help to prevent sunlight from penetrating deep into the lakes, and it often reduces the amount of vegetation that can grow from bottom sediments. You might notice areas where the water is very clear may have an abundance of aquatic vegetation present, because unfortunately that nuisance vegetation has consumed the nutrients that the microalgae survive on. Vegetation appears to be more prevalent in the shallows of the lakes where the depth of the water is 12 feet or less, which is also where most of the docks and swim areas are located.

There are several things that you can do as an adjacent property owner to help control the amount of vegetation that you experience in these shallower areas:

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Procedure for Shoreline Facility(s) Permit Transfers

All shoreline facilities such as boat docks and piers, on lakes Hamilton and Catherine must have permits from Entergy in the current property owner’s name. When a homeowner sells or buys a home that has a shoreline facility, they must complete the transfer process:

• Either the buyer or the seller initiates an inspection of the facility.
  - A list of inspectors who have completed our training can be found at www.entergy.com/permitinfo
  - The inspector sends a copy of their inspection report to Entergy at shoreline@entergy.com for review.

• Once the inspection is submitted, all parties will be notified by Entergy Shoreline Management within 10 business days when an Inspection Acknowledgment Form is provided by our office.
  - The IAF outlines any repairs/corrections, if any, that must be made before the transfer can happen. These are all based on our guidelines as well as local, state, and federal laws.
  - The form also outlines any fees that may be due if there was a non-compliance issue (such as the dock not being previously permitted or not built as permitted), in addition to the standard transfer processing fee.

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Changes to How Processing Fees are Assessed

Entergy Shoreline Management works hard to review, and issue permits that not only meet our guidelines and specifications but also meet the needs and desires of the applicants. We have implemented a new processing step to verify if the submitted application can be accepted for review with 14 days of full application submittal. Entergy Arkansas processing fees have always been non-refundable and were due once the permit was applied for but not processed until the permit was issued. Beginning in September, you will no longer be required to submit a check along with your application for the processing fee.

If the application is accepted for review, then our system will send out an invoice for the required permit processing fee. This invoice will direct you to mail your check directly to our payment processing center in Dallas, Texas. If we are unable to accept your application, which generally happens due to missing components/information, we will return your application back to you.

Our processing fees will remain the same except for Shoreline Activity Permits. As these are the permits that are often denied due to guideline restraints, an initial processing fee of $200 will be assessed upon acceptance of the application for review. If the permit can be issued and has a higher processing fee associated with it (Seawall, Boat Ramp, Dredge, Concrete Steps), we will have the system send a second invoice for the remaining $350 in processing fees owed.

Guideline Clarifications and Updates

Every couple of years, Entergy Shoreline updates the guideline booklet to clear up any misconceptions with the guidelines and adapt to any new uses we see developing on the lakes. Once printed, around September, the booklets will be available at local Realtors & title companies, Entergy Shoreline and online at www.entergy.com/shorelineapplication. This link to our booklet is not changing and will connect you to the most recent version of our guidelines and application forms.

For your reference, the following are some of the updates and clarifications:

Facilities

- Any stall over 12 feet wide is considered two stalls.
- Boats, including the motor, are not to extend more than three (3) feet beyond the permitted slip.
- Vertical support posts are to be no larger than eight (8) inches in width and are not to be placed so close together that they create a navigational hazard, as determined by Entergy Shoreline.
- All Facilities shall be built perpendicular to the shoreline that they attach to.
- Steps are limited to a maximum width of six (6) feet.
- Only permitted commercial marinas are allowed to rent stalls and/or rent boats. Individuals not permitted for commercial activities that either rent stalls and/or boats risk losing the permit for their facilities.
- Only properties designated as Commercial Use in Entergy’s FERC License and permitted for commercial use are allowed to utilize the shoreline, and any permitted facilities along it, for commercial activities.

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Phone Notifications Could Save Your Life

A smartphone can be one of your greatest assets during an emergency. But only if the proper settings are enabled. Entergy contacts local emergency responders when flows from the dams, due to excessive rainfall, exceed normal flow rates and this includes the National Weather Service. The NWS will then issue a flood warning over their wireless notification system. If there were to be an issue at the dams – the NWS would be our first call and having your emergency notifications turned on could just save your life.

In order to keep you and your loved ones safe, Entergy and the National Weather Service recommend enabling the emergency alert system notifications on your smart device. These notifications will alert you in the event of a variety of threats from floods to civil emergency related events.

By following the simple steps lined out below, you will be able to ensure that your device has the optimum emergency notification settings turned on:

What to do?
If you notice a problem at a dam – call 911. Local authorities know who to contact when there are concerns with the local dams on the Ouachita River.

If you notice a river/lake is unexpectedly high and rising on a clear day – immediately head for higher ground and call 911 to report the situation.

If a road is covered with water – remember that floodwaters are deceptive. As the old saying goes, “Turn around, don’t drown.” Roadways can become compromised by floods and these weak spots are not always visible. Avoid flooded areas if you can.

If your car stalls in a flooded area – abandon it as soon as possible. Floodwaters can rise rapidly and sweep a car - and its occupants - away.

If a flood traps you in your house – move to the second floor and, if necessary, to the roof. Take warm clothing, a flashlight and portable radio with you. Then wait for help; don’t try to swim to safety. Rescue teams will be looking for you.

If you receive a reverse 911 call – first, take it seriously. Next, listen carefully and follow all of the instructions from the phone call. If it is to warn you of a flood, it may tell you to stay in your home or head to higher ground immediately. Do so as quickly as possible.

Entergy Arkansas, LLC monitors Carpenter and Remmel dams 24/7, but if you notice an unusual situation concerning the lake levels or the dams, call 911 to report it.
What Requires a Permit?

All shoreline facilities, structures and ground-disturbing activities on Entergy Arkansas, LLC Project 271 lands, or water, require a permit from Entergy Arkansas prior to installation or activity. Some of the most common types of facilities, structures and activities that require a permit include:

- Boat docks
- Piers
- Landings
- PWC ramps/lifts
- Decks
- Walkways
- Boardwalks
- Bridges
- Boat Ramps
- Steps
- Seawalls
- Riprap
- Fill/dredge
- Excavation
- Roads
- Waterlines
- Buoys
- Utility facilities
- Water withdrawal
- Heat/Air exchange piping
- Inflatable platforms/trampolines
- Boat lifts (when outside the slip)

Any changes to the footprint, roof line, support structure or change in the size or location of an existing facility requires a new application/permit.

To learn more about Entergy Arkansas’ shoreline facility permit program and the requirements and specifications for private facilities on Entergy Arkansas’ property, visit our web site at www.entergy.com/hydro or contact us at lakepermits@entergy.com.

Do you know of lakefront property owners who are not receiving this publication?

Send their names, addresses & emails to: shoreline@entergy.com

For General Permitting Information:
Visit entergy.com/permitinfo

For Shoreline Facility/Activity Booklet:
Visit entergy.com/shorelineapplication

Flow Release Information:
Visit www.entergy.com/hydro or call (501) 844-2125