



Lake Catherine

An Entergy Publication

Lake Hamilton

Lake Drawdown

This winter Lake Hamilton will be lowered by nine feet beginning November 4. Lake Catherine will be lowered five feet beginning November 18.

Entergy will lower Lake Hamilton's level in two phases to assist dock owners/contractors in temporarily relocating docks to the lower water level. The first phase will begin November 4 and end November 10, lowering the lake's level 4-1/2 feet. Lake Hamilton will remain at this level until November 18 when the second phase will begin. The second phase will lower the lake the final 4-1/2 feet and should be completed on November 24.

Lake Catherine's drawdown will be only five feet and will begin November 18. It should take about seven days for Lake Catherine to drop five feet.

DRAWDOWN SCHEDULE

LAKE HAMILTON

Start Phase 1	Nov. 4, 2002	
End Phase 1	Nov. 10, 2002	4.5'↓
Stable	Nov. 11 to Nov. 17, 2002	
Start Phase 2	Nov. 18, 2002	
End Phase 2	Nov. 24, 2002	4.5'↓

LAKE CATHERINE

Start	Nov. 18, 2002	
End	Nov. 24, 2002	5'↓
(Return to Normal Lake Levels)		
March, 2003		↑

Drawdowns, Do They Really Work?

Entergy has been using drawdowns since 1996 as the primary tool in reducing the spreading growth of nuisance underwater vegetation that is significantly interfering with recreational use on portions of Lake Hamilton. In 1996, in cooperation with the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and the U of A Cooperative Extension Service, Entergy developed a Vegetation Management Plan in response to an explosive growth of a Southern naiad in the southern half of Lake Hamilton. The plan called for the use of more extensive winter drawdowns and the stocking of grass carp as the primary methods of "whole-lake" nuisance vegetation control.

The plan was successful in significantly reducing Southern naiad in the southern half of the lake, but in recent years a new species of nuisance underwater weeds, Eurasian milfoil, has invaded the northern half of the lake. Milfoil, which is not native to the United States, is rapidly spreading downstream. Unlike the native Southern naiad, milfoil is more resistant to winter kill. In response, Entergy and the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission have determined that two consecutive years of nine-foot drawdowns are needed to slow and hopefully reduce this explosive growth. The Vegetation Plan has been revised to include nine-foot drawdowns for both this winter and the winter of 2003. Drawdowns do work in the overall management of vegetation. Though it may not be apparent in one season, repeated fluctuations and exposure will help reduce its overall growth and spread.

"Unlike Southern naiad, milfoil is not a preferred food for carp," said Bobby Pharr, Lakes and Property Coordinator with Entergy. Because of this, it appears that we must become more aggressive with the use of drawdowns and hope for freezing weather to help us. It is our desire to do what we can to preserve the recreational qualities of Lake Hamilton. We call for all lakefront property owners to support this 'whole lake' environmentally friendly effort to control the weeds."

For more information or to obtain an information packet on the vegetation issue, call or e-mail Entergy at 501-844-2148, bpharr@entergy.com

BOATING ADVISORY

Boaters should be extra cautious while on the lakes during the drawdown period because additional shallow areas will exist, and winter rains increase the amount of debris washed into the lakes.

Can I Move My Dock for the Drawdown?

Yes, boat and dock owners should take the necessary precautions to ensure that their boats and docks are able to adjust to the drawdown. Failure to do so can cause damage to your dock and boat. Some docks will be able to rest on the lakebed with little or no problem. If the shoreline is steep or rocky in your area you may wish to temporarily move your dock to deeper water.

If you relocate your dock, be sure that it does not restrict navigation or become a boating hazard. Entergy will not require a permit for the *temporary* relocation of docks due to the drawdown, but the dock *must* be returned to its permitted location once the lake returns to its summertime level.

Entergy also recommends that you use a licensed electrician to make any alterations to your wiring in conjunction with the drawdown.

Stash Your Trash....

- Reduce the amount of glass, packaging and plastics you take aboard your boat.
- Use a sturdy trash container with a lid or a mesh bag tied to your boat to keep your trash in the boat.
- Keep your trash stashed in your boat and dispose of it properly on shore.
- Make it a rule that no trash gets overboard – even cigarette butts.
- Leave the waters of Arkansas cleaner than you found them – carefully pick up trash left by others and help keep our lakes beautiful.

Lake & River Level/Operation Info

Are you interested in when releases from the dams are planned? What is happening right now? If you have Internet access go to: www.entergy.com/hydro and click on “Lakes and Tributary Data.” There you can read the most recently published flow release plan (usually issued weekly on Wednesday or Thursday); see the real time lake levels and tributary levels and subscribe to the list server to get an e-mail every time we change our plans. If you don’t have the Internet, you can **call 501-620-5760** and listen to the latest recorded message on option #3. If you have any questions please feel free to call Ted Smethers at 501-844-2162 or e-mail him at tsmethe@entergy.com.

Important Things to Remember When Planning Your New Dock.

(Effective 02-01-02)

Entergy’s requirements concerning docks on Lake Hamilton include the following:

- No more than one floating boat dock with a maximum of two major slips shall be located at each single-family residence, regardless of total lake frontage.
- Boats moored inside a slip are not to extend more than three feet outside of the slip’s permitted dimensions.
- The total overall size of a single property owner’s structure/s and slip areas at a single-family residence should not exceed a total of 1,400 square feet.
- A dock’s dimension parallel to the shoreline shall not exceed 38 feet.
- The maximum height of a boat dock’s roof should not exceed 15 feet above the normal water level.
- Elevated decks or deck/roofs on docks are not allowed.
- All new docks, including vessels moored to them, should be located between the property owner’s side lot lines so as to provide a least at 15 foot off-set from the property owner’s side lot line extended into the water.
- Construction or placement between the 15-foot offset line and the extended lot line may be allowed only with written permission from the adjoining property owner and if, in the opinion of Entergy, the construction/placement will not affect unfair use of the shoreline amongst property owners or the general public or create a hazard to safe navigation.
- Enclosing of boat docks with sides is not allowed.
- Extensions into the lake are limited to one-fourth the distance across a cove or 55’ in a direction perpendicular to the shoreline.

REMEMBER:

Permits must be obtained from Entergy for any construction on the lake or shoreline, including boat docks, piers, walkways, swim docks, landings, embankments, bulkheads, seawalls, rip-rap and dredging and filling operations. Relocation, replacement, enlargement, or significant alteration of existing facilities also requires a new permit from Entergy.

Lakefront property owners needing complete information on Entergy’s requirements and regulations concerning boat docks and other shoreline facilities on Lakes Hamilton or Catherine may call Entergy’s Hydro Operations office at (501) 844-2148.

PUBLIC SHORELINE CLEAN-UP DAY SCHEDULED

Join the



On Lakes Hamilton & Catherine Saturday September 7, 2002

Mark your calendar for September 7, 2002 and join us in a public cleanup day for Lakes Hamilton and Catherine and the Ouachita River below Rempel Dam. The Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Malvern Chamber of Commerce are partnering with the Hot Springs/Garland County Beautification Commission and Entergy in promoting this opportunity for you to help keep the lakes beautiful.

This event will consist of a three-hour public clean-up effort (8 – 11 a.m.) of the shorelines of both Lakes Catherine and Hamilton. The clean-up event will be followed by an appreciation/award luncheon (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) at the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission's "Andrew Hulsey Fish Hatchery" on Fish Hatchery Road off State Highway 290. The appreciation luncheon for all registered participants in the clean-up will be provided by "Backyard Burgers of Hot Springs" and will include food and drinks, awards, prize drawings, live entertainment and environmental education booths. You are encouraged

Lunch Provided by:



There will be five check-in stations on Lake Hamilton and five check-in stations on Lake Catherine where participants will register, obtain bags and dispose of the trash collected. Since the lake will not be in a drawdown during this time, participation in a boat is preferred. You should wear a life jacket and bring some type of tool to reach out from your boat to retrieve trash along the shore (i.e. fish net, rake or hoe). For those without boats, there will be areas at Lake Catherine State Park, Carpenter Dam Park, Hill Wheatley Park and Rempel Dam Park for walkers to clean up.

For more information you can call Marquita Kerley with the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce at 321-1700, Rosemary Darrow with the Malvern Chamber of Commerce at 332-2721, Julie Dickson with the Hot Springs/Garland County Beautification Commission at 623-7871 or Bobby Pharr with Entergy at 844-2148.

Trash Bash Check-In Stations

- Ouachita River at Rockport Ledge

Lake Catherine

- Lake Catherine State Park Boat Ramp
- Rempel Dam Park
- Diamondhead Marina
- Lake Catherine Shoe Factory Boat Ramp
- Carpenter Dam Park

Lake Hamilton

- Sunnybrook Landing
- Hulsey Fish Hatchery Boat Ramp
- Hill Wheatley Park
- 7 South Causeway
- U S Coast Guard Aux. Station (270W. Bridge)

Personal Water Craft Operator Minimum Age Requirement

No person under the age of 14 is permitted to operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state without direct adult supervision except as follows:

- Persons 12 and 13 years old may operate with a person at least 18 years old on board.
- Persons under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a person at least 21 years of age and in a position to take immediate control of the vessel.

Safety Tips:

- ✓ Wear a life jacket.
- ✓ More accidental drownings occur while swimming than during any other water-related activity.
- ✓ Never swim alone. Use the buddy system.
- ✓ You can save a drowning person. Remember the phrase "Reach, Throw, Row".
- ✓ Never dive into waters of unknown depth. Check before you dive. Every year in diving accidents more than 8,000 people suffer paralyzing spinal cord injuries and another 5,000 die before they reach the hospital.
- ✓ Learn to swim.
- ✓ Navigational lights on boats must be turned on when operating at night. Boating at night without lights is as dangerous as driving a car at night without lights.
- ✓ Slow your boat to 5 mph within 100 feet of a designated recreation area, dock, pier, raft, float, anchored boat, dam, intake structure, or other obstructions. It's the LAW.
- ✓ Alcohol and water don't mix. More than half of all the people that drown had consumed alcohol prior to their accident.
- ✓ SLOW DOWN AROUND DOCKS! Respect the rights of others while boating.
- ✓ Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio for your home and office. This will be your primary source of information about severe weather and flooding. It can be programmed to sound an alarm whenever an emergency conditions threatens your county.

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

Send their names and address to:

Entergy Hydro Operations
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501-620-5760



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Help Us With Our Mailing List
Please contact Entergy at
844-2148 with any corrections.

HYDRO OPERATIONS
141 W. County Line Road
Malvern, AR 72104



Lakes Hamilton & Catherine

Who Do I Call?

- Don't know who to call?
- Who is responsible for what?

To help you, the following is a list of lake related issues and the responsible agency or entity.

ISSUE	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/ENTITY	TELEPHONE
Water Quality	Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality	501-682-0923
	AR State Health Department – Environmental Unit	501-624-0466
Toxic Chemical and Oil Spills	Environmental Protection Agency	800-424-8802
Authorized & Unauthorized Discharges	Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality	501-682-0923
Chemical Spills	Garland County Dept. of Emergency Management	501-622-3785
	Hot Spring County 911	501-332-4911
	Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality	501-682-0923
Power Outage	Entergy	800-968-8243
Dock Facilities	Entergy Hydro Operations	501-844-2148
Marina/Rental Permits	Entergy Hydro Operations	501-844-2148
Man-made Floating Debris	Entergy Hydro Operations	501-844-2148
Drawdowns	Entergy Hydro Operations	501-844-2148
Dredging Permits	Entergy Hydro Operations	501-844-2148
	Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District	601-631-5000
Hill Wheatley Park	City of Hot Springs Parks Department	501-321-6871
Carpenter Dam Park	City of Hot Springs Parks Department	501-321-6871
Lake Catherine State Park	Arkansas State Parks & Tourism	501-844-4784
Avery Park	Corps of Engineers, Blakely Mtn. Dam	501-767-2401
Stephen's Park	Corps of Engineers, Blakely Mtn. Dam	501-767-2401
Sunnybrook Landing	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
Rommel Dam Park	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
Fisheries Management	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
Fishing Regulations	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
Navigational Buoys	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
	Garland County Sheriff's Department	501-622-3660
Boating Regulations	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
Boating Law Enforcement	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
	Garland County Sheriff's Department	501-622-3660
Boating Education & Regulations	Arkansas Game & Fish Commission	501-525-0929
	US Coast Guard Auxiliary	501-767-7706 or 767-9153
Approved Aquatic Vegetation Herbicides	Arkansas State Plant Board	(501) 225-1598
Licensed Aquatic Vegetation Applicators	Arkansas State Plant Board	(501) 225-1598