



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
441 G STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

CECW-CO

AUG - 3 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND  
DISTRICT COMMANDS, CHIEFS, CONSTRUCTION-OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

Subject: USACE Participation in the President's Initiative for a Healthier US

1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is one of seven Federal land management agencies that have teamed up with health promotion agencies for the multi-year Healthier US initiative. In June 2002, President George W. Bush announced this initiative based on the premise that increasing personal fitness and becoming healthier is critical to achieving a better and longer life. I ask each of you to embrace this initiative by making the challenge of better health a mainstay of your recreation programs.
2. The Federal land management and health promotion agencies' partnership focus is to increase public awareness of the value of our public lands and waters, while encouraging a healthier lifestyle for all Americans through outdoor recreation. Together with our partner agencies, we announced the "Get Fit with US" campaign, which began with National Trails Day on June 5, 2004. At this event, MG Strock noted that the Corps 4,300 recreation areas at 456 lakes in more than 40 states are great places to enjoy nature, participate in recreational opportunities, and get fit.
3. As your recreation managers and park rangers plan recreation activities, encourage them to not only include the "Get Fit with US" message with scheduled events, but to work with local organizations, whether it's a hiking club, junior or senior fitness groups, or a local photography group, to develop interesting and healthy activities that offer both fun and exercise. Where Corps recreation sites are located near urban areas, consider scheduling recreational activities with a healthy focus during lunch periods and before or after work.
4. I strongly encourage you and your entire organization to help the public "Get Fit with US." Your public affairs staff and recreation managers will soon receive a Corps-wide strategic communication plan and additional information about this initiative. My point of contact for this action is Mr. Don Dunwoody, our Healthier US Initiative PDT leader, (402) 697-2536.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
for DON T. RILEY  
Brigadier General, USA  
Director of Civil Works

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