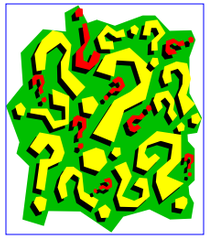

Mercer County Marina

"Did You Know" Facts:

Lake Mercer was constructed at no cost to taxpayers because the fill was used to construct Interstate 295. In 1975, the 365-acre lake began with the construction of a dam by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (now known as Natural Resources Conservation Service.)

The dam that created the lake was built to control flooding along the Assunpink Creek in the City of Trenton and neighboring areas. This project turned a former marsh into a lake suitable for boating and fishing, which led to the development of the boathouse and marina.

On the north shore of Lake Mercer, the boathouse of the Finn M. W. Caspersen Rowing Center was privately financed in 2000 by three local private schools for the use by their crew and local teams in order to develop the sport of rowing.

The Finn M.W. Caspersen Rowing Center was designated as an official Olympic training site for the 2004 Summer Games in Athens, Greece, and again for the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing, China. Olympic athletes regularly use Lake Mercer as a training site. The athletes who trained on the Lake won two medals in the 2004 Olympic Games. The US Men's Eight won the Gold Medal, and the Women's Eight won the Silver Medal.
In the 2008 Games the Women's Eight won gold, the Women's Single won silver and Men's Eight won bronze.

2011 Lake Mercer and Marina Events

April

15 &16	**Mercer Lake Sprints**
17	**MAAC Rowing Championship**

May

14 & 15	**Mid-Atlantic Junior Regional Rowing Championships**
21 & 22	**US Rowing Collegiate Championships**
28, 29 & 30	**Memorial Day Weekend** **Boat rentals available on Saturday, Sunday & Memorial Day.** **Marina opens 12 noon to 6pm on weekends-only until June 12th (last boat rents at 6pm, returns to dock by 7pm)**

June

5	Paddle For Pink Dragon Boat Races 9am to 5pm
11 &12	**New Jersey "Free Fishing Days" for 2011** **(no fishing license needed these days only)**
15	**Marina regular summer boat rental schedule begins:** **Monday and Tuesday: closed.** **Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: noon to 5pm** **Saturday & Sunday: noon to 6pm**
25	**Mercer County Freedom Festival, Mercer County Park** **2pm to 10pm (Marina closes 2 pm)**

July

23 & 24	**New Jersey State Triathlon, Mercer County Park** **5:30 am to noon**

September

5	**Labor Day - Final day of marina boat rental operations**

D&D Catering

At Mercer County Park

On the Water's Edge at the Marina

The Perfect Place for
Weddings, Parties, Business Meetings,
Corporate Events, and Private Picnics

For more information,
please call:

(609) 586-0883

Piscine Pursuits

Lake Mercer is considered one of the best "musky" fisheries in New Jersey, closely followed by the lake's large-mouth bass population. Lake Mercer truly is a "go-to" place for freshwater fishing.

Lake Mercer also has a thriving population of other species that are accessible by boat and from the shore. Licensed anglers can hope to catch any of the following species: black crappie, sunfish, yellow perch, bluegills, pumpkinseed and American eel to name a few.

The Mercer County Park Commission advocates " Catch & Release " fishing.

Directions:

Address: 334 South Post RD
West Windsor, NJ 08550

From Princeton: Take Route 1 South past Nassau Park Blvd. Go 0.4 miles under the overpass onto Quakerbridge Road (Rt. 533 South.) Go through 5 traffic lights and turn left onto Youngs Road. Then go 0.3 miles and turn right onto Hughes Drive; follow Hughes to left turn at Mercer County Park entrance (please note that the park is BEFORE Mercer County Community College.) Take the winding, divided park road for 1.2 miles, pass the West Picnic Area, and turn left at the Marina entrance.

From I-95 and I-295: Take exit 67A (Rt. 1 North towards New Brunswick.) Stay to the right and pass Quakerbridge Mall. Exit right onto Quakerbridge Road (Rt. 533 South.) Go through 4-5 traffic lights and turn left onto Youngs Road. Then go 0.3 miles and turn right onto Hughes Drive; follow Hughes to left turn at Mercer County Park entrance (please note that the park is BEFORE Mercer County Community College.) Take the winding, divided park road for 1.2 miles, pass the West Picnic Area, and turn left at the Marina entrance.

Marina Schedule and Hours of Operation

BOAT RAMP: The Marina Boat Ramp is open for public use seven days a week weather permitting, from sunrise to one hour prior to sunset. No gasoline engines, only electric motors are permitted on Lake Mercer. Lake closed when ice is present.

MARINA BOAT RENTAL SCHEDULE:
Days and times shown are "weather-permitting"

From May 28 to June 12

- Open weekends/holidays, from noon to 6pm (last boat rents at 6pm back by 7pm)

From June 15 to Sept 5 (Labor Day)

- Wednesday thru Friday, from noon to 5pm (last boat rents at 5pm back by 6pm)
- Saturdays, Sundays & holidays, from noon to 6pm (last boat rents at 6 pm back by 7pm)
- Closed Mondays and Tuesdays

Lake Tours:
Pontoon boat lake tours
Saturdays and Sundays Memorial day to Labor day
50 Min tour (15 people max)
Tours begin at: 1:00pm, 3:00pm and 5:00pm
First come first serve (weather permitting)
Adult $6, Jr $4 (12 & under) Sr $4 (62 and 0lder)

RENTAL BOATS:
Rowboats and Pedal Boats have a maximum capacity of 4 people per boat.
Kayaks available are single or two person

RENTAL FEES: Row / Pedal Boats & single person kayaks are $15 per hour. Two person kayaks are $20 per hour. All boats rented with drivers license/ID held as deposit. After the first hour the cost is $5 per every half hour or less of use. (example: 1 hour and 15 minutes of use would total $20 per row, pedal or single person kayak, two person kayak would be $25)

RULES:
-Everyone in boat must wear a life vest at all times.
-No standing, rough-housing, or bumping boats.
-**No swimming** in the lake at any time.
-You must be at least 17 yrs old to rent a boat.
-ID (proof of age) required to rent all boats
-Fishing is permitted from rowboats only.

Things To Do

The Mercer County Marina on Lake Mercer consists of a beautiful lakeside boathouse, a boat ramp for launching small boats, 1,000 square feet of docks and rental boats. Mercer Lake is approximately 2 miles long, 365 acres in area, with an average depth of 11 feet. Numerous picnic areas and miles of bike trails surround the lake.

Visitors can enjoy the following

- Boating for canoes, kayaks, small sailboats, pedal boats and rowboats.
- Free use of boat ramp
- Fishing(15 & up license req)
- Picnics/cookout outings
- Beach volleyball courts
- Lake side village playground is barrier free & accessible to children with special needs

New For 2011

- **Snack bar** located at the lower level of the Marina building offering ice cream, hotdogs, cold drinks & more.
- **Public restrooms** located lower level of marina building lake side facing the water.
- **Two person kayaks**
- **Pontoon boat nature tours** with our county naturalist.

Contact: jrogers@mercercounty.org

Mercer County Marina

Mercer County Park
West Windsor, New Jersey
(609) 448-4004

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Kevin B. Bannon
Executive Director

Operated and Maintained by the Mercer County Park Commission