

Rules and Regulations  
for  
Lake John A. Robinson  
and  
Lake Cunningham





Greer Commission of Public Works (Greer CPW)  
Rules and Regulations for Use of  
Lake John A. Robinson and  
Lake Cunningham

[www.greercpw.com](http://www.greercpw.com)

The primary function of Greer CPW's reservoirs is to ensure the availability of an adequate water supply for the citizens, businesses, and industries of our service area. Our community depends on Greer CPW to provide a water supply of excellent quality and sufficient quantity that is reasonably priced. Recreation where allowed is a secondary function.

To protect the reservoirs as a source of drinking water, Greer CPW has adopted certain rules and regulations. These rules and regulations are intended to protect and enhance the water quality; maintain and minimize disturbance of the buffer zone owned by Greer CPW around the lakes and provide safe recreation for all who use the lake.

Your participation and compliance with the rules and regulations contained in this booklet will help to ensure sustainability of these essential water resources. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Offices**

Greer CPW  
301 McCall Street  
Greer, SC 29650  
(864) 848-5500

Greer CPW Warden's Office  
Lake Robinson  
2544 Mays Bridge Road  
Greer, SC 29651  
(864) 895-3645

Lake Cunningham  
2844 N. McElhaney Road  
Greer, SC 29651

**Chief Lake Warden**  
Mike Parris

**Lake Wardens**  
Matt Holliday  
Michael Redmon

**Office Assistant**  
Britanie Turner

**Commissioners**  
Eugene G. Gibson  
Jeffery M. Howell  
Perry J. Williams

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## I. GENERAL

Lakes Cunningham and Robinson are owned and operated by the Greer Commission of Public Works (Greer CPW) as a source of water supply and recreational facilities for citizens of Greer and surrounding area.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations govern the use of Lake Robinson plus the strip of land from the water level to the elevation of 900 feet and Lake Cunningham plus the strip of land from the water level to elevation 850 feet which is the property line of all lots and tracts adjoining each reservoir respectfully (Greer CPW Reservoir Property) (Appendix B).

- (1) The Greer Commission of Public Works employs full-time Wardens who maintain an office at 2544 Mays Bridge Road. The Warden is the official custodian and is responsible for the operations of the reservoir facilities and the enforcement of these Rules and Regulations. The Warden is directly responsible to the General Manager of Greer CPW.
- (2) All persons using the lake and adjoining property owners are subject to all Rules and Regulations which have been adopted by Greer CPW. These Rules and Regulations have been enacted directing Greer CPW to have full management and control over all reservoir properties.
- (3) All Rules and Regulations of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources apply to the Lake Robinson and Lake Cunningham Reservoir Property in addition to the more restrictive rules set forth herein.
- (4) No one may utilize the strip of land between the water's edge and elevation 900 feet on Lake Robinson and elevation 850 feet on Lake Cunningham or the surface waters of either lake for commercial use, purpose, or operation.
- (5) No person shall pollute the waters or property of Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham, with sewage, garbage, rubbish, tree limbs, stumps, debris, or waste of any kind. No person shall use gasoline, oil lubricants, or any other substance in such a manner as to cause pollution of the water as previously described. Pesticides and herbicides may only be used with prior approval.
- (6) No person may have in their possession firecrackers, fireworks, explosives, or firearms to include rifles, shotguns, pistols, pellet guns, BB guns, any air gun, longbows, crossbows, dart guns, or sling shots.
- (7) There shall be no wading, bathing, or swimming permitted within 200 ft of the Lake Robinson and Lake Cunningham Parks, public landings, bridges, or restricted areas.
- (8) Authorized use of the lake and all Greer CPW Properties is allowed only between the hours of official sunrise and official sunset, with the exception of dock/bank fishing by adjoining property owners and those in their company.
- (9) Camping, picnicking, cleaning, or cooking of fish or other food items is not permitted. Picnicking is only permitted in the designated areas.
- (10) No adjacent land owner, person, firm, or corporation may remove from Greer CPW Reservoir Property (Appendix B) any trees or growth without the express approval of the Lake Warden. Only grass may be planted on the strip of land referred to above. Failure to comply may result in prosecution.
- (11) Pets must be leashed and under control at all times. Pets are not allowed in the public shelter or any area directly adjacent to a picnic table. All pets are to be curbed, and soiled areas are to be appropriately cleaned and disposed of. Horses are not allowed on Greer CPW Reservoir Property.
- (12) Vehicles are limited to the paved areas of the public access. Dirt bikes, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, and other vehicles are not permitted on Greer CPW Reservoir Property.
  - (a) The speed limit of 10 mph will be enforced within the park.
  - (b) Willful recklessness is subject to prosecution.



- (c) Abandoned vehicles left past official hours (without due reason) will be towed at the owner's expense.
  - (d) Owners of vehicles on Greer CPW Reservoir Property outside of the public access area will be charged with trespassing.
  - (e) Roller skates and skateboards are not allowed.
  - (f) Bicycles and mopeds are restricted to the paved areas of the public access.
  - (g) All vehicles are subject to search.
- (13) No one is permitted on the dams of Lakes Robinson or Cunningham, the dike, or the dirt fill area which is near the public entrance. This includes the rip-rap, the grassed banks and the graveled roads. These areas are plainly marked.
  - (14) In compliance with the South Carolina Highway Department, there will be no parking, no fishing, and no swimming from Few's Bridge (Few's Bridge Road), Tyger Bridge (Blind Tyger Road) and Gilreath Bridge (SC 101). These areas are patrolled by the County Sherriff's Department, the SC Highway Patrol, SC DNR, and the Lake Wardens.
  - (15) Baiting for the attraction of waterfowl, wildlife, and other species of birds is prohibited on Reservoir properties of Robinson and Cunningham.
  - (16) Adjacent landowners are prohibited from launching any boat or vessel onto Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham waters without a written permit from the Warden.
  - (17) All properties of Lake Robinson and Lake Cunningham except the area above the SC Highway 101 bridge are classified as bird and wildlife sanctuaries. Hunting or molestation of any waterfowl, wildlife, or other bird species on Reservoir property is prohibited and will be strictly enforced by statutes of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.
  - (18) Greer CPW in the issuance of permits and the allowance of public access, fishing, and boating, accepts no responsibility for any acts, actions, or accidents which may occur while in attendance on the lands or waters owned and operated by Greer CPW.
  - (19) No sales or exchange of money of any kind are allowed at Lake Cunningham or Lake Robinson; either on the lake, shelters or in the parking lots.

## **II. WARDEN**

- (1) The Lake Warden shall collect all fees and issue all written permits as provided in these Rules and Regulations.
- (2) The Warden shall deny admission to the reservoir areas to any person known to, have willfully violated, or to be violating any of the Rules and Regulations. Persons showing evidence of intoxication shall not be permitted to enter a boat or go upon the reservoir properties, nor will alcoholic beverages be permitted or consumed on the reservoir properties or in any boat. Persons careless in the operation of boats shall be asked to leave the reservoir areas, and be denied future admission as a Warden deems necessary. Persons who misbehave and/or are discourteous on the lake or reservoir properties so as to interfere with the peaceful use of the lake and adjoining property by others shall be asked to leave the reservoir areas and be denied future admission as a Warden deems necessary.
- (3) The Warden has the authority to revoke any/or all season or daily permits when he deems such action is necessary. The person or persons whose permit is revoked shall be verbally advised.
- (4) The Warden is hereby vested with the authority to take necessary steps to insure wholesome activities on the reservoir properties and to remove from the reservoir properties persons who are creating a nuisance or



disturbance.

### III. STRUCTURES

#### Erection of Structures on Greer CPW's Property

- (1) Only property owners owning property fronting and abutting on and forming part of the shoreline of the ponded waters of Greer CPW Reservoir Property (Appendix B) may be granted the authority to construct, install, establish, or create any such dock, boat-launching device or other facility or device for placing boats in and upon the ponded waters. In the event that lake levels should be increased, Greer CPW shall require the removal of all structures.
- (2) Before construction of any structure, a written application must be made with a Lake Warden and a written permit secured. Notify a Warden prior to construction.
- (3) A property owner (Appendix B) should not scheme or plan to permit access or use of the lakes by non-owners through means of joint ownership of a lot or lots, or the use of partnerships, clubs, corporations, or the granting of rights-of-way over or permission to use lake front lots or any other plan or scheme designed to avoid application of this rule shall be permitted. Slip leasing or dock rental is prohibited.
- (4) No temporary or permanent structure of any kind, with the exception of an approved dock or limited retaining walls as set forth may be erected on Greer CPW Reservoir Property.
- (5) Any person or persons who have erected or have caused to be erected any unapproved temporary or permanent structures on Greer CPW property shall upon request by Greer CPW immediately remove those structures from Greer CPW's Reservoir Property. Upon failure of the party or parties responsible for the construction of any improvements on Greer CPW's Reservoir Property to remove them, the Commissioners may require the removal of these structures at the expense of the person or persons who erected the improvements, and all active permits previously issued to that person shall be cancelled.

The provisions of No. (3) notwithstanding, a property owner as defined in (Appendix B) having lot frontage on Greer CPW Reservoir Property may apply to Greer CPW for permission to construct a dock or dock walkway in the following manner.

- (a) Application shall be made to a Lake Warden. The application shall include specifications of dock walkway, dock size and location of dock with reference to lake frontage owned by the landowner.
- (b) A Lake Warden shall deny permission for the construction of any dock or dock walkway which, in his/her opinion, is not warranted by the lake frontage of a particular lot, by the shape of the shoreline and by any and all other circumstances which would endanger the health, safety and welfare of persons entitled to use Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham for any authorized purpose.
- (c) If the Warden denies a permit, he shall furnish to the applicant in writing his/her grounds for the denial and such writing shall be sent by registered or certified mail.
- (d) Any landowner whose application for a permit to construct a dock or dock walkway has been denied by the Warden may appeal such decision to the General Manager of Greer CPW by written notice sent by registered mail within ten (10) days from the rejection of the application. The appeal shall set forth in writing the grounds for the appeal and include plats or drawings if location or frontage is an issue in the appeal.
- (e) A dock and/or dock walkway shall be removed by its landowner upon five (5) days written notice by a Warden to the owner by registered or certified mail.

### IV. BOATING

- (1) The operation of boats of any type authorized on Lakes Robinson or Lake Cunningham shall be at the risk of the user and shall be subject to all Federal and State Laws, Federal and State Rules and Regulations, and Rules and

Regulations set forth by Greer CPW. State Laws can be found in Title 50, Chapter 21-10 through 23-280 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina. All Regulations of the Division of Boating of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources are hereby made a part of these Regulations.

- (2) No boat, vessel, or vehicle of any kind whatsoever shall be operated for hire or for commercial purposes on Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham.
- (3) No boat or vessel shall be operated within 200 feet of the spillway of either dam.
- (4) No boat or vessel with more than a 10-horse power shall be operated on the lakes. Larger motors must be removed from any watercraft before Reservoir permits will be issued.
- (5) There shall be no rafts, hydroplanes, houseboats, jet skis, wave runners, tire-tubes, or wind-surfing craft permitted on Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham. Any inflatable craft must be approved by the Lake Warden.
- (6) It shall be the responsibility of the operator of each boat or vessel to make certain that there is a U.S. Coast Guard approved lifesaving device for each person aboard.
- (7) No person shall operate a boat or vessel at a speed in excess of ten (10) miles per hour within any cove or when approaching any dock, bridge or congested area, and, no person shall operate a boat in such a manner as to endanger the passengers of any boat or the safety of other persons or property. The operator is legally responsible for the wake of his boat.
- (8) Sailboats, kayaks, rowing sculls, paddleboards and canoes not requiring State registration will be allowed after acquiring Reservoir permits. Intentional tipping over and flipping is prohibited and will result in permit revocations.
- (9) All watercraft are prohibited from tying to the intake riser and barrel floats (located in front of the spillway), all shallow water markers, all private docks, all bridges and Greer CPW's boathouse. When using the public dock facility, watercrafts are prohibited from tying to the support brackets, pilings, and the handrails.
- (10) All boats and vessels are subject to search.
- (11) No person may use any vessel in a negligent manner so as to endanger life, limb, or property.

## **V. PERMITS**

- (1) Permits for all boats placed on the Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham must be secured from the Warden before those crafts are placed on the waters of the Reservoir. The operator must have the written permit on board at all times and the permit sticker must be attached to the boat. Boat permit fees for 100 percent disabled veterans will be waived upon the veteran furnishing documentation from the Veterans Administration.

See Fee Schedule in Appendix A.

- (2) Any boat permit may be revoked and immediately seized by a Warden whenever the holder thereof violates any of the Rules and Regulations governing the use of Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham or any of the restrictions which might be attached to the permit.
- (3) The Warden may deny a permit to any owner of any boat or vessel which:
  - (a) Is in unsafe condition.
  - (b) Is powered by a motor and is greater than eighteen (18) feet in length or is a houseboat of any type whatsoever.
  - (c) Is a raft, hydroplane, racing hull, jet ski, wind surfing craft, or any inflatable raft.
  - (d) Has motor which serial number, title number, or model number has been removed and a Warden shall revoke

the permit previously issued if he later discovers a boat propelled by a motor on which the serial number has been removed, changed, or altered.

- (4) If alterations to the exhaust system on any motor results in excessive noise no permit shall be issued. If a permit has been issued, such permit shall be immediately revoked and seized by a Warden.
- (5) No person under sixteen years of age shall operate a boat or vessel of any type, unless supervised by an adult at least 18 years of age. There shall be no more than two children under twelve years per adult in any boat or vessel. At no time shall the boat carry more than the recommended weight specified by the boat manufacturer.
- (6) Anyone twelve years of age and younger is required to wear a life jacket.
- (7) No boat of any type will be permitted to be tied up, anchored, or left on the Reservoir premises overnight. Dock owners are permitted to leave their boats secured to their docks. The motor must be disabled during this time.
- (8) Permits will not be issued to any boat on which the motor exceeds recommended HP limits.
- (9) Permits may be issued to canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, sculls or row boats without regard to length if they are only powered by rowing.

## **VI. FISHING**

- (1) Any person desiring to fish on or from Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham is required to secure a written permit from the Warden.
- (2) Loaning a fish permit is prohibited and will result in loss of privilege for all parties involved.
- (3) Season permits are written for the calendar year. The fishing access fees shall be set forth in these Rules and Regulations in Appendix A.
- (4) Anyone fishing on or from the Reservoir must have a valid South Carolina Fishing License to exhibit to a Warden.
- (5) All persons showing proof of age 65 or over may be issued a fishing permit without cost.
- (6) All Rules and Regulations of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources concerning fishing are hereby made a part of these Regulations. A copy of these Regulations is available from a Warden upon request.
- (7) No fishing shall be permitted within 200 feet of the spill way.
- (8) Upon producing leave papers, military personnel are exempt from Lake Robinson or Lake Cunningham fishing permits.
- (9) Children under age sixteen are exempt from Lake Robinson and Lake Cunningham fishing permits.
- (10) All largemouth bass in possession must be twelve (12) inches in length or larger.
- (11) Creel and size limits will be set and strictly enforced by statutes of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. See Appendix B.
- (12) Fishing below or around Lake Robinson and Lake Cunningham dams is prohibited. These are closed areas. Persons in these areas are subject to trespass charges.
- (13) The priority of the public dock facility is for the convenience of watercraft. Fishing will be permitted from the public dock only when there is no conflict with those operating watercrafts.
- (14) Fishing is to be by line attached to pole or rod, or by handheld line only. Four lines or rods per person from shore

only.

- (15) Seines, gigs, basket traps, submerged tires, eel pots, trot lines, turtle hooks, nets, cast nets, jugs, and all other methods of non-game fishing devices are not allowed. Violators will be prosecuted in compliance with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources statutes.
- (16) Upon furnishing documentation from the Veterans Administration, 100 percent disabled veterans are exempt from fishing permits.

## **VII. DREDGING OR DIGGING OF CHANNELS OR CANALS**

The dredging, digging, widening, or altering in any way of any artificial or natural channel, canal, stream, creek, tributary or any other water course is prohibited on any and all Greer CPW reservoir property. See Appendix B.

## **VIII. REVOCATION OF PERMITS**

Any permit, whether issued for structures, fishing, or boating, may be revoked by a Warden whenever the holder thereof willfully violates any of the Rules or Regulations governing the use of John A. Robinson Reservoir and Lake Cunningham or any of the restrictions which might be attached to such permit. The length of revocation of fishing and boating permits will be based on the violation(s) at the discretion of the Wardens, and reinstatement fees may be applied.

## **IX. CHANGES IN RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Rules and Regulations contained herein are subject to change by action of Greer CPW.

## **X. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR LAKE CUNNINGHAM WATERFOWL AREA**

- (1) The section of Lake Cunningham owned or leased Greer CPW, located north of Highway 101 and surrounded by O'Neal Church Road, May's Bridge Road, Groce Meadow Road, and Milford Church Road will be included in the Lake Cunningham Waterfowl Area (the area will be posted with boundary signs). The area will be open on Wednesdays from 5:30 am until 11:00 am during the waterfowl season. Shooting is not permitted until 30 minutes before official sunrise. All hunters must quit shooting by 11:00 am and leave the area by 12:00 noon.
- (2) All hunters must have in their possession a license to include a game management area permit, a state and federal waterfowl stamp, and an HIP Permit. Watercraft must display a Lake Cunningham Boat Permit obtained at the warden's office at Lake Robinson.
- (3) No hunting of any kind is permitted in this area except scheduled hunts during the waterfowl season.
- (4) All federal and state laws, limits, etc., must be followed.
- (5) Waterfowl seasons will be set by the SC Department of Natural Resources.
- (6) Only temporary blinds constructed of native vegetation are permitted. Any blind constructed once and vacated may be occupied by any other hunter on a first come basis.
- (7) Each hunter is limited to twenty-five (25) shotgun shells per hunt and no buck shot is allowed. Steel Shot Only.
- (8) Any person entering or exiting the area through private land must have written permission from the landowner.

- (9) No person may use any vessel in a negligent manner so as to endanger life, limb, or property.
- (10) Absolutely No Littering. The opportunity to hunt this area is due to the joint effort of Greer CPW and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The abuse of these privileges may result in the area being closed for hunting.

## **XI. SHELTER RENTAL**

Lake John A. Robinson has two (2) shelters available for rent at the J. Verne Smith Recreational Area. Lake Cunningham Park has one (1) shelter available for rent.

- (1) Alcohol is prohibited at each shelter location.
- (2) Shelters:

Shelter #1 has electric outlets available. Open style cookers such as fish fryers, cooking with grease or oil, and charcoal grills are not allowed in the shelter. Shelter #1 has six tables, under cover, and features a large open deck overlooking Lake Robinson. The restrooms are attached to Shelter #1 and are accessible for all park users.

Shelter #2 has four tables, under cover. You will view Lake Robinson, Glassy Mountain, and Hogback Mountain from the highest point in the park. Electric outlets are available.

Shelter #3 is located at Lake Cunningham Park, on North McElhaney Road off Highway 101 North, behind Lake Cunningham Fire Department. This shelter has three tables, under cover. Handicap parking is adjacent to the shelter, and a covered fishing pier. Electric outlets are available.

- (5) Please clean up the shelters after the reservation. Extra trash bags are available at the Warden's Office.
- (4) Reservations and payments must be made in advance. Your payment confirms your reservation. Payments can be made at the Warden's Office at Lake Robinson or by mailing your check to the following address:

Greer Commission of Public Works  
Attn: Lake Robinson  
P.O. Box 216  
Greer, SC 29652

NOTE: Designate the Shelter # and reservation date on your check.

RULES AND REGULATIONS  
ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS 11/17/86  
REVISED 02/25/13  
LATEST REVISION 06/17/2014  
LATEST REVISION 10/01/2014  
LATEST REVISION 04/24/2017  
LATEST REVISION 07/31/2017  
LATEST REVISION 07/30/2018  
LATEST REVISION 10/22/2018  
LATEST REVISION 12/19/2022

## Appendix A

### Fee Schedule

#### BOAT PERMITS

##### A. DAILY PERMITS

For Boats without Motors and Boats with Motors up to 10 HP \$5.00

##### B. SEASON PERMITS (Calendar Year)

For Boats without Motors and Boats with Motors up to 10 HP

Motorized \$55.00

Non-motorized \$30.00

#### FISHING PERMITS

##### SEASON PERMITS (Calendar Year)

Fishing from Boat or Shore – South Carolina Resident \$5.00

Fishing from Boat or Shore – Out of State Resident \$15.00

#### DUCK HUNTING PERMITS

\$30.00

#### SHELTER RENTAL FEES

Shelter #1 \$300.00 daily

Shelter #2 \$150.00 daily

Shelter #3 \$100.00 daily



## Appendix B

### Definitions

Greer CPW Reservoir Property – The strip of land owned by Greer CPW extending from the water level to higher elevation of 900 feet above mean sea level to which is adjoining the lake on Lake Robinson and 850 feet above mean sea level on Lake Cunningham.

Mean Sea Level (msl)– The measure of average height of the ocean’s surface used as a standard in reckoning land elevation.

Property Owner - a single person or single-family unit owning a lot or parcel of land of sufficient land area and dimensions to secure a Greenville County Building Permit to construct a residence thereon and to accommodate a septic tank system approved by the Greenville County Health Department.

Title 50, Chapter 21-10 through Chapter 23-280 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina-  
<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/title50.php>

Creel Limits – [www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/)



N HWY 101

FEWS BRIDGE

Grice Meadow Rd

 BOAT RAMP







# Lake Cunningham



WATERFOWL  
AREA

BOAT RAMP

N MICELHANEY RD

101.544N

MEMORIAL DR EXT.

N HWY 14

1 inch = 1,167 feet



**Notes:**

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