

# LAKE DRUMMOND RESERVATION



We are pleased to submit to you the following information for the Lake Drummond Reservation in the heart of the Great Dismal Swamp. The southern portion of the reservation, approximately 1 acre, is open for visitation for outdoor and wilderness experience and historical appreciation. While the Lake Drummond Reservation is open to the public, you visit at your own risk and must comply with Virginia State Park COVID-19 guidelines. **There are no public restrooms or water available during the months of December, January, and February.**

The reservation is accessible only by water via the Dismal Swamp Canal and Feeder Ditch leading to the spillway at Lake Drummond. Canoes and small vessels with a draft of 3 feet or less can transmit the Feeder Ditch to the reservation, water depths decrease during low water events in the canal. A dock is available for small vessels. Small vessels weighing less than **1,000 pounds** will be able to transit the marine railway to enter the lake when the operator is on duty from March to November. The Dismal Swamp Canal Boat Ramp is located off the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail (old US-17), approximately 3 miles north of the North Carolina/Virginia state line, about ¼ mile north of Ballahack Road in Chesapeake. This ramp is maintained and operated by the City of Chesapeake at no cost to the public and overnight parking is allowed.

There are no public roads leading into the reservation. An operator is on duty from approximately 8:30 am ~ 4:00 pm except New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. When an operator is off duty, the house, marine railway, and spillway gates are locked, and limited communication is available with the reservation. Visitors enter and depart the reservation without entering any locked areas.

No reservations are required and no fees are charged. The reservation is lighted from sunset to dawn. You will need to bring your own drinking and cooking water. The reservation has the following facilities:

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|--|-------------------------|
| (1) Fire pit   | (2) Open grills         |
| (2) Screened-in sheds with tables  | (8) Total Picnic tables |
| (2) Comfort stations with non-potable water are normally open March to November. |                         |

Public safety and security are a priority, and visitors are reminded that hazards of all types exist in such an isolated location, whether a result of nature, and the environment or as a result of human behavior. A 911 emergency phone is available, and visitors are encouraged to bring their cellular phones (occasionally service is not available). No firearms are permitted on the reservation and pets are allowed if on a leash less than six feet in length or otherwise physically restrained. Persons bringing pets in this designated area shall be responsible for proper removal of any waste produced by these animals.

If you plan on visiting the reservation, we wish you good weather and a pleasant time. Please assist us in keeping the area clean. For additional information please contact the US Army Corps of Engineers at 757.201.7642.

**Information provided by:**  
**DISMAL SWAMP CANAL WELCOME CENTER**  
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