Spartanburg Water – Boat Landing Re-Opening Q & A

In support of Governor Henry McMaster’s recent modification to his Executive Order 2020-16, Spartanburg Water has made the decision to re-open the boat landings at both Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock at noon today, for the purpose of launching and retrieving boats.

We understand you probably have questions regarding this opening and remaining restrictions in place. Here are some of the most common questions and answers:

Q: Why is SWS now reopening the boat landings?
A: Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order 2020-25 on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 5 p.m., which revised portions of Executive Order 2020-16. Though SWS was not required to do so, we have made the decision to re-open the boat landings with restrictions remaining in place, per the Governor’s revised order.

Q: Are the Parks open?
A: No. The front gates are open only to allow for boaters and fishermen to launch and retrieve their permitted watercraft. No other activities or facilities will be allowed. The fishing piers, playground, picnic tables, and Lake Offices will remained closed.

Q: What hours will the boat landings be open?
A: 6am-midnight, as per SCDNR regulations.

Q: How can I purchase/renew a boat permit?
A: The Lake Offices are closed to the public at this time. But, you may mail in the renewal form, or use the drop-boxes located at both Lake Offices outside the entrance doors to drop off renewals with payment. Boat Permit stickers will be mailed to your residence.

Q: Is the fishing pier at Compton Bridge open?
A: No. The fishing piers at both Compton Bridge and at the Lake Blalock Park remain closed.

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Q: Are the four public access areas along the shoreline open?
A: No. The four public access fishing areas on SWS property surrounding the reservoirs remain closed.

Q: Are the restrooms at the Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock boat landings open?
A: No. All the public restrooms at the Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock parks remain closed.

Q: Can boaters have more than 2 people on their boat?
A: Yes, but only if they are members of a family that live in the same residence. This is per SCDNR current regulations.

Q: Can I anchor my boat?
A: Yes, but only for the purposes of fishing. At all other times, the boat must remain underway.