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*Above: Dam Safety Inspection Lead Veronica Barredo examines instruments on the upstream side of the earthen embankment.  
Below: Veronica uses a tablet to record her observations from the top of the earthen embankment.*



### **Dam Safety is Priority One at Boone Dam**

Boone Dam is monitored for safety 24 hours a day. The dam safety inspection program includes dam safety inspectors and engineers who walk miles in a day, checking slope inclinometers (instruments that monitor subsurface movement), piezometers (instruments that measure water pressure), survey monuments and water quality monitoring stations. They provide a visual, human inspection that supplements the network of more than 200 automated instruments located throughout the dam. If changes are detected above a certain threshold, the instruments automatically send text messages and emails to members of the dam safety inspection team. “The dam safety inspectors provide ‘boots on the ground’ to help identify in real-time any changing conditions at Boone Dam,” said TVA Dam Safety Inspection Lead Veronica Barredo. Adding one more layer of scrutiny, divers enter the water for periodic underwater visual inspections of the dam’s filter berm.

**Progress Update:** Our Boone Dam neighbors should notice an increase in construction activity over the next few weeks as contractors and drill rigs move back onsite for some additional testing of the effectiveness of drilling and grouting work to date. Upstream berm construction is scheduled to begin in August.

### **Community News: Coalition for Kids + STEM = Summer Learning**

STEM on the Go Learning never stops at the Coalition for Kids, an organization that provides education and care to at-risk children in Johnson City. To help the Coalition stay on the go all summer long, TVA awarded the organization a \$2,000 grant to help promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education. The funds were used to purchase 19 “walking classroom” sets that allow students to walk or exercise while listening to headsets (similar to self-guided tours at museums) therefore combining exercise and education. “We really appreciate TVA and their support of STEM education,” says Coalition for Kids executive director Randy Hensley. “TVA’s donation actually helps us prevent summer learning loss. The STEM headsets allow our summer campers to keep on learning while staying active in the summer.”



*“Walking classrooms” allow students to listen and learn facts about STEM subjects while moving around at a brisk pace.*

### **Giving Back to the Community**

One way TVA carries out its mission of serving the people of the Tennessee Valley is by being a good neighbor and supporting the community. Some of the not-for-profit groups we have supported in the Tri-Cities area include Speedway Children's Charities, the Hands On Museum, Second Harvest Food Bank, the Boone Lake Association and the ETSU Eagle Cam. TVA is also a sponsor of the *First LEGO Robotics* competition and other STEM education programs in the Tri-Cities area. In addition to monetary support, the Boone Dam project regularly gives surplus items to local charity. In the photo at right, TVA Boone Dam workers pose with a few of the 350 gallons of surplus paint recently donated to the Kingswood School for Children in Bean Station.



*Members of the TVA Boone Dam team donated 350 gallons of surplus paint to Kingswood School for Children.*

### **Reminder: Submit Your Summer Fun Pictures #TVAFun**

Whether it's a tube, kayak or bass boat, Boone Lake is the place to float on the water on a hot summer day! Remember to take lots of pictures while you're out enjoying the lake. Be sure to use the hashtag #TVAFun when you upload your photos to social media in order to win some great prizes! Visit [TVA.com/TVAFun](http://TVA.com/TVAFun) for details. The contest runs through September 11.



**Vegetation Management Questions?** Be sure to download: <https://www.tva.com/Newsroom/Boone-Dam-Project/Boone-Exposed-Lakebed-An-Owners-Guide> for tips on maintaining lakebed property.



*Gone Fishin' like these #TVAFun submissions from Boone Lake.*

**New Community News Updates:** Remember, we'll keep you informed in between monthly editions of this newsletter through the new "Community News" section of the [Boone website](http://Boone website). We'll also update the @BooneRepair Twitter feed and, if needed, provide special newsletter editions. You can always e-mail us questions at [boonelake@tva.gov](mailto:boonelake@tva.gov), or stop by the TVA Community Relations trailer at the intersection of Boone Dam and Minga Roads.

**How to Receive Regular Updates** "The Boone Dam Update" is published monthly to help keep TVA's stakeholders informed on the activities associated with repairing the earthen embankment at Boone Dam. These updates and other information are available at TVA's website: [Boone Repair](http://Boone Repair) and via email distribution.

*If you'd like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit [Boone Repair](http://Boone Repair) and submit your email address where you see "Sign up below to get weekly updates via email."*  
Learn more the Boone Project and other TVA activities on Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/TVA> and on twitter @BooneRepair.

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