

DUBLIN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

1017 NORTH MAIN, SUITE 201, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78212-4721 (210) 227-0221 FAX (210) 227-6634

For more information, contact Rose Marie Eash/Phil West, Dublin & Associates, 210.227.0221, or Judy Young, New Braunfels Chamber's CVB, 800.572.2626.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2003

NEW BRAUNFELS OFFICIALS FOCUS ON SAFETY AS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND APPROACHES

Water releases from Canyon Reservoir to provide good summer recreation opportunity

NEW BRAUNFELS – Memorial Day Weekend is traditionally one of the busiest weekends on the calendar for tubing enthusiasts, and New Braunfels residents are ready to welcome thousands of visitors to the water. But, now more than ever, city officials are urging visitors to make safety a primary concern.

“We’re expecting a number of people coming this weekend to be visiting the Guadalupe and Comal for their first time since last summer’s floods,” said Judy Young, director of the New Braunfels Chamber’s Convention and Visitors Bureau. “We want everyone to be aware that the floods have physically changed some sections of the rivers. We encourage everyone to be as cautious as you are when first visiting a new river to ensure you have fun and stay safe. We’ll have great flow in the Guadalupe for the Memorial Day weekend so we’re looking forward to a great holiday kick off for the summer.”

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is releasing water from Canyon Reservoir allowing visitors to enjoy a 300 cubic feet per second (cfs) release beginning today and continuing through Monday, May 26, for the Memorial Day weekend. Beginning Tuesday, May 27, the release will be at least 210 cfs.

City officials, anticipating a busy summer season, have taken measures to help increase water safety awareness, including a new signage campaign unveiled earlier this month at the city's Running of the Tubes event. The signs, which will be posted along the rivers, alert water enthusiasts to rules intended to keep the waterways safe and clean.

City and county law enforcement officials will be out in force this weekend to help maintain safety on the rivers.

"We want people to have a good time," said Adam Cork, mayor, the City of New Braunfels. "It looks like we're going to have good stream flow throughout the summer, barring any unusual weather conditions so we're looking forward to welcoming everyone to New Braunfels for some good family fun in our rivers. We just want to make sure they can return home safely and tell their friends how much fun they had in New Braunfels."

###

Editors Note: Signage samples available as jpegs.

Guidelines for summer fun in New Braunfels:

- **Obey the laws** — to insure that everyone can enjoy the river and be safe, all laws will be strictly enforced.

Remember there are laws against:

- **Public intoxication**
- **Minors in possession**
- **Possession of controlled substances**
- **Lewd behavior**
- **Public nuisance behavior** (*which could include foul language, gestures, water cannons, funnels or behavior insensitive to a family environment*)
- **Trespassing** (*Please note most of the river bank is private property -- you should only use public facilities to get on/off the river*)
- **Glass and foam products (ice chest, cups, floats, etc.) on the rivers** — This ordinance protects you from injury and helps us preserve the beauty of the rivers.
- **Littering — Please use trash containers — The fine for littering is \$200 to \$2000** — We've added more trash containers along the rivers and outfitters will provide mesh bags so you can help keep the river beautiful on your tube/raft/canoe trip. We will also provide additional trash pick up on busy holiday weekends.
- **Jumping off bridges** — Remember jumping off of anything into the river is very dangerous!
- **Excessive noise** — The city has a recently passed noise ordinance for the rivers. Those with audio devices like radios and stereos need to keep the volume at a reasonable level or they can be cited if audible over 50 feet away

ALSO:

- **Keep pets on leashes at all times.** We recommend that you leave pets at home for their own safety.
- **Respect others on the water.** - (Water cannons and funnels are discouraged)
- **Use designated shuttle stops,** which are clearly marked to catch a ride back to your outfitter.
- **Use designated parking spaces.** The city has parking at Prince Solms Park, vehicles \$5, RV's \$7.

We've added:

- **New signs to mark the distance to the next public exit, alert you to the upcoming tube chute, and provide directions** to make your trip more enjoyable and safe.
- **New public restroom facilities** for your convenience.

###