

New and improved



Seneca Creek access area project underway

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SENECA — Progress is noticeable on an approximately \$3 million project that includes a new three-lane boat ramp at the Seneca Creek access area.

Located on Lake Hartwell at 280 Seneca Creek Road, the creek's access area project includes construction of two courtesy docks for the boat ramp, a fishing pier and a kayak launch.

Oconee parks, recreation and tourism director Phil Shirley said construction of the boat ramp began in late February.

"We have completed two separate concrete pours and the initial push of the ramp into the lake. Once the ramp is completed in the water, the site work for the remainder of the park will start," he said.

Crews finished the boat



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Above: Crews work to complete construction of a new three-lane boat ramp at the Seneca Creek access area on Lake Hartwell. Top: The new boat ramp is shown before being pushed into the water on Lake Hartwell.

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PROJECT: Area 'will become extremely popular'

'A tremendous amount of planning and support has been put toward this project by a number of partners, and we appreciate the public's patience during the construction process.'

Phil Shirley

Oconee parks, recreation and tourism director

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ramp earlier this month, according to Shirley.

Engineered by Thomas and Hutton and completed by the Belk Company, the new design will also have a picnic area, parking for up to 49 vehicles with trailers, parking for 20 single vehicles and security cameras in partnership with Clemson University.

The Seneca Creek access area has been closed since Jan. 4 for the site improvements approved by Oconee

County Council in December.

With an expected 11-month construction timeline, the Seneca Creek access area is expected to reopen in December.

Shirley said updates and timeline alterations will be announced "throughout the project as required for completion."

"We are extremely excited to be at the point of construction for the Seneca Creek access area," he said. "A tremendous amount of planning and support has

been put toward this project by a number of partners, and we appreciate the public's patience during the construction process. I believe the improved access area will become extremely popular for Lake Hartwell access upon completion."

Lake Hartwell can still be accessed through nearby access ramps including Lawrence Bridge, Twelve Mile, Clemson Marina, Martins Creek and Twin Lakes.

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