



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Gary D. Maynard
Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mark Vernarelli (410) 339-5065

Next Project For WCI Inmates: Bear-Proof Enclosures to Protect Campers' Food at Deep Creek Lake

TOWSON, MD (May 18, 2009)---WCI's inmate work crew, already locally heralded for trail maintenance, tree and flower growing, and a wide variety of community improvement projects in Allegany and Garrett counties, will add another to the list on Tuesday: installing bear-proof enclosures at campsites near Deep Creek Lake.

The enclosures, designed to protect campers' food and belongings, will be in place in time for the traditional start of summer: this weekend's Memorial Day holiday.

Six minimum-security inmates and two WCI maintenance officers will be on-site Tuesday and Wednesday at the campground, located off Glendale Road and U.S. 219. They will be fastening the 50 cage-like enclosures to the ground. The project is another partnership between The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the Department of Natural Resources.

It's also an extension of DPSCS Secretary Gary Maynard's successful "Public Safety Works" campaign, which has already led to inmates building oyster spat cages for the Bay (Eastern Shore); locking access gates for the C&O Canal National Park (Hagerstown); growing and replanting Chesapeake Bay grasses (Hagerstown and Eastern Shore); and a wide variety of community improvement projects from Baltimore to Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore to Garrett County. Inmates are accomplishing more community-enhancing projects in more places than ever before, all the while protecting the environment and the State's most precious natural resources.

WCI Administrative Officer Bill Jewell has set-up the bear-proof enclosure project and will be on-site both days.

###

www.dpscs.state.md.us