

## Public Information

06/29/2015

**Caswell Memorial State Park** is experiencing a phenomenon known as *Summer Branch Drop*. The term describes the failure of mature tree branches in summer, with no obvious cause. The failure of trees is inherently unpredictable.

- The campgrounds and day-use areas are open. Visitors are advised that some native tree species like those at Caswell Memorial State Park may exhibit summer branch drop, which can potentially cause injury, death or property damage.
- Visitors are advised to use caution when visiting the day-use areas or camping, especially if they are seeking shade under mature tree canopies. Visitors should avoid camping, setting up tents, picnicking, laying down, sitting or parking vehicles beneath large branches, especially during hot summer days.
- Summer branch drop is a natural phenomenon whereby a healthy branch or trunk separates from the remaining tree, often with no warning.
- Summer branch drop often occurs on hot windless days. Larger, more mature trees are more susceptible to this natural occurrence, but it may occur at any time and on any tree.