



**US Army Corps of Engineers**®

**EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE**

**PITTSBURGH DISTRICT**



**BUILDING STRONG**®

**East Branch Clarion River Lake**, authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938, is one of 16 flood damage reduction projects in the Pittsburgh District. East Branch Clarion River Lake is a key link in a system of flood damage reduction projects for the Allegheny and Upper Ohio Rivers, Clarion River Valley and especially the Boroughs of Johnsonburg and Ridgway, Pennsylvania.

Since its completion in 1952, East Branch Clarion River Lake has prevented flood damages estimated to be more than 88 million dollars.

The reservoir also provides low flow augmentation during dry periods when water quality or flow is critical to reduce pollution and provide water for domestic, industrial and recreation uses downstream of the dam. Water released from the reservoir helps maintain commercial river traffic in coordination with other Pittsburgh District and Great Lakes and Ohio River Division flood damage reduction projects.



## Recreation

In the heart of Elk County and scenic upper Clarion River Valley, the US Army Corps of Engineers invites you to visit and enjoy the ideal setting for a variety of recreational experiences. East Branch Lake is surrounded by Elk State Park, Elk State Forest and State Game Lands to further enhance the idyllic setting of your visit.

With its clean, clear, deep waters, East Branch Clarion River Lake offers anglers the opportunity to harvest tiger muskellunge, smallmouth bass, walleye or lake trout. Try fly fishing in the delayed harvest area below the dam to land a trophy trout. For the hearty angler, try ice fishing during the winter months.

Boats with unlimited horse power, canoes and kayaks can take the opportunity to recreate and visit secluded bays and experience unspoiled scenery and nature.

The East Branch Campground provides a tranquil setting for a camping experience that will make you want to visit us again. The campground has 20 electric campsites, 12 non-electric campsites and 9 "walk-in" tent sites. A modern shower/restroom is located within the campground. Camping is self-registration, "first-come, first-served". No reserving.

For a relaxing picnic with family and friends, take advantage of the Overlook Picnic Area and enjoy the panoramic view of the lake and dam. Take a hike on the adjacent self-guided Shady Ridge Nature Trail.

Hunting is prohibited on federal property, however adjacent to East Branch Clarion River Lake is Elk State Forest and state game land that will provide hunters with an abundance of game such as, deer, turkey, bear and small game.



**East Branch Lake**  
**631 East Branch Dam Road**  
**Wilcox, PA 15870-9748**  
**(814) 965-2065**

**Daily Lake & Recreation Information:**  
**(814) 965- 5851**

[www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/rec.htm](http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/rec.htm)

## Lake and Dam Statistics

Location: On the East Branch of the Clarion River, 7.3 miles upstream from its junction with the West Branch of the Clarion River at Johnsonburg, PA. The project is located entirely in Elk County.

Total Area: . . . . . 1,554 acres  
Drainage area above dam: . . . . . 72.4 sq. mi.  
Construction costs: . . . . . \$9,003,000

## Dam

Type structure:  
Rolled earth-filled with impervious core

Volume of earthfill and rockfill:  
. . . . . 2,761,224 cu yd  
Maximum height above streambed: . . . . 184 ft.  
Total length: . . . . . 1,725 ft.  
Max. width at base: . . . . . 1,115 ft.

Outlet works: 10' x 1,252' concrete lined tunnel  
. . . . . Two 3.33' x 12' sluice gates  
. . . . . Two 2' x 2' sluice gates  
. . . . . Four 4' x 6' intake gates

Paved open side channel 250' x 2,290'

## Lake

Length at normal pool: . . . . . 5.7 mi.  
Summer Area: . . . . . 1,160 acres  
Maximum Area: . . . . . 1,370 acres

Elevation above sea level:  
Streambed at dam: . . . . . 1,523 ft.  
Summer Pool: . . . . . 1,670 ft.  
Maximum Pool: . . . . . 1,685 ft.

**Enjoy a safe outing.  
Observe these safety tips!**

**Water Hazards**

Boat with caution! Be especially aware of the existence of underwater obstructions. In addition, floating debris may be at or near the lake surface as a result of fluctuating lake levels. Boaters and skiers should be watchful for these hazards; because of these floating and underwater hazards, diving is discouraged.

**Life Jackets**

When boating, the best protection against drowning is to wear your life jacket. U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets are required if you are less than 13 years of age, a non-swimmer, are on a boat less than 16 feet in length, or are in a canoe or kayak. Know the rules before you go out on the water.

**Fire Protection**

The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by obeying the No Open Fire regulation.

**Boaters**

Be considerate of those in canoes or fishing at anchor.

**Alcohol and Boating Don't Mix**

Don't drink while operating a boat. Alcohol is involved in at least 50 percent of all drownings and a major cause of death in recreational boating accidents.

**Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all Corps of Engineers lake lands and waters!**

**Be alert to changing weather/ lake conditions**

Storms can come on very quickly. If lightning is spotted, head for shore immediately and seek out a safe location.

**Firearms and ammunition**

The US Army Corps of Engineers does not honor State-issued concealed weapon permits, prohibits loaded concealed weapons, the possession of loaded firearms or ammunition on lands and waters administered by the US Army Corps of Engineers per 36 C.F.R. § 327.13(a).

**Anglers**

Use a wading stick to check for sudden drop-offs in the water and for extra balance.

**East Branch Clarion River Lake**

	Camper Dumping Station Campground	Drinking Water	Launching Ramps	Fee Areas	Accessible Restroom	Picnic Areas	Shower	Snackbar	Nature Trails
East Branch Dam Recreation Area									
East Branch Campground	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
East Branch Launch Ramp									
Instanter Launch Area	*		●	●	●	●	●	●	●

\* Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources



Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of this lake are set forth in Title 36, Chapter III, of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in public areas of this lake.

