

## **Interpretation**

Corps interpretive services and outreach programs offer a variety of recreational activities. Included are dam tours, guided nature walks, campfire programs, environmental education, educational films, environmental learning center opportunities and much more. And there is something of interest for everyone at our 10 visitor information centers. Individuals can also assist in providing stewardship of the many natural, cultural and recreational resources at our lakes by volunteering their time and talents. For a list of volunteer projects jump to The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers **Nationwide Volunteer Clearinghouse** Web page.

Most of the Pittsburgh District lake projects offer summer public programs such as Dam Tours, Campground Programs and Guided Walks.

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### **Berlin Lake** (330) 547-3781

Berlin Lake has a self-guided nature trail at the Mill Creek Recreation Area. Check out the **Hiking** section on this page for more information.

Berlin Lake also has interpretive programs during the Camping Season. Check with the Berlin Lake Rangers or Gate Attendants when you visit for more information on upcoming programs.

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### **Conemaugh River Lake** (724) 639-9013

Environmental/cultural resources programs are scheduled in the summer. These programs could include historic walking tours of the canal and railroad history associated with the area and exemplified by canal and railroad remains on Corps property. Other programs will be general programs covering possible topics of wetlands and ponds/lakes.

The Visitor Information Center is open. Numerous displays and exhibits will provide information on local history and wildlife. Hours vary.

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### **Crooked Creek Lake** (724) 763-3161

Campground programs are also presented during the summer recreation season. Information on scheduling dam tours can be obtained by calling the project office.

The **Crooked Creek Lake Environmental Learning Center** has been leased to the Armstrong Education Trust. They will use the facility to provide resource conservation education for the community of learners at large.

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**East Branch Clarion River Lake** (814) 965-2065

Contact the project office for information on scheduling dam tours.

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**Kinzua Dam/Allegheny Reservoir** (814) 726-0661

A wide variety of interpretive services are offered on-site, which are designed to inform the public on topics ranging from flood control to the natural world. By far the most popular are guided tours of Kinzua Dam, available to groups by appointment. Kinzua's staff also provides off-site programs to a wide variety of civic and school groups.

Information displays and exhibits will be provided for public viewing at the Visitor Information Center from June to October.

A weekly dam tour is available from June through August. Contact the Office for dates and times. Depending on security levels, the tours may only be of the exterior of the dam.

In addition, Interpretive programs are available at **Allegheny State Park** and at sites within the **Allegheny National Forest**.

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**Loyalhanna Lake** (724) 639-9013

Campground programs are conducted at the Bush Recreation Area on Saturdays and Holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Information on scheduling dam tours can be obtained by calling the above number.

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**Mahoning Creek Lake** (814) 257-8811

Dam tours need to be pre-scheduled due to security concerns. Many things can affect a planned tour so visitors are asked to call our office for any changes and to confirm if a tour is to be given. Only one tour per day is given. Group tours may be arranged in advance by calling the ranger office at 814-257-8811.

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**M. J. Kirwan Dam & Reservoir** (330) 358-2622

Beginning in May 2003 and then every Friday through the summer season, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host a series of programs (*Friday's at Mike's*) highlighting the natural, cultural and historical significance of the reservoir and it's surrounding area. Guided nature walks will be available on alternating weekends during the summer. Reservation are not necessary. Group dam tours need to be scheduled in advance. For further information, contact the staff at Kirwan Dam by calling 330-358-2622.

The *Friday's at Mike's* programming includes the following: Lewis and Clark - 200 Years Later, Wild Orphan Babies, the valley's first inhabitants, Ohio wildlife, Ohio's colonial Frontier in Art, Alaska by Camera, Canals in NE Ohio, Before and After the Dam and Hawks Headed South. Please call the above number to have a free program sent to you.

The West Branch State Park Naturalist also conducts special programs during the peak recreation season. For more information on this park, go to the [\*\*West Branch State Park\*\*](#) Web page.

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**Mosquito Creek Lake** (330) 637-1961

Tours of the water control tower are may be scheduled for groups in advance. Call the project office at 330-637-7312.

The Mosquito State Park Naturalist also conducts special programs during the peak recreation season. For more information on this park, go to the [\*\*Mosquito Lake State Park\*\*](#) Web page.

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**Shenango River Lake** (724) 962-7746

Pre-scheduled dam tours may be available to the public. Please call the above number to check.

Campground programs are conducted every Saturday night at the Frances A. Lamphear Amphitheater in the Shenango Recreation Area Campground, Memorial Day through Labor Day. These programs consist of invited guest speakers or audio-visual programs.

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**Stonewall Jackson Lake** (304) 269-4588

Contact the project office at the above number to schedule a dam tour.

The Visitor Information Center provides fun, hands-on exhibits. Numerous history and wildlife displays can be viewed. Hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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**Tionesta Lake** (814) 755-3512

Interpretive services offered at Tionesta Lake are varied. Campground programs and Control Tower tours may be scheduled during the summer months. Programming for school, and Scout and other organizations may be scheduled. Topics include but are not limited to, conservation, environmental stewardship, flood risk management, water safety, wildlife, trees, wildflowers, birds, reptiles and amphibians, fish, astronomy, outdoor recreation, wildlife and fish management, local history, native American lore, pioneer crafts and skills, survival, orienteering and weather.

Programs may take many forms, such as "show and tell" sessions (e.g., live and mounted wildlife specimens), and slide and video presentations (e.g., wildflowers, local and native American history), nature hikes, Control Tower tours and "hands on" and "how to" programs (e.g., pioneer crafts and skills, outdoor recreation). Programs may occur onsite at the Outflow Picnic Pavilion, Control Tower or other park areas. Also programming is done offsite at school and group meeting places.

The Information Center is open on weekends during the summer months, hours vary. For more information about specific programs and dates, and to make inquiries about programming for your school or group, please call the Tionesta Lake office at 814-755-3512.

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**Tygart Lake** (304) 265-1760

Information concerning tours of the dam can be obtained by calling the Corps of Engineers lake office at (304) 265-1760.

A Visitor Information Center is open to the public. Numerous displays depict the wildlife and recreational opportunities that are available at Tygart Lake. Hours are daily from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Interpretive programs are offered by the Tygart Lake State Park Naturalist during the summer season. For more information on this park, go to the [Tygart Lake State Park](#) Web page.

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**Union City Dam** (814) 763-4422

No programming is done at Union City Dam.

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**Woodcock Creek Lake** (814) 763-4422

Information on tower tours can be obtained by contacting the Lake office for dates and times.

The Visitor Information Center is open weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Hours vary.

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**Youghiogheny Lake** (814) 395-3242

Self-guided dam tours may available depending on security levels. Campground programs are scheduled to be conducted during the recreation season.

The Visitor Information Center is open late Spring to early Fall.