

Recreation

Located in picturesque north-central West Virginia, Tygart Lake's deep waters and irregular shoreline contrast strikingly with the rugged character of the surrounding terrain. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to discover the natural beauty of Tygart Lake and its scenic vistas that provide an ideal setting for many outdoor recreational activities and adventures.



A stop at the Corps' Visitor Center for brochures and maps is a good way to start your visit to Tygart Lake. While there, enjoy the many interesting exhibits.

Park Rangers provide weekly dam tours during the summer and scheduled group tours year-round. Call the Park Office for tour information and registration.



The Day Use Area at Tygart Dam features an overlook of the dam, a Visitor Center, picnic sites with grills and a pavilion that may be reserved. There are also two hiking trails that lead onto State Park trails.

All other areas of Tygart Lake are licensed by the Corps of Engineers to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources as part of Tygart Lake State Park and the Pleasant Creek Wildlife Management Area.

Those seeking overnight accommodations at Tygart Lake have a choice between lodge or cabin facilities available at Tygart Lake State Park. Campgrounds are available at both the State Park and the Pleasant Creek Wildlife Management Area for those desiring a more rustic experience during their stay.



There are many different species of wildlife, flora and fauna to enjoy at Tygart Lake. Please help protect Tygart's natural wonders by not littering or damaging the environment.

Tygart Lake's 31 miles of shoreline and deep waters have made the lake a popular site for power boaters and waterskiing enthusiasts. The lake's irregular shoreline also provides many inlets and backwater areas for canoes and small fishing boats to explore. Excellent access to the lake by four boat launching ramps and a public marina contribute to the lake's popularity with boaters. Fishing and pontoon boats are available for rental at the marina located in the State Park.

The exceptional clarity of the lake is also attracting an ever increasing number of scuba divers to explore its depths, especially in the area of Henderson's Rock.

Tygart Lake is considered by many to be one of the best bass waters in the area and fishing its waters can be an exciting experience. In addition to a variety of bass, anglers will find walleye, catfish, muskie, crappie and perch.



Ten miles of deep clean water and unlimited horsepower rating attract many different types of boaters and water enthusiasts to Tygart Lake.



All species of fish in Tygart Lake are sustained through natural reproduction, rather than stocking, attesting to the exceptional water quality of the lake. Fishing for trout and walleye in Tygart Dam's tail waters is also popular with many anglers. Trout are stocked in the tail waters on a regular basis by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

Tygart Dam, authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1935, was the first of 16 flood control projects in the Pittsburgh District. The project provides flood protection for the Tygart River Valley as well as the Monongahela and upper Ohio Rivers.

During periods of low water, Tygart releases additional water downstream to support commercial navigation on the Monongahela and upper Ohio Rivers.



Tygart Lake has the capacity to store the equivalent runoff of 4.56 inches of precipitation from its 1,184 square mile drainage area. Since its completion in 1938, Tygart has prevented flood damages approaching \$1.2 billion. The Tygart project was also authorized for navigation and water supply purposes.

Lake and Dam Statistics

<i>Location:</i> On the Tygart Valley River about 2.25 miles above Grafton. The lake is located in Taylor and Barbour Counties, W. Va.	
<i>Project area, acres</i>	5,962
<i>Drainage area, square miles</i>	1,184
<i>Construction cost</i>	\$18,432,000

Dam

<i>Type of structure:</i> concrete gravity with an uncontrolled spillway	
<i>Height above streambed, feet</i>	230
<i>Length, feet (concrete section)</i>	1,921
<i>Width at base, feet</i>	207
<i>Volume of concrete, cubic yards</i>	1,251,550
<i>Outlet Works:</i> 8-5.67" x 10' gate-controlled sluices, 2-54" ring jet valve controlled sluices	

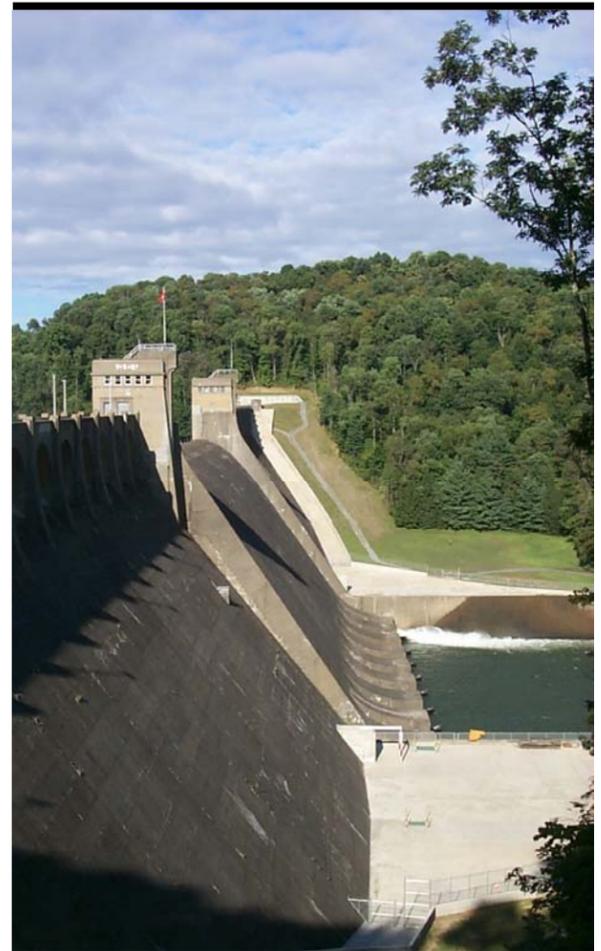
Lake

<i>Length at normal pool, miles</i>	10
<i>Area, acres:</i>	
<i>Maximum (reservoir full)</i>	3,440
<i>Normal (summer pool)</i>	1,750
<i>Elevation, feet above sea level:</i>	
<i>Maximum (reservoir full)</i>	1,167
<i>Normal (summer pool)</i>	1,094
<i>Minimum pool</i>	1,010
<i>Streambed at dam</i>	960



US Army Corps of Engineers
Pittsburgh District

Tygart Lake



Tygart Lake
Route 1, Box 257
Grafton, WV 26354-9738
(304) 265-1760

Daily Lake Information: (304) 265-5953
www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/tygart.htm

Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of Tygart Lake are set forth in Title 36, Chapter III of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in the areas of this project most frequently used by the public.

TYGART LAKE

	Accessible Restroom	Boat Launch Ramp	Boat Rental	Campground	Camper Dumping Station	Drinking Water	Electric Hookups	Information Center	Marina	Picnic Area	Picnic Shelter	Restroom Facilities	Showers	Trails
Dam Site	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	X
Grafton City Park ¹	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pleasant Creek ²	X	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X
Tygart State Park ²	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

¹ Operated by the City of Grafton, West Virginia

² Operated by West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

TO 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 pool levels. Boaters and skiers should be watchful for these hazards. Because of these floating and underwater hazards, diving head first into the lake is discouraged.

Personal Floatation Device (PFD)

All boaters are reminded that U.S. Coast Guard approved PFDs are required for each person on board and that all children under 13 years of age are required to wear a PFD while boating on Tygart Lake. Remember, the best protection against drowning is to wear your PFD.

Diver Down

Boaters, learn to recognize all buoys and markers. Stay clear of areas where divers are down. Divers, to insure your safety display the required international diving flag during underwater activities.

Fluctuating Lake Levels

The pool level of the lake can rise very rapidly and flood parking areas around the lake. Be alert to changing lake conditions while on the lake for an extended period.

Keep Off the Ice

Ice fishing or traversing the ice covered lake is strongly discouraged. Tygart's rapidly fluctuating lake levels create open water and weak ice near the shoreline as well as other conditions that can make exiting the ice extremely difficult and hazardous.

Alcohol and Boating Don't Mix

Alcohol consumption, especially when combined with the glare and heat of a sunny summer day, can bring an enjoyable day on the lake to an abrupt and tragic end. Please don't drink while operating a boat.

Please Remember...

The major causes of drowning are insufficient swimming skills, use of alcohol, failure to wear a PFD and hypothermia associated with cold water

