Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Update
Fact Sheet Youghiogheny River Lake

SMP Revision
The Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District, is revising the Youghiogheny River Lake Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). The SMP guides the management of shorelines in a manner which will promote the safe and healthful use of these shorelines while maintaining environmental safeguards to ensure a quality resource for use by the public.

This is an opportunity for members of the public to provide valuable input in the revision of the Shoreline Management Plan. The planning process will include an analysis of potential effects of any proposed changes to the Shoreline Management Plan, including: the natural and social environment, fish and wildlife, cultural and historic resources, recreational opportunities, economics, land use, aesthetics, and public health and safety.

Objectives of Update
- Promote the safe and healthful use of these shorelines by the public
- Maintain environmental safeguards to ensure a quality resource now and into the future
- Achieve a balance between permitted private uses and resource protection for general public use

Why Update
The Youghiogheny River Lake Shoreline Management Plan was last approved in 1987. Engineer Regulation 1130-2-406 requires periodic review and revision of Shoreline Management Plans to make sure they are still meeting current public and environmental needs.

It is the policy of the Chief of Engineers to protect and manage the shorelines of all Army Corps’ Civil Works water resource development projects in a manner which will promote the safe and healthful use of these shorelines while maintaining environmental safeguards to ensure a quality resource for use by the public. The objectives of all management actions will be to achieve a balance between permitted private uses and resource protection for general public use. Public pedestrian access to these shorelines shall be preserved.

About the Lake
Authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938, Youghiogheny River Lake is one of 16 flood control projects in the Pittsburgh District. An important link in a system of flood control projects, Youghiogheny River Lake provides flood protection for the Monongahela River Valley and the upper Ohio River.

Since its completion in 1943, the Youghiogheny River Lake reservoir has prevented flood damages estimated to be in excess of $569 million. Youghiogheny River Lake has the capacity to store the equivalent run-off of 11 inches of precipitation from its 434 square mile drainage area. Youghiogheny River Lake also stores water and releases it downstream during dry periods to improve water quality and increase flow for domestic and industrial use, navigation, recreation, esthetics and aquatic life.

Authorized Missions of Youghiogheny River Lake:
- Flood Damage Reduction
- Low Flow Augmentation
- Pollution Abatement
- Recreation
- Water Supply

SMP Timeline
1975: Moratorium declared on issuance of permits
1975-1976: Initial SMP was drafted
1979 (July): The SMP was approved by Ohio River Division and implemented January 1980
1987 (January): Update of initial SMP was approved
1988: Second moratorium on the issuance of dock permits - this froze the number of private dock permits and established a waiting list for new or additional permits
1995: Permits began being issued for each individual boat
2010: Changed to dock permit - listing number of vessels authorized
2018-2019: The Pittsburgh District is reviewing and will implement a revision to the SMP which was last approved in 1987

If you are interested in learning more about this project, signing up for our mailing list, or sharing information relevant to this project, please visit our website at:
https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning-Programs-Project-Management/Key-Projects/Shoreline-Management-Program/