

Youghiogheny River Lake,

authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938, is one of 16 flood damage reduction projects in the Pittsburgh District. The project provides flood protection for the Youghiogheny and lower Monongahela River valleys as well as for the Ohio River.

Since completion in 1943, the Youghiogheny Lake has prevented flood damages estimated to be in excess of \$1.59 billion. The lake has the capability to store the equivalent run-off of 21 inches of precipitation from its 434 square mile watershed.

The dam also helps to alleviate pollution problems by releasing additional water downstream during low water periods. Increased stream flow improves the quality of water entering the rivers from towns, industries, and coal mine drainage. The increased stream flow also improves the navigability of the Monongahela and upper Ohio rivers for barge traffic.

Youghiogheny Hydro-Electric Authority holds a license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to operate a hydroelectric plant below the dam. D/R Hydro Company that has operated and maintained the plant since 1989.

The plant can generate up to 12 Megawatts of electricity per hour, enough to service approximately 8,000 homes for a year across western and central Pennsylvania.



Lake and Dam Statistics

Location: On the Youghiogheny River, about a half mile above Confluence, Pa. The lake is located in Fayette and Somerset Counties in Pennsylvania and Garrett County in Maryland.

Total Area:	3,915 acres
Drainage area above dam:	434 sq. mi.
Construction costs:	\$9,675,000

Dam

Type structure:

Rolled earth with impervious core

Volume of earthfill and rockfill:	3,060,500 cu yd
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Maximum height above streambed:	184 ft.
Total length:	1,610 ft.
Maximum width at base:	1,100 ft.

Outlet works:

Three 4'3" x 20' vertical lift gates
Concrete lined tunnel 1,800' long
x 16.5' to 18' in diameter

Lake

Length at normal pool:	16 mi.
Summer Area:	2,840 acres
Maximum Area:	3,566 acres

Elevation above sea level:	
Streambed at dam:	1,313 ft.
Maximum Pool:	1,470 ft.
Summer Pool:	1,439 ft.



Youghiogheny River Lake



BUILDING STRONGSM

Youghiogheny River Lake

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Daily Lake & Recreation Information:

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www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/rec.htm

Recreation

In the heart of the Laurel Highlands and spanning the Mason-Dixon line between Pennsylvania and Maryland sits Youghiogheny River Lake. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to experience the waters, mountains and steep-sided valleys which encompass the lake and provide an unsurpassed setting for outdoor recreation.



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A popular location for recreation, Youghiogheny River Lake attracts numerous visitors each year. Boating, fishing, camping, and many other outdoor activities are available, with outstanding facilities provided for the visitor's convenience.

Boaters consider Youghiogheny River Lake, with its 16 mile length and channels up to one-half mile wide, the best power boating and water-skiing lake in southwestern Pennsylvania.



For those who prefer non-motorized boats, the Youghiogheny River has plenty to offer. From the outflow area of the dam and extending for approximately 20 miles downstream is one of the more popular rafting and canoeing rivers in the eastern United States. The boulder strewn stretch of river below Ohiopyle, Pa. is renowned for its whitewater and is often the scene of national kayaking competitions.

For fishermen, there are numerous coves and backwater areas along the lake which provide excellent fishing. The lake is inhabited by a large variety of game and pan fish and is known as a hotspot for walleye and smallmouth bass. A license has been granted to the Fish and Boat Commission for fish management purposes in the Pennsylvania portion of the lake.

The Fish and Boat Commission also developed and maintains the Jockey Hollow Boat Launching Area. The tailwaters of the dam are also very popular for trout fishing. Youghiogheny River Lake's outflow area is one of the few areas in Pennsylvania open for trout fishing year round and is stocked by the Fish and Boat Commission on a regular basis throughout the spring and summer. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission close the Youghiogheny River to trout fishing for two weeks prior to the start of trout season each year.

Another popular activity at Youghiogheny River Lake is camping. Campers have a choice of three campgrounds at which to stay, each offering something different with facilities ranging from modern to primitive.



If you're out for an afternoon drive, why not stop and have a lakeside picnic at one of Youghiogheny's four picnic areas, then tour the area and enjoy the scenery as well as the numerous points of interest which are within a short drive of the lake. A special time for sightseeing at Youghiogheny River Lake is during the first half of October when fall colors are at their peak.

