

Youghiogheny River Lake

Authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938, Youghiogheny River Lake is one of 16 flood control projects in the Pittsburgh District. The project provides flood protection for the Youghiogheny and lower Monongahela River Valleys as well as for the upper Ohio River.

Since its completion in 1943, the Youghiogheny project has prevented flood damages estimated to be in excess of \$567 million. Youghiogheny has the capability to store the equivalent run-off of 11 inches of precipitation from its 434 square mile drainage area.

In addition to flood control, the dam helps to alleviate pollution problems by releasing additional water downstream during low water periods. Increased stream flow improves water quality by diluting polluted waters 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 commercial navigation.

Lake & Dam Statistics

Location: On Youghiogheny River in Fayette and Somerset Counties, Pennsylvania, about 1.2 miles above Confluence

Project area, acres: 3,915

Drainage area above dam, square miles: 434

Construction cost: \$9,675,000

Dam

Type of structure: Rolled earth fill with impervious core

Height above streambed, feet: 184

Length, feet: 1,610

Width at base, feet: 1,100

Volume of earth, cubic yards: 2,315,500

Volume of stone fill, cubic yards: 745,000

Outlet Works: Concrete lined tunnel 18' in diameter and 1,800' long with three 4'3" x 20' vertical lift gates

Lake

Length at normal pool, miles: 6

Area, acres:

Maximum (reservoir full): 3,566

Normal (summer pool): 2,840

Elevation, feet above sea level:

Maximum (reservoir full): 1,470

Normal (summer pool): 1,439

Streambed at dam: 1,313
