

# Recreation

Located in picturesque north-central West Virginia, Tygart Lake's deep waters and unique 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 Corps of Engineers leases areas of Tygart Lake 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 have a choice between lodge or cabin facilities available at Tygart Lake State Park. For those desiring a more rustic experience during their stay campgrounds are available at both the State Park and the Pleasant Creek Wildlife Management Area.





The day use area at Tygart Dam features an overlook of the dam, a visitor center, picnic sites with grills, and a pavilion that can be reserved. There are also two hiking trails that lead to State Park trails.

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 unique shoreline also provides many inlets and backwater areas for canoes and small fishing boats to explore.

Visitors can access the lake by three boat launching ramps and a public marina which 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. 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 Lake
Route 1, Box 257
Grafton, WV 26354-9738
(304) 265-1760 Daily Lake Information:
(304) 265-5953

www.Facebook.com/tygartlake

https://twitter/PittsburghUSACE

http://flickr.com/photos/pittsburghcorps

http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/ Recreation/Lakes/TygartLake.aspx

# **Lake and Dam Statistics**

Location: On the Tygart Valley River, about 2.25 miles above Grafton. The lake is located in Taylor and Barbour Counties, West Va.

# Dam

Outlet works:

Eight 5.67' x 10' gate controlled sluices Two 54" ring jet valve controlled sluices

## Lake

Length at normal pool: 10 miles
Summer Area:
Maximum Area: 3,440 acre
Elevation above sea level:
Streambed at dam: 960 ft.
Maximum Pool: 1,167 ft.
Summer Pool: 1,094 ft.
Minimum Pool: 1,010 ft.

**Tygart Dam** was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1935. It is unique in that the dam's original authorization was for navigation, providing water to downstream locks and dams. It was also the first of 16 flood damage reduction projects in the Pittsburgh District. The dam provides flood protection for the lower Tygart River Valley, as well as the Monongahela and upper Ohio Rivers. The lake has the capability to store the equivalent runoff of 4.56 inches of precipitation from its 1,184 square mile watershed. Since its completion in 1938, Tygart Dam has prevented flood damage in excess of \$1.2 billion.

# Observe these safety tips! a safe outing Enjoy

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 lake levels. Boaters and skiers should be watchful for these hazards; because of these floating and underwater hazards, diving is discouraged.

# Life Jackets

When boating, the best protection against drowning is to wear your life jacket. U.S. Coast Guard approved life jackets are required if you are age 12 or under, a non-swimmer, are on a boat less than 16 feet in length, or are in a canoe or kayak. Know the rules before you go out on the water.

Fire Protection

The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by obeying the No Open Fire regulation.

**Boaters** Be considerate of those in canoes or fishing at anchor.

Alcohol and Boating Don't Mix
Don't drink while operating a boat.
Alcohol is involved in at least 50 percent
of all drownings and a major cause
of death in recreational boating
accidents.

# Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all Corps of Engineers lake lands and waters!

Be alert to changing weather/ lake conditions

Storms can come on very quickly. If lightning is spotted, head for shore immediately and seek out a safe location.

Firearms and ammunition
The US Army Corps of Engineers does not honor State-issued concealed weapon permits, prohibits loaded concealed weapons, the possession of loaded firearms or ammunition on lands and waters administered by the US Army Corps of Engineers per 36 C.F.R. § 327.13(a).  $\infty$ 

Use a wading stick to check for sudden drop-offs in the water and for extra balance.

Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of this lake are set forth in Title 36, Chapter III, of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in public

