

Woodcock Creek Lake, authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1962, is one of 16 flood damage reduction projects in the Pittsburgh District. The project provides flood protection for the French Creek system.

The lake can store the equivalent run-off of 8.2 inches of precipitation from its 45.65 square mile watershed. Since its completion in 1973, Woodcock has prevented flood damages in excess of \$31.2 million.

Recreation

Resting amidst the rolling hills, Woodcock Creek Lake complements the rural countryside of central Crawford County. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to visit the project and escape the hectic sights and sounds of the city for the vistas and relaxed atmosphere of Woodcock Creek Lake.

Visitors will discover that Woodcock's pleasant surroundings are an ideal setting for outdoor and recreational opportunities. Many exceptional facilities are provided by the Corps of Engineers, Crawford County and the Crawford County Conservation District.

An access roadway which traverses the top of the dam provides visitors with access to many opportunities. Nearly a mile in length, fitness



buffs can enjoy a scenic walk, jog or run along the top of the dam or on the Bossard Nature Trail.

The Bossard Nature Trail is designated as a National Recreation Trail in the National Trail System.

Visitors have the opportunity to make exciting discoveries by walking the self-guided nature trail or stopping to observe nature from one of two observation blinds located along the trail. Approximately 1,000 feet of the trail's pathway is paved and easily accessible.

Visitors will also enjoy a stop at Woodcock's Information Center. A variety of interesting displays are exhibited at the center with interpretive programs and slide shows presented for the public's enjoyment. An overlook on the north shore provides visitors with a scenic area to take photographs or relax and enjoy the day. A picnic area located downstream of the dam also offers a beautiful setting for picnicking, fishing, playground fun, and relaxation.

A spacious campground, developed swim beach, picnic areas, and a six-lane boat launch are located in the Colonel Crawford Park Area on the south shore.

Operated and maintained by Crawford County, the park provides excellent facilities to make your visit to Woodcock Creek a memorable one.

Due to the relatively small size of the lake, a 10hp limit is in effect for power boats. This limit helps retain the serene nature of the lake and ensures the safety of other types of pleasure crafts. Woodcock Creek, above and below the dam, as well as the lake itself provides exceptional fishing opportunities. The creek is a favored trout stream. While muskie, bass, walleye, and panfish await anglers in the calm waters of the lake. Pennsylvania State Game Lands #435 are also found at the eastern end of the project. This provides a public hunting area, as well as excellent wildlife habitat.

Visit the Woodcock Nature Center for environmental education programs presented by the Crawford County Conservation District. The district also operates the adjoining Stainbrook Park, where visitors can enjoy picnics or fishing along Woodcock Creek.

Resource Manager's Office

Woodcock Creek Lake 22079 State Highway 198 Sagertown, PA 16433-6213 (814) 763-4422/4477

Crawford County Conservation District 21742 German Road Meadville, PA 16335 (814) 763-5269

Colonel Crawford Park Rural Route #3 Meadville, PA 16335-9803 (814) 724-6879

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

Lake and Dam Statistics

Location: On the Woodcock Creek, 4.1 miles upstream from its confluence with French Creek at a point 36.4 miles up from French Creek from its junction with the Allegheny River at Franklin, Pa. The project is located entirely within Crawford County.

Dam

Type structure:Rolled earth embankment type with impervious core and an uncontrolled sidehill spillway

Outlet works:

Arched concrete conduit 6' x 8' x 342' Discharge regulated by control tower with:

......Two 4' x 8' slide gates for flood controlTwo 1.5' x 3' gates on multi-level outletsfor water quality control

Lake

Length at normal pool: 2.1 mi.
Summer Area:
Maximum Area:
Elevation above sea level:
Streambed at dam: 1,137 ft.
Maximum Pool: 1,209 ft.

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

Personal Flotation Device (PFD)

When boating, the best protection against drowning is to wear your PFD. U.S. Coast Guard approved PFDs are required if you are less than 12 years of age, 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 in effect.

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.

Anglers

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 areas of this lake.

