



Glade Run Lake History - Middlesex Township - Butler County

In 1954 twelve tracts of land, totaling approximately 145 acres, were purchased for \$28,841 with Dingel-Johnson Funds, which were Federal Aid funds. The purpose of the acquisition was to “acquire land necessary to construct a dam and provide a lake for public fishing in an area having one and three fourths million people within a 25 mile radius. The acquisition was also to include land necessary for complete control of the lake and accommodation of the public.” The Acting Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, O.H. Johnson approved the project agreement on March 18, 1954 for the Secretary of the Interior. Johnson approved Federal Aid Project Agreement F-4-d-1 titled: “Glade Run Lake and Dam” in the amount of \$93,535.

The purpose of the project was “To clear a lake site and construct a dam to provide public fishing in an area of heavy human population. To build 1200 feet of entrance road and 800 feet of maintenance road.” According to project records, stop logs were placed in the dam on March 15, 1955, trout were stocked on April 7, water was going over the spillway on April 15, and the impoundment amounting to about 51 acres was opened for public fishing on April 15, 1955.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania owns Glade Run Lake. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is responsible for the operation and management of this facility.

On May 24, 2011 the draw down of Butler County’s Glade Run Lake began, after the PA Department of Environmental Protection declared the lake’s dam unsafe. On June 6, 2011 severe safety issues resulted in the start of a complete drawdown of Glade Run Lake. By July 6, 2011 the lake was completely drained.

The PFBC estimates that it will cost \$4 million to reconstruct the dam’s concrete spillway and reinforce the embankment, but the project is currently unfunded.