



Stillwater Lake Dam Renovation Update - August, 2010



Renovation of the Stillwater Lake Dam is now scheduled to begin in August, 2010.

Earlier this year Minsi Trails Council received grant approval from the State of Pennsylvania for \$1.3 million for repairing the Stillwater Lake Dam. Stillwater Lake will begin the draw-down process about August 11th, with the initial phase of construction to start about August 24, 2010.

Background ... in 2002, PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reclassified Stillwater Lake Dam as a “high hazard dam” and informed Minsi Trails Council that significant dam renovations were needed. Stillwater Lake is a Monroe County resource shared by Camp Minsi and Stillwater Lake Estates. Work on the dam is scheduled to begin following the 2010 summer camp season when the lake will be drawn down for construction to begin. Construction will continue through the fall and is scheduled to conclude by early winter so that the lake can refill for the 2011 camping season.

Funding ... a letter writing effort to our State legislators by 17,000 Scouts, volunteers, parents, and concerned citizens brought the issue of Stillwater Lake Dam to their attention. Through the hard work of our legislators a \$1.3 million grant was approved and will fund nearly 70% of the project’s expected costs. Fundraising efforts will continue to help raise the remaining amount needed to complete the project.



Stillwater Lake Dam Renovation

- In May, 2008 Council and the DEP agreed to a timetable for completing the required dam repairs.
- Engineering plans and the dam permit application were completed in November 2009.
- The dam renovation includes a new spillway, gate, and a 400 foot dam.
- The project cost is estimated at more than \$1.7 million.
- Final approval notification was received in January, 2010 from the PA Commonwealth Finance Authority for a grant of \$1,312,500 through the H2O PA program for dam repairs.
- Construction is now scheduled to begin in August, 2010 with completion by spring 2011.
- Additional fundraising to cover the remaining construction costs will take place in the local communities and municipalities served by Stillwater Lake and the Tunkhannock Creek watershed.

While the dam construction needs to be completed and additional funding secured, obtaining the State grant was a huge step in saving Stillwater Lake. The letter writing campaign certainly helped make this possible, and we thank you for your efforts. Please be sure to thank your local State Legislators for their help with this project. Future updates will be provided as the Stillwater Lake Dam construction progresses.

