

# Banner Creek Reservoir – Jackson County, Kansas

## Providing Flood Control, Municipal Water, Recreational Areas and Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Banner Creek Reservoir Dam was constructed almost twenty years ago in northeast Kansas as a multipurpose structure. Local watershed project sponsors constructed the dam with the assistance of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program.



The NRCS provided engineering assistance in planning and designing the dam and funding its construction. Local project sponsors added funding for additional water storage beyond that needed for flood control so the dam could provide a water supply for the City of Holton and rural water districts as well as development of recreational areas around the lake.

Sponsors of the project include the Delaware Watershed Joint District # 10, City of Holton, Jackson County Conservation District, Jackson County and Jackson County Rural Water Districts No. 3 and 18.

“The lake has been a great success story. For a small county in Kansas having this lake has been a real asset to the area,” said John Kennedy, Director of Banner Creek Reservoir. The lake provides a water supply for the City of Holton, population 3,000, and two rural water districts. It is also a very popular recreational area that is utilized by people in eastern Kansas, southeast Nebraska, western Missouri and people passing through the area with RVs.”



“There are a lot of recreational opportunities with fishing being the most popular, said Kennedy. “But we also have campgrounds, boat ramps, children playgrounds, horse riding trails, hunting, 13 miles of hiking trails, a science observatory, pavillions, restrooms, picnic areas, and our newest addition paddle boats, canoes and kayaks.”





The NRCS has assisted local project sponsors develop watershed plans and construct 11,800 flood control dams over the past 70 years. There are watershed projects in every state and they make up a \$15 billion infrastructure that provided \$2.2 billion in annual benefits.

The flood control dams provide much more than flood control including fish and wildlife habitat, livestock and irrigation water, and other benefits and many like the Banner Creek project provide water supplies and recreation.

For more information about local watershed projects contact the local NRCS office.

For more about this project watch the Banner Creek Watershed Dam video on this web page under the video tab.

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