

Hibernia Creek Watershed Dam (PA-436) Rehabilitation Project Chester County, Pennsylvania

Fact Sheet
September 2020

History of the Dam:

The Hibernia Dam, located on Birch Run just north of Wagontown, PA., was constructed in 1994 and provides flood control, water supply and recreation areas. The dam and reservoir are owned and operated by the Chester County Water Resources Authority (CCWRA).

The dam was constructed by the CCWRA with the assistance of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

The dam is one of five multi-purpose dams constructed in the Brandywine Creek Watershed.



A concrete cut off wall was constructed in the spillway.



Completed project

Why Rehabilitate the Dam?

The dam was designed and constructed to meet the dam safety engineering standards in place at the time of construction. Since then advances in dam safety engineering have resulted in new engineering standards that are above and beyond those used for Hibernia Dam.

Rehabilitation Details:

- The axis of the dam was maintained at the present location
- A concrete cutoff wall was installed at the crest of the auxiliary spillway
- A filtered toe was installed between the impact basin and the existing rock toe
- The mid-slope bench was graded to improve drainage

Project Cost:

The project cost \$1,445,000. NRCS provided technical assistance and 65 percent of the cost and project sponsors provided easements and land rights for the project and 35 percent of the cost. Federal funding was provided through the NRCS Watershed Dam Rehabilitation Program.

Benefits:

The rehabilitation project maintains the current level of flood damage reduction provided by the dam for public safety, bridges, roads, agricultural and other lands, and buildings.

It maintains the existing water supply which includes providing up to four million gallons per day of source water for public water supplies, improves the recreational and habitat values of Chambers Lake and adjacent riparian lands, and extends the dam's life and its benefits for another 50 years.

Project Partners:

Chester County Water Resources Authority
Chester County Board of Commissioners
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

For More Information Contact:

Peter Vanderstappen, NRCS State Engineer
Harrisburg, PA
717-237-2228
peter.vanderstappen@usda.gov

