

Mountain Run Watershed Dam No. 11 (Mountain Run Lake) Rehabilitation Project Culpeper County, Virginia

Fact Sheet
August 2019

History of the Dam:

Mountain Run Watershed Dam No. 11, known locally as the Mountain Run Lake, was constructed in 1959 by the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District and the Town of Culpeper with assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The dam was constructed for flood control and for a water supply for the Town of Culpeper. The dam creates a 75 surface acre reservoir. Mountain Run Lake Park is adjacent to the lake and provides a variety of water-based recreational facilities.

The dam is one of five dams constructed in the Mountain Run Watershed project between 1959 and 1973.



A concrete labyrinth weir auxiliary spillway was constructed over the embankment during the rehabilitation project.

Why Rehabilitate the Dam?

The dam was rehabilitated because the earthen auxiliary spillway did not have the capacity to pass the water volume required by current Virginia dam safety regulations.

The dam is classified as high hazard because a failure of the dam could cause loss of life and property downstream. 3,485 people and 611 structures could be affected by a dam breach.

Rehabilitation Details:

The rehabilitation project included constructing 144-foot wide, 6-cycle structural concrete labyrinth spillway over the embankment, installing a SAF stilling basin and rip-rap outlet protection, installing an earthen berm in the existing auxiliary spillway and upgrading the principal spillway riser to meet seismic criteria through the installation of about 5.5 feet of granular rock fill placed above and around the periphery of the existing riser footer.

Project Cost:

The NRCS provided technical assistance and 65 percent of the total project cost. Project sponsors provided easements and land rights for the project and 35 percent of the cost. Total cost for the project was \$6,337,337.

Federal funds for the project were provided through the NRCS Small Watershed Program Rehabilitation Program.

Benefits:

Rehabilitation of the dam will bring the dam up to current State dam safety criteria and extend its life and benefits for another 50 years.

Rehabilitation will ensure the dam continues to provide flood protection, water supply, recreation, and protection of water quality.

Partners:

Town of Culpeper
Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

For More Information Contact:

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