

View Lake

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Status Updates for \$120 Million Capital Improvements Presented to Campers

MWCD recreation and engineering staff presented updated capital improvement project lists and schedules to campers at all 5 parks in July. Over 800 campers attended the presentations and heard the badly needed infrastructure improvements to electric, sewer and water lines along with campsite improvements are the top priority projects in the 5-year \$120 million capital improvement plan. The individual park presentations for Atwood, Charles Mill, Pleasant Hill, Seneca and Tappan include project priority lists, maps, budgets and schedules and can be found on the MWCD website on the Park Master Planning side tab at www.mwcd.org/planning.



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Mon-Thurs 7 am - 5 pm

Friday 8 am - 5 pm

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Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Court Appoints New Member to the Board of Directors

Thirteen judges attending a Conservancy Court session of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD) have appointed Robert S. Moorehead, Jr., a retired Guernsey County Judge, to fill a vacancy on the five member MWCD Board of Directors. Moorehead, of Senecaville, replaces David L. Parham of the Atwood Lake region in Carroll County whose term expired after 10 years of service on the Board.

Rob was born and raised in Guernsey County, Ohio and is a graduate of Cambridge High School and Ohio University. In 1965 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and flew F-4 fighter aircraft in the Vietnam with 220 combat missions. Lieutenant Colonel Moorehead retired from the United States Air Force Reserve as a Judge Advocate General. Colonel Moorehead's decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal with an Oak Leaf cluster; the Bronze Star Medal; the Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters; the Meritorious Service Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Rob attended law school at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio and was licensed to practice law in 1974. Moorehead practiced private law in the City of Cambridge, is a former Guernsey County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney; and has served as the General Counsel of Cambridge Savings Bank and Camco Financial Corporation where he also served as the President of Camco Title Agency.

He was elected to serve as Probate and Juvenile Court Judge in Guernsey County, Ohio in 2002 and 2008 and retired from that position in 2013.

Rob and his wife of 44 years, have three children and four grandchildren. As a longtime resident of Seneca Lake, he has been active with the MWCD serving as an advisor during the MWCD cottage site lease updates and most recently, as a member of the MWCD Development Advisory Committee.

Rob attended law school at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio and was licensed to practice law in 1974. Moorehead practiced private law in the City of Cambridge, is a former Guernsey County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney; and has served as the General Counsel of Cambridge Savings Bank and Camco Financial Corporation where he also served as the President of Camco Title Agency.

Other members of the MWCD Board of Directors include President, Gordon T. Maupin of Wayne County, who is the retired Executive Director of the Wilderness Center; Joanne Limbach of Tuscarawas County who is the former Ohio Tax Commissioner and a former Tuscarawas County Commissioner; retired Goodyear Executive, Clark E. Sprang, of Holmes County; and retired Chief Executive Officer of Aultman Health Foundation, Richard J. Pryce of Stark County.

Members of Board of Directors are appointed by the Conservancy Court to oversee the operations

and business affairs of the MWCD, which manages 54,000 acres of land and water dedicated to public use, including 10 lakes, five lake parks, eight campgrounds and ten marinas on the MWCD properties. Board members meet once a month in open, public session. Meeting locations and times are posted at www.mwcd.org.



*MWCD Executive Director,
John Hoopingarner, (left) with current
MWCD President Gordon Maupin (center)
congratulate newly appointed MWCD Director,
Robert S. Moorehead, Jr. (right)*



*Honorable Edward E. O'Farrell presides over the 13
judges that convened on August 26 at Conservancy
Court. Sitting the foreground is legal counsel, Jim
Pringle(left), and Executive Director/Secretary
of MWCD, John Hoopingarner.*

MWCD Winter Drawdown and Reservoir Improvements Planned

As part of the flood risk management operation of the reservoirs and dams in the Muskingum River Watershed, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducts annual temporary drawdown of the normal pool elevation of the lake levels. The drawdown allows for additional flood storage capacity needed during the winter thaw and spring rains. Drawdown will begin in early November and return to normal pool elevation will initiate in February with normal pool elevations obtained in time for the summer recreation season.

The temporary drawdown dates and levels for the MWCD lakes are as follows:

| Reservoir | Normal Pool | Winter Level | Total Drawdown (feet) | Begin 2016 Drawdown | Release Duration (days) | Suggested intermediate refill schedule by March 15, 2017 |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Atwood | 928.00 | 920.0 | 8.0 | November 15 | 35 | 926.00 |
| Charles Mill | 997.00 | 992.0 | 5.0 | November 1 | 30 | 995.00 |
| Clendening | 898.00 | 893.0 | 5.0 | November 15 | 35 | 896.00 |
| Leesville | 963.00 | 955.0 | 8.0 | November 1 | 35 | 961.00 |
| Piedmont | 913.00 | 905.0 | 8.0 | November 1 | 35 | 911.00 |
| Pleasant Hill | 1020.00 | 1010. | 10.0 | November 15 | 42 | 1018.00 |
| Seneca | 832.20 | 827.2 | 5.0 | November 1 | 35 | 830.20 |
| Tappan | 899.30 | 894.3 | 5.0 | November 15 | 35 | 897.30 |

Recharge typically initiates on February 1. Some select reservoirs will initiate recharge on February 15 depending on weather conditions, progress on construction projects and other factors.

Not only does the temporary drawdown provide valuable increased flood storage capacity but also provides the opportunity to address badly needed maintenance of the 80+ year old reservoirs. MWCD will complete major shoreline stabilization projects throughout five of the District's reservoirs.

These reservoir maintenance activities are paid for through funds received from the current \$5.5 million/year maintenance assessment. MWCD has budgeted over \$1.65 million to complete 11 projects covering 5,650 feet of shoreline for the 2016-2017 reservoir maintenance program.

The Shoreline Stabilization Projects include:

- Atwood - 2 separate projects totaling 900 feet along SR542 on the north side of the lake, between Whispering Pines Lane and Fawn Road and approximately 150 feet at Marina East.
- Leesville Glens cottage area – 800 ft long shoreline stabilization
- Piedmont Goodrich Cottage Area – 3 separate projects totaling 900 ft long shoreline stabilization
- Charles Mill Lake Park beach area – 3 separate projects totaling 1,700 ft long shoreline stabilization
- Pleasant Hill Richland Cottage Area – 1,200 ft long shoreline stabilization

Over the past six years, 102 projects covering 6.5 miles of shoreline have been stabilized on MWCD reservoirs at a cost of approximately \$6.9 million. Stabilizing the shoreline provides many benefits including reduction of sediments from entering the lake which promotes water clarity. Many users of MWCD lakes have observed and commented over the past two years how clean the lakes have become since the initiation of this program.

An additional \$192,000 will be expended on two other drawdown projects related to recreation and boating. These projects are funded through revenues received from oil and gas royalties and other general revenue. These projects include:

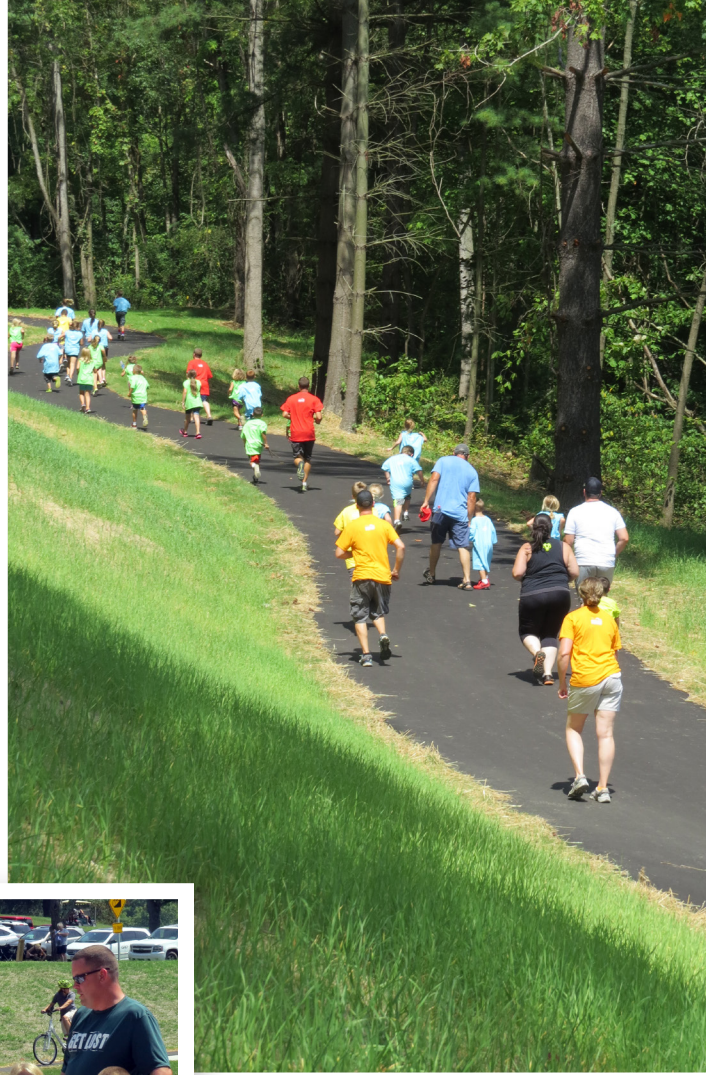
- Charles Mill Marina boat ramp replacement
- Leesville main launch ramp replacement near South Fork Marina



Shown are two examples of shoreline stabilization construction projects on MWCD reservoirs from early 2016 drawdown operations.

Kids Fun Run Kicks Off Atwood Trail and Bridge Grand Opening

Construction of Phase 2 of the Atwood trail was completed this summer and has proven to be an instant success by the amount of pedestrian traffic seen every day on this route. The project includes a canoe/kayak launch and 0.8 mile of new trail capped off with a 242 foot long scenic bridge over part of Atwood Lake. This segment of trail is the final leg to connect the outer campsites to the park. The grand opening was celebrated in August by a Kids' 1-Mile Fun Run and was capped off by a cookies and ice cream treat for all who attended.



(Above) Participants in the Fun Run show their colors in their commemorative T-shirts celebrating the grand opening of Atwood Trail- Phase 2. Over 4.5 miles of dedicated trails are now available throughout Atwood Lake Park.



(Above) Over 50 kids and their families wait in anticipation for the start of the Fun Run

(Right) Kayakers and families enjoy the celebration and scenic view of the bridge over part of Atwood Lake. The trail and kayak launch connects to the new Atwood Welcome Center



Summer Highlights



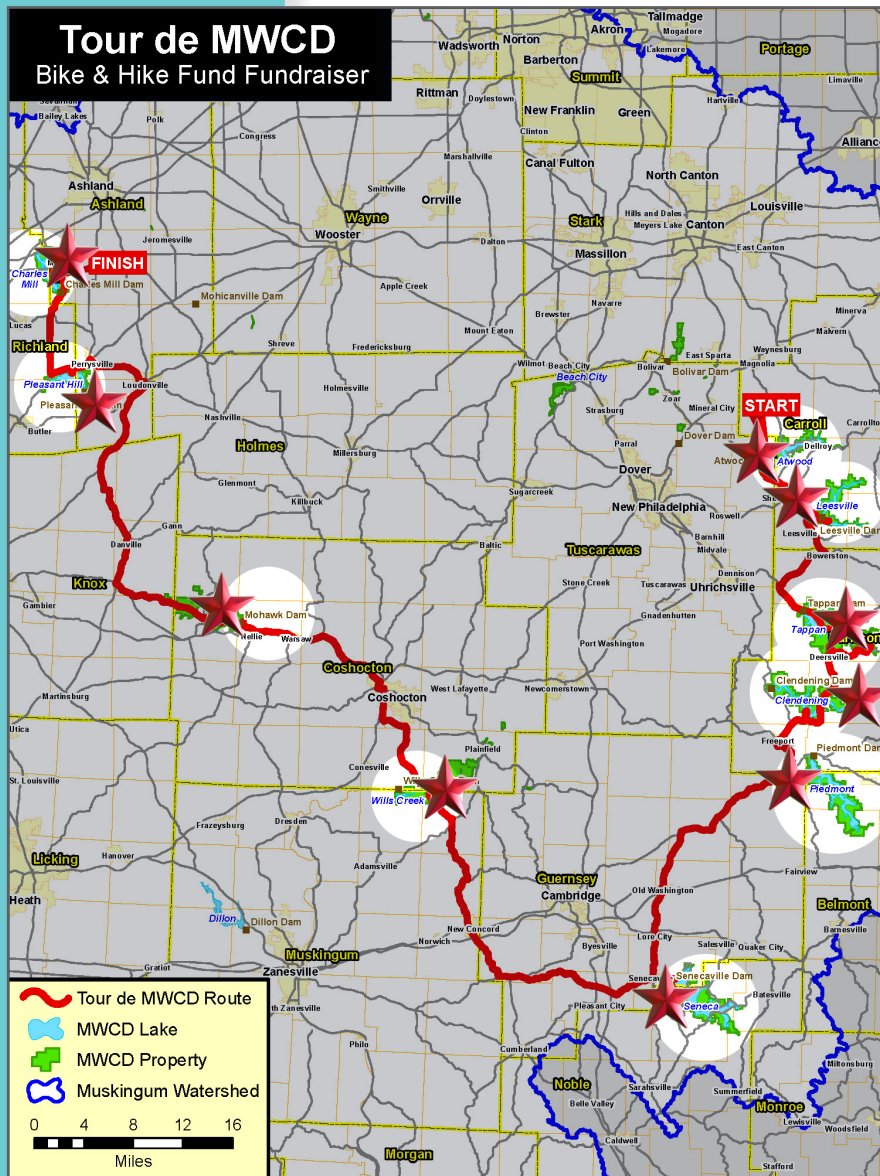
Over 3.5 million people enter through the five MWCD park gates each year. 2016 proved to be another record breaking year for park attendance fueled in-part by expanded park programming and activities. Below are a few of the highlights enjoyed by our campers and general public.



200 Mile Tour de MWCD Raises Funds for Trails

The following is by Nick Lautzenheiser, who is The Muskingum Watershed Foundation Development Coordinator.

My wife Marissa and I wanted to start a new fund in the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Foundation – the Bike and Hike Fund – which would support future bicycle and trail infrastructure projects in the watershed. Our intent was to establish a fund that could help support trails in parks and communities, bike lanes and signage for road projects, and trailheads and trail amenities. The idea for completing a long bike ride seemed like the perfect fundraiser, and 200 miles seemed like the perfect distance. The route enabled me to visit all of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District parks and marinas in one day and symbolically matched the MWCD's vision of linking its facilities with a network of trails.



I planned the route based on the destinations. I wanted to stop at all of the MWCD parks and marinas, and I wanted to see everything in one day. The eastern lakes and parks are quite close together, but they are rather far from Pleasant Hill Lake and Charles Mill Lake. It's over 100 miles between Seneca and Charles Mill!

My route consisted primarily of state highways and county roads. With the exception of US-250 around Tappan Lake and US-36 between Coshocton and Warsaw, most of the route had little traffic. I had already ridden much of the route on previous rides, so I was familiar with the terrain and road conditions.

The ride took 11 hours and 50 minutes. The average speed was 17 mph. I started at the Atwood Lake Park Welcome Center just before 7:00 AM and finished at the Messerly Recreation Center at Charles Mill Lake Park around 7:30 PM.

I now have a greater appreciation for how vast and beautiful the Muskingum Watershed is considering I rode 200 miles of which only crossed 11 of the 27 counties in the watershed. Most of my ride was in the Middle Tuscarawas River, Wills Creek, and Walhonding River basins.

My individual effort and bike ride raised over \$2,200. I was extremely overwhelmed with all of the generosity and support! Those donations go directly to the Foundation's Bike and Hike Fund, which will help support future bicycling and trail infrastructure projects throughout the Muskingum Watershed. – and perhaps jumpstart the path to connect the MWD 10 lakes and marinas.

The Muskingum Watershed Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit organization, so all donations are fully tax-deductible. To make a contribution to the Bike and Hike fund or other fund through the foundation contact Nick Lautzenheiser at nlautzneheiser@mwcd.org.

For more photos of Nick's 201.44 mile journey go to the full Google Photo Album at <https://goo.gl/photos/Jp9UfsvMbqrN87SH7>.

Highlights

of Nick's One Day
Tour de MWCD



Nick makes a stop at the impressive Mohawk Dam in Coshocton County.



Nick peddles along the 7-mile corridor of U.S. 250 along the Ohio Scenic By-Way at Tappan Lake.





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Completion of Bolivar Dam Seepage Barrier Celebrated with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Dignitaries from across the region including Congressman Bob Gibbs and Col. Phillip M. Secrist III from the Huntington District, US Army Corps of Engineers, cut the ribbon on October 14 to signify the completion of the 140 foot deep x 3 foot wide x 4,500 long concrete seepage barrier at Bolivar Dam. This incredible feat and badly needed maintenance project was made possible through the \$21 million MWCD local cost share from revenues generated through the 18-county maintenance assessment. This major maintenance project allows the dam to continue to provide critical flood reduction services to Ohio communities in the Muskingum River Watershed for another 80 years.

