



Additional Information

For additional information on Longview
or Blue Springs Lakes, write to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Longview Project Office
10698 East 109th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64134-4103
Telephone: (816) 761-6194

www.nwk.usace.army.mil/longview/longview.html



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Kansas City District

Longview **Lakes** *Blue Springs*



Missouri

Welcome

The Kansas City District, Corps of Engineers, welcomes you to the Little Blue River Lakes Project. We invite you to use and enjoy Longview and Blue Springs Lakes and the Little Blue River Parkway located downstream from Blue Springs Lake.

Water Safety

Longview and Blue Springs Lakes attract thousands of water sport enthusiasts each year. With many people using the lakes, it is important to know and use the basic rules of water safety. Because of standing timber and shallow water, skiing is not permitted east of Woods Chapel Bridge at Blue Springs Lake, Mouse Creek, Lumpkin Fork arms of Longview Lake.

If you are planning a trip to the beach to cool off and relax, please protect yourself and the people you love. Nearly all beach accidents can be prevented by following these safety rules. First, swim only in designated swimming areas. Second, watch your children closely. Third, don't dive into shallow water and fourth, don't depend on inflatable water devices if you are a non-swimmer. Please have your children wear life jackets if they are non-swimmers.



Recreation Facilities

Under the Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965, a local non-federal public body is required to share the costs allocated to recreation at federally constructed lakes.

In 1976, a recreation cost-sharing agreement was signed with Jackson County. Under the agreement, the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department assumed responsibility for half the construction costs of recreational development and total responsibility for operation and maintenance of recreation facilities at both Longview and Blue Springs Lakes. Most of the recreation facilities at the lakes, however, were constructed under supervision for the Corps of Engineers.

Longview Lake provides a variety of facilities, including public swimming beach, picnic shelters, ball fields, boat ramps, a nature trail, a bike trail and a 118 unit campground with electrical hookups and a shower facility.

Jackson County has developed a 27 hole golf course with a driving range and practice chipping area, a radio-controlled model airplane area and a horse park with bridle trail and facilities for equestrian events. Recreation facilities at Blue Springs Lake include a swimming beach, boat ramps, picnic shelters, a nature trail and an 84 unit campground with electrical hookups and a shower facility. Jackson County operates the Fleming Meeting Hall at the project for use by organized groups.

The multi-purpose pool (normal operating pool) offers sportsmen 930 acres of water at Longview and 720 acres at Blue Springs.



Project Development

The Little Blue River Project, including construction of Longview and Blue Springs Lakes and a downstream river channel modification, was authorized by Congress in 1968 as a multiple purpose project for flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife conservation. Longview Lake provides the additional benefit of improved water quality.

The Little Blue River drainage begins in northern Cass County, Missouri. From here, the river flows north through Jackson County 20 miles, where it joins the Missouri River near Fort Osage.

Longview's Dam construction began in September 1979 and was completed in 1985. Construction of Blue Springs Dam started in August 1982, with relocation of Woods Chapel Road and clearing of the dam site. Blue Springs Dam was completed in 1988.

Project Data

Dam

Type	Rolled earthfill	Rolled earthfill
Length, ft.	1,900	2,500
Height, ft. (above valley floor)	110	65
Width, ft. (crown)	74	30
Width, ft. (base)	1,050	700
Volume of dam embankment, cu.yd.	2,500,000	2,000,000

Spillway

Type	Uncontrolled limited service	Uncontrolled limited service
Capacity, cu. ft. per sec.	22,800	24,600
Width, ft.	200	300
Length, ft.	550	1,100

Outlet works (Flood Control)

Type	Uncontrolled drop inlet	Uncontrolled drop inlet
Capacity, cu. ft. per sec.	980	500
Length of conduit, ft.	850	490

Gates

Control	Two 2-ft. diameter low flow knife gate valves	Two 2-ft. diameter low flow knife gate valves
---------	---	---

Emergency

	One 6-ft. x 7-ft. hydraulically operated slide gate	One 3.5 ft. x 4 ft. hydraulically operated slide gate
--	---	---

Lake

Elevation, feet above mean sea level:

Top, flood pool	909	820.3
Top, multipurpose pool	891	802

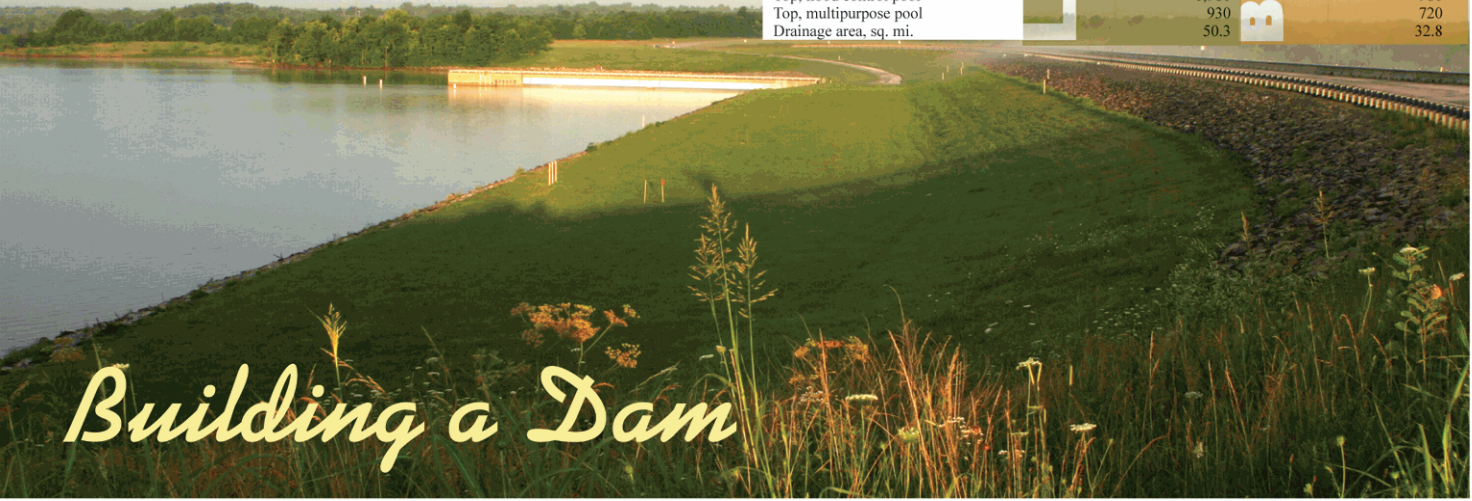
Storage, acre-feet*

Flood control	24,300	15,700
Multipurpose	20,600	10,800

Surface area, acres

Top, flood control pool	1,960	980
Top, multipurpose pool	930	720
Drainage area, sq. mi.	50.3	32.8

Longview Lake	Rolled earthfill	
	Rolled earthfill	
	2,500	
	65	
	30	
	700	
	2,000,000	
	Uncontrolled limited service	
	Uncontrolled limited service	
	24,600	
Blue Springs Lake	Uncontrolled drop inlet	
	Uncontrolled drop inlet	
	500	
	490	
	Two 2-ft. diameter low flow knife gate valves	
	Two 2-ft. diameter low flow knife gate valves	
	One 3.5 ft. x 4 ft. hydraulically operated slide gate	
	One 3.5 ft. x 4 ft. hydraulically operated slide gate	
	820.3	
	802	
15,700		
10,800		
980		
720		
32.8		



Building a Dam

Earthen dams are not simply piles of dirt. They are designed specifically for the site's geological conditions and build from soil and rock materials available at the site. In building earthen dams, designers make optimum use of nearby materials to lower costs. The photo above shows the different parts of a typical earthen dam.

An impervious fill, or core, is made from clay. This core is compacted by heavy rollers to make it relatively watertight. A sand drain is placed on the downstream side of the core. This drain transports the small quantity of water that penetrates the core to the downstream side of the dam.

Random fills (random meaning various earthen materials that meet certain engineering specifications) on both sides of the dam are added for strength and stability. The berm fills add weight and increases the resistance of the dam to the force of the impounded lake water. The riprap (large rock) is placed on the upstream slope of the dam to prevent erosion of the earthen structure by wind or waves.

To build the dam, the Corps prepares specific design specifications and construction plans. Private contractors and competitive bidding keep cost at a minimum. The Corps supervision during construction and careful inspection assures a well built dam.

Longview Farm



Described at the height of its glory as “the most beautiful farm in the world”, the Longview Farm may well have lived up to the compliment. Self-made Kansas City millionaire, Robert A. Long, envisioned a working farm on a grand scale, with an eye toward elegance and grace, populated with the finest livestock that money could buy.

Built between 1913 and 1915, the 2,950 acre farm contained an elaborate country mansion with a formal garden, a pagoda on a man made lake, a clubhouse, racetrack, and specialized barns; show horse, saddle horse, work horse, dairy and hog. There were homes for married workers, a hotel for single workers, a chapel, greenhouses, a 7 car garage and 26 miles of white cypress wood fence. The majority of the buildings were done in a distinctive style with cream colored stucco walls and red Spanish tile roofs. Longview also contained the most modern innovations of the day, including 14 miles of paved road, its own water system, telephone system, and a power plant that supplied the farm with electricity and heat.

During its heyday, Longview played host to both the poor of Kansas City and international dignitaries. However, the Great Depression and World War II sent Longview into decline. Loula Long Combs, daughter of Robert A. Long and accomplished horsewoman of national and international acclaim, managed Longview Farm until her death in 1971.

In 1978, the Corps of Engineers purchased a portion of the farm for the Longview Lake Project. Today only the power plant, garage and the greenhouse manager’s home stand within the Longview Lake boundaries. Other farm buildings were removed to make way for the lake pool. The main mansion, show horse barn, and several other buildings of the original farm are privately owned.

Fish and Wildlife

A wide array of fish and wildlife species may be found at the Little Blue River Project. The Missouri Department of Conservation has stocked the lakes to supplement the existing fish population. The stocking program includes species such as large mouth bass, blue gill, channel cat, and walleye.

Anglers should be aware that all federal and state fishing regulations apply on the project’s waters.

Upland game, water fowl, and fur bearers all inhabit the project lands. Visitors are invited to use public lands for wildlife recreation activities such as bird watching, photography, hiking and nature study. However, local regulations prohibit hunting, trapping and discharging firearms.

Rules and Regulations

Please observe all posted regulations. Rules and regulations exist to protect the project’s natural and cultural resources and to help everyone have a safer visit. Copies of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, are available at the Longview Lake Information Center. Additional regulations may be enforced in park areas leased to Jackson County.

