



Thomaston Dam: 2016 Trail Bike Information

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Thomaston Dam is a federal flood risk management dam, constructed, maintained & managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers. In 1975, the Corps designated a trail area on the west side of the reservoir, permitting 2 wheeled trail bikes & snowmobiles, along a 10 mile loop. 3 & 4 wheeled vehicles are not permitted. Please note, heavy rain can result in closure of the area, as unsafe riding conditions occur when water is held behind the dam. A cooperative trail management agreement with Pathfinders Motorcycle Club has been in place since 1979. Trail repair and maintenance are also performed by Park Rangers. Currently, trail bike usage is high on weekends. There is no camping onsite, however, Black Rock State Park in Watertown, CT offers camping. Several other accommodations are nearby. Please enjoy your experience and ride safely!



-Trail bikes allowed – **May 1st to Oct 14th**, weather, flood management operations & maintenance activities permitting.

*Please call ahead for open/closed status. (860) 283-5540

-Trails are open daily until sunset or posted time. Please have all vehicles out of park before sunset or posted time.

-All CT state laws pertaining to trail bike use apply.

-CT requires registration of trail bikes. Please see CT DMV for registration info.

-Out of state all terrain registrations honored: CT NY, VT, FL, PA and street registered trail bikes from any state.

-Registration plates must be displayed & attached to the bike. Please have paperwork ready for inspection.

-Bikes must be equipped with legal muffler & spark arrester.

-Please observe one way direction of travel on trails: Northbound on trails west of the main paved/gravel road and southbound on trails east of the main paved/gravel road.

-Please stay on marked trails **ONLY**. **DO NOT** ride through the Woods, Wetlands or Wildlife Management Areas. Title 36 CFR regulations are strictly enforced. Title 36 brochures are located at top of dam.

-Follow posted speed limit of 20 MPH on main paved/dirt road, & be courteous of other riders & the public.

-Parking is available at trailhead. Riders are encouraged to park in lower parking lots.

-The paved road on top of dam is a public roadway for street legal and licensed motor vehicles only.

-Protective gear, approved helmet, eye protection, gloves, boots, long sleeved shirt/jacket & over the ankle boots are highly recommended.

- Dial 911 for accidents & emergencies or contact the Thomaston Police Department (860-283-4343).

Helpful Links/Phone Numbers

- CT Department of Motor Vehicles: <http://www.ct.gov/dmv> phone: [1-800-842-8222](tel:1-800-842-8222) Outside of CT: [860-263-5700](tel:860-263-5700) <http://www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view.asp?a=810&q=285500> for all terrain off highway motorcycles.
- Thomaston Dam: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/ThomastonDam.aspx> phone: [860-283-5540](tel:860-283-5540)
- Pathfinders Motorcycle Club: <http://www.pathfindersmc.org>
- Thomaston Police Department: phone: [860-283-4343](tel:860-283-4343)
- Black Rock State Park (camping): <http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?A=2716&Q=325034> phone: [860-283-8088](tel:860-283-8088)
- CT Environmental Conservation Police: <http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2695&q=322630> [860-485-0226](tel:860-485-0226)

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT – THOMASTON DAM UNIT

331 Hill Road

Thomaston CT, 06787

<http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/ThomastonDam.aspx>