



Connecticut

Hancock Brook Lake Dam

The dam at Hancock Brook Lake is located in Plymouth on Hancock Brook, a tributary of the Naugatuck River. It is situated about 4.5 miles north of Waterbury. From Plymouth, it can be reached by taking Route 262 west to Graystone Road.

The project stores floodwaters to reduce flood damages on the Naugatuck River and the lower Housatonic River.

Construction began in July 1963 and was completed in September 1966. The total cost was \$4.2 million. Project construction required the relocation of 1.3 miles of town roads and about two miles of railroad track.

The project consists of an earthfill dam with stone slope protection 630 feet long and 57 feet high; a 2,300-foot-long earthfill dike with a maximum height of 35 feet along the relocated railroad track; an ungated 250 foot-long rectangular concrete conduit three feet wide and four feet six inches high; and a chute spillway cut in rock with a concrete weir 100 feet long. The weir's crest elevation is 21 feet lower than the top of the dam. Maintenance of the dike is the responsibility of the railroad company.

Hancock Brook Lake contains a 40-acre conservation pool that has a maximum depth of six feet. The flood storage area of the project, which is normally empty and is utilized only to store floodwaters, totals 266 acres. The lake and associated lands cover 721 acres, of which 60 percent are wooded. When combined with adjoining state forest lands, over 2,500 acres are available to the public. Hancock Brook Lake can store up to 1.27 billion gallons of water for flood control purposes. This is equivalent to 6.3 inches of water covering its drainage area of 12 square miles.

The lake contains bass and perch, and the state administers a trout stocking program. Stocked pheasant and native small game may be hunted in season. Reservoir lands also offer the public opportunities for hiking, canoeing, and cross-country skiing.

Colebrook River Lake offers lake fishing and one mile of stream fishing. The fish and game agencies of Connecticut and Massachusetts stock trout and salmon to complement the native bass, pickerel, perch, horned pout, and bluegill. Reservoir waters are open to licensed fishermen under the regulations established by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. A large boat launching ramp, a boat landing area, and sanitary and parking facilities are also available.