

March 18, 2017

We would like to provide the community with an update concerning the two Open Houses held last week. The project received many questions regarding the proposed speed zone spanning 2.5 miles from Sellers Point to Cranberry Bog and the instruments used to determine lake elevation for the water control plan.

*Update from the Division of Parks & Watercraft*

After receiving feedback from the community and collecting additional data regarding the restricted speed zone, the Division of Parks and Watercraft conducted additional analysis and determined that normal boating operations and towed water sports could resume at Buckeye Lake. Please practice safe boating and continue to use caution when operating a vessel in the lake. This decision is based on maintaining the interim summer pool and could be reconsidered if water levels decrease due to lack of precipitation.

**Remember: the embankment stability berm is a construction site and operation of a vessel near the berm is prohibited.**

*Lake Level Update*

The Liebs Island/Millersport USGS gauge is useful for generally describing lake levels, but can fluctuate due to the device's sensitivity to environmental conditions. USGS gauge measurements are always confirmed at the ODNR AMIL Gate staff gauge, which is directly adjacent to the AMIL Gate spillway and is visually inspected by the dam tender on a regular basis.

The AMIL Gate staff gauge offers a truer reading of the lake level in real time and is the primary gauge used in the ODNR Water Control Plan to operate the lake drains in order to regulate the lake level. By contrast, without confirming the lake level using the ODNR AMIL Gate staff gauge, unexplained spikes in the USGS gauge readings may result in unnecessary lake drain operations to lower the lake level.

ODNR expects to utilize the AMIL Gate spillway gauge to determine actionable levels and while it cannot be monitored online, ODNR will be providing that information regularly on the Buckeye Lake website here: <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/buckeyelake>

As of noon Friday (3/17/17), the ODNR AMIL Gate staff gauge was reading approx. +1.66 feet or +19.9 inches, which is approx. 4.1 inches below interim summer pool.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by reply email or by phone at 614-221-2800.

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