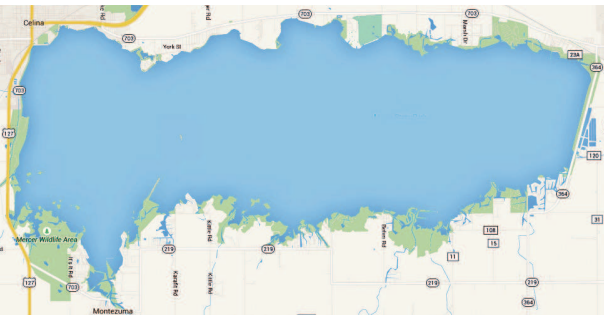




SPECIAL REPORT: MOUNDS LAKE MATCH?

Lake vs. Lake vs. Proposal

To put the proposed Mounds Lake reservoir in perspective, The Herald Bulletin compared the project to two lakes in the Midwest. Grand Lake St. Marys in western Ohio is often cited by Mounds Lake opponents for the blue-green algae problem that they say would plague Mounds Lake. Brookville Lake in southeastern Indiana has been cited as similar to Mounds Lake by supporters of the local project.

| THE LAKES   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <div><div>GRAND LAKE ST. MARYS</div><div></div><div>Acreage: 13,500 acres (21 square miles)<br/>Gallons of water: 89.7 billion<br/>Average depth: 5 to 8 feet<br/>Lake width: 2.8 miles<br/>Lake length: 9 miles<br/>Shoreline: 72 miles<br/>Type of dam: Lake water held back with spillway that keeps lake from flooding. Spillway, constructed in 1997, is 500 feet long, U-shaped and 19.5 feet from top to foot.</div><div>RELATIVE SIZE OF LAKE: <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div> | <div><div>BROOKVILLE LAKE</div><div></div><div>Acreage: 5,260 acres (8 square miles)<br/>Gallons of water: 60.3 billion<br/>Average depth: 30 feet<br/>Lake width: 1 mile<br/>Lake length: 17 miles<br/>Shoreline: 11,000 acres<br/>Type of dam: Earthen dam is 120 feet high.</div><div>RELATIVE SIZE OF LAKE: <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div> | <div><div>MOUNDS LAKE</div><div></div><div>Acreage: 2,100 acres (3.3 square miles)<br/>Gallons of water: 11 billion<br/>Average depth: 20 feet<br/>Lake width: 3/4 mile<br/>Lake length: 7 miles<br/>Shoreline: 30 miles<br/>Type of dam: Earthen dam will be about 80 feet high.</div><div>RELATIVE SIZE OF LAKE: <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div> |
| ORIGIN AND YEAR CONSTRUCTED   |  |  |
| Grand Lake St. Marys was constructed in 1837, dug by laborers as feeder for Miami-Erie Canal. It took eight years to complete.  | Construction on the Brookville Lake reservoir was started in 1965. Work stopped in 1970 after funds were diverted for the Vietnam War. It was completed in 1974 to provide flood control.  | If approved, Mounds Lake is expected to be completed in 2020. The reservoir would be a future water source for central Indiana.  |
| BODY OF WATER DAMMED  |  |  |
| Built on swampland, the reservoir is fed by the Barnes, Big Beaver and Big and Little Chickasaw rivers, with numerous smaller creeks.   | The east fork of the Whitewater River was dammed, directly north of the town of Brookville.  | The project would dam the White River on the east side of Anderson.  |
| COST OF CONSTRUCTION (adjusted for inflation) AND SOURCES OF FUNDING  |  |  |
| <div><div>1845: \$600,000</div><div>2015: \$17.7 million</div><div>The land was donated by an act of Congress for purpose of constructing canal to transport federal commodities.</div></div>   | <div><div>1936: \$45.4 million</div><div>2015: \$314.4 million</div><div>The construction was funded entirely by the federal government under the Flood Control Act of 1938.</div></div>   | <div><div>Projected cost: \$440 million</div><div>The funding for the project would come from private investors and grants.</div></div>  |
| GOVERNING BODIES  |  |  |
| Ohio Department of Natural Resources patrols the lake. In 2013, a bill was sought to allow Auglaize and Mercer counties to form a governing body to coordinate lake restoration.  | The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources have jurisdiction over the surrounding properties.  | As proposed, the Mounds Lake Commission would oversee operations of the reservoir with local governmental units retaining zoning authority.  |
| ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT  |  |  |
| More than 750,000 visitors annually bring in \$150 million.   | The Army Corps of Engineers estimates the lake generates \$21.7 million annually from visitors.  | Undetermined. Because the lake would be in a metropolitan area, impact would be year-round.  |
| USE OF LAKEFRONT PROPERTY   |  |  |
| Property uses include privately owned homes, park property and businesses on lake waters, which include taverns, boat dealers and restaurants (accessible by boat).   | The shoreline has been allowed to return to natural vegetation. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources operates Whitewater State Park and two other recreational areas. DNR has leased space for marinas, a golf course, restaurant and hotel. No other buildings are allowed along the shoreline.  | Anticipated mix of residential (70 percent), parks (15 percent), commercial (10 percent) and public infrastructure (5 percent).  |
| USE OF SURROUNDING LAND   |  |  |
| Residential, commercial and park land on shore. Approximately 450 farms, about 300 of which have livestock and/or poultry, are located in the watershed.  | The northern end of Brookville Lake is mostly farm fields, but there is no farming on the southern end of the lake.  | The proposed Mounds Lake area is predominantly agricultural farm fields, mainly corn and soybeans.   |
| DISPLACED HOMES AND BUSINESS  |  |  |
| None  | The creation of the reservoir resulted in the relocation of the small town of Fairfield and a cemetery.  | The reservoir would displace 400 residential properties and business properties, including the Mounds Mall area.   |
| HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS AFFECTED   |  |  |
| None reported.  | A nearby historic Native American mound was not affected by the construction.  | The reservoir would result in a reduction of Mounds Lake State Park. Opponents contend it would threaten historic Native American mounds.  |
| ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS  |  |  |
| Area was vast wet prairie. Half was covered with trees, which were removed. Ongoing problem with toxic blue-green algae.  | None were identified at the time of construction. Blue-green algae are a concern.  | Reservoir would be constructed over two landfills in the area of Mounds Mall.  |
| CHARACTERISTICS OF LAKE BED AND IMPACT ON ABILITY TO HOLD WATER   |  |  |
| Mostly muddy bottom. No issues holding water reported.  | The reservoir was constructed on a limestone bed.  | Concerns have been raised that because of the sand and gravel deposits along the White River, the reservoir would not have the ability to hold water.  |