GEDDES DAM

Ann Arbor, MI

HISTORY AND LOCATION

Geddes Dam was constructed in 1919 and rebuilt in 1972. The work operated as a hydropower dam until 1959. Geddes Pond is now used for recreation. Geddes underwent major improvements in 2014, concrete repair, reconditioning of hoist equipment housings and repair of tainter gates.

Original designer: Gardner Williams
Original Construction Contractor: Unknown
Original Construction Cost: Unknown

Location: 42.2709 N, 83.6712 W
Nearest cross streets: N Dixboro Rd & Old Dixboro Rd
Miles to nearest upstream dam: Argo Dam, 5.0 river miles
Miles to nearest downstream dam: Superior Dam, 2.5 river miles
Water travel time between Argo Dam and Geddes: unknown
Water travel time between Geddes and Superior: unknown

OPERATION DETAILS

Dam description: Geddes Dam has two spillways with concrete ogees. Each spillway contains two bays. The total open spillway length at Geddes Dam is 88 feet. The dam is operated to maintain a constant pond level within 1 tenth of a foot.

Operator agency: City of Ann Arbor
Owner agency: City of Ann Arbor

Dam type/mechanism: gravity
Operation mode: automated
Height: 28’
Head: 17’
Embankment crest length: 150’+/-
Spillway width: 87’
Spillway capacity: 9,700+ CFS (200 year flood)
Pond Size: 261 acres
Lake Level: 747.20 to 747.80
Impoundment storage capacity: Should be 0 per statute since dam is run of river. Elevation range needed to estimate capacity

Monitoring equipment:
- Pressure transducers, gauge height sensors, sluice gate controls
- SCADA system; remote and automatic controls

QUICK LOOK

Owner: City of Ann Arbor
Purpose: Recreation
Height/Head: 28’/16’
Crest length: 150’+/-
Spillway width: 87’
Pond size: 261 acres
Lake level: 747.20 to 747.80
Dam Type: Concrete gravity spillway with earth embankments

Contact:
Brian Steglitz
734-794-6426, ext. 43905
BSteglitz@a2gov.org
SAFETY AND ASSESSMENT

Regulations: NREPA, 1994 PA 451 Part 315, Dam Safety
Most recent inspection: ??
Inspection requirements and schedule: Triennial
Emergency Action Plan required: yes

Barricades: pontoon float buoys upstream and downstream
Portage: yes
Lighting: no

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Geddes Dam Contact: Brian Steglitz, 734-794-6426, ext. 43905
Backup Contact: Rob Coon, 734-845-0776

Nearest Upstream Dam (non AA owned/operated): Flook Dam
Contact: Arthur Stauch, 734-216-4009
Backup Contact: Bob Griffin, 734-260-0465

Nearest Downstream Dam (non AA owned/operated): Peninsular Paper
Contact: Stan Kirton, City of Ypsilanti, 734-483-1421

Contact Us

Huron River Watershed Council
1100 N. Main St, Suite 210
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-769-5123 x611
resselman@hrwc.org
hrwc.org

Emergency Response Agency: 911
*see emergency action plan

Luke Trumble
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Dept of Environmental Quality, Dam Safety Unit

Dam Reports produced through the Huron River Dams Network connecting the 17 mainstem dam operations on the Huron River from Big Lake to Flat Rock.