



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

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**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Refill of Waterbury Dam Reservoir to Begin

WATERBURY, VT. — Area residents will begin to see a difference in the pool behind Waterbury Dam as officials gradually allow the pool to begin refilling today. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have determined that seepage control work on the dam has reached a point at which the pool behind the dam can be allowed to return to normal levels. An extensive review of the project by the Corps, Vermont, and independent consultants has determined that the dam is safe. It is expected that the reservoir will take approximately two months to refill. The reservoir has been drawn down since 2000 due to concerns with seepage in the dam. Work on the \$24,500,000 construction project has been underway since spring of 2002. The construction work was undertaken to control internal seepage in the dam and will be monitored on a regular basis to ensure that all features are operating properly.

The Waterbury Dam and Reservoir project is located along the Little River, 2½ miles from its confluence with the Winooski River in the town of Waterbury. The earthen dam is about 2,150 feet long and 187 feet high. The Waterbury Dam project primarily provides flood control benefits for the Little River and Winooski River basins during major rainfall events. Other project purposes include hydroelectric power generation and recreation. The Waterbury Dam was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), with Corps of Engineers oversight, between April 1935 and October 1938. The State of Vermont operates and maintains the Waterbury Dam, Reservoir, and associated lands.

To view the history, construction photos and a fact sheet of the rehabilitation work, please visit:
<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/prjlinks/waterdam/index.htm>