



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

August 31, 2015

RE: Notice of Dock and Personal Property Removal Procedures

Dear Buckeye Lake Resident:

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) is moving forward to begin the planning, prep work, design and construction of a new dam at Buckeye Lake State Park. In the past few weeks, we have hired an engineering firm, outlined a viable dam design concept, started the process to hire a qualified firm to begin the construction work, and received an emergency permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that will allow us to begin and complete dam construction much earlier than the traditional permitting process allows.

Site work is slated to begin as early as September 2015 at key locations on the dam, including initial construction of some dam access points and portions of the embankment stability berm. In order to continue this work, ODNR needs to have full access to the dam. ODNR requests the following assistance:

Removal of Private Docks and Other Structures from the Front of the Dam. For the work on the dam to proceed as expeditiously as possible, we are requesting that all docks and other structures on the front (lakeward) side of the dam wall that you would like to keep, which extend over the water, be removed by November 1, 2015, unless notified otherwise in writing. To protect the structural safety of the dam, we ask that you do *not* remove the docks' piling or support posts that have been attached to the dam wall or that have been driven into the lakebed. You may want to consult with a professional engineer on removal procedures for your dock or other structures. We have also included a "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet and illustrated examples for helpful guidance.

For those docks and other structures over the water that are not removed by November 1, 2015, our construction crews will remove and store the dock materials for up to 60 days so you may reclaim the materials if you so choose. If the materials are not reclaimed, the materials will be discarded after 60 days. The 60-day time limitation for storage is due to legal liability concerns and storage space limitations. While ODNR cannot guarantee the condition of the dock materials that are removed and temporarily stored, we will exercise care while removing the structures. If you are certain you will *not* be reclaiming your dock materials, you can sign a waiver (see enclosed form), and the materials will be discarded upon removal. Please return the signed waiver to ODNR by October 1, 2015.

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Removal of Personal Property from the Top the Dam. We are required to install a temporary safety fence along the edge of the state's property line starting in November of 2015 to prevent unsafe public access to the construction zone and meet safety standards. The fence will be at least 6 ft. high and will come down when the project is completed.

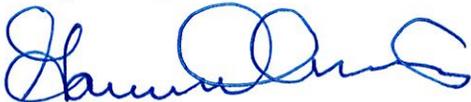
To prevent items belonging to you from becoming stranded behind the fence, we ask you to remove all of your personal property from state land situated generally between the lake and the homes along the dam crest by November 1, 2015, unless notified otherwise in writing. Examples of personal items that should be removed are private decks, patios, grills, picnic tables, benches, swings and chairs.

Also, so that construction crews have the access required to work on the dam, ODNR will have to remove any remaining personal property between the dam crest and the lake after November 1 and is unable to store these items for any period of time.

If you have additional questions about how to safely remove your dock or other structures from the dam, you may call the ODNR Dam Risk Reduction Project information line at (614) 265-6755 on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or you may email your questions to us at DamRiskReduction@dnr.state.oh.us. For general up-to-date project information, please visit our project website at <http://engineering.ohiodnr.gov/buckeyelake>.

We share your desire to get the dam fixed as soon as possible and thank you for your continued cooperation.

Respectfully,



Gary Obermiller
Chief, Division of Parks and Recreation