



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Baltimore District

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News Release

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Corps to begin mid-winter drawdown at Sayers Dam

Baltimore -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, will begin the second phase of its annual winter drawdown at Foster Joseph Sayers Dam near Howard, Pa., on Friday, Feb. 15.

During this gradual drawdown, the Corps will lower the water level in the lake by an additional 15 feet over the next two to four weeks. This effort is in addition to the first phase of the winter drawdown in November 2001, which lowered the lake's summer recreation pool by five feet.

According to Corps officials, the drawdown of the lake is necessary to provide additional flood control storage during the spring runoff and to minimize potential water quality problems in the lake. The Corps plans to begin refilling the lake in late March.

The drawdown is also part of an effort to reduce dust conditions that can sometimes develop in the vicinity of the reservoir. As a result of these planned drawdowns, no occurrences of dust have been reported in the past several years.

The Baltimore District manages the release of water at 16 dams and reservoirs in New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

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