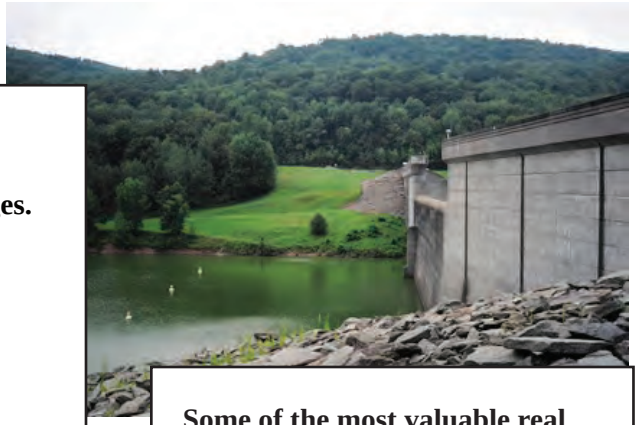
US Army Corps of Engineers®

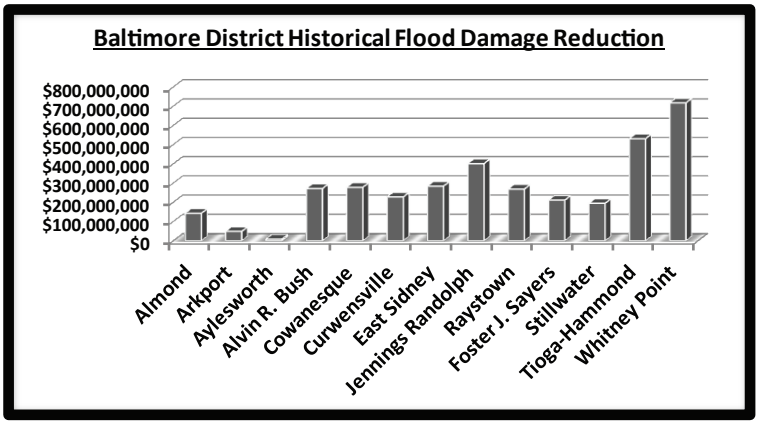
Flood Risk Management
Value to the Nation

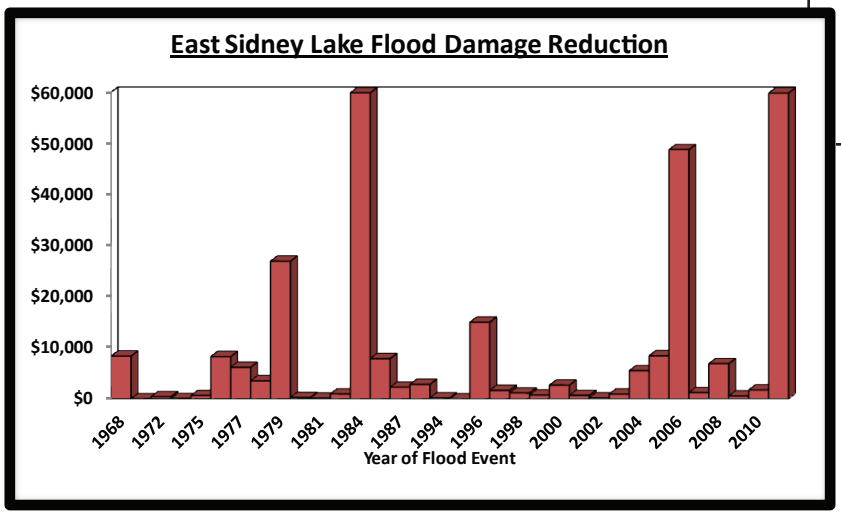
East Sidney Lake



Every year floods sweep through communities across the United States taking lives, destroying property, shutting down businesses, harming the environment and causing millions of dollars in damages. Nearly 94 million acres of land in the United States are at risk for flooding. It is impossible to prevent all floods, but it is possible to prevent some and to limit the damage and risk from those that do occur. One of the primary missions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is to support flood risk management activities of communities in both urban and rural areas throughout the United States. To carry out this mission, the Corps operates projects that reduce flood risk and conducts emergency management activities. At the direction of Congress, the Corps studies and implements flood risk management measures. Over the years the Corps has significantly reduced the impacts of floods by implementing measures such as dams, levees and floodplain management activities.

Some of the most valuable real estate in the nation is also located in high risk areas that are prone to flooding. Many industrial facilities are built near rivers and harbors for easy access to waterborne transportation. Coastal metropolitan zones are engines of growth for the economy. Coastal communities are highly desirable as residential locations and tourist destinations and offer many recreational activities but are vulnerable to coastal storm and flood damage. The Corps Flood Risk Management mission reduces the risk of flood damage to these facilities and homes as well as to vital infrastructure such as energy grids and transportation networks. Since 1936 the Corps has completed over 400 major lake and reservoir projects, emplaced over 8,500 miles of levees and dikes, and implemented hundreds of smaller local flood damage reduction projects. These projects have prevented an estimated $706 billion in river and coastal flood damage, most of that within the last 25 years.





Total Baltimore District Savings: $3,914,511,000

Total East Sidney Lake Savings: $284,772,000

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Background:

East Sidney Lake is located on Ouleout Creek, about five miles above the confluence of the creek with the Susquehanna River near Unadilla, NY. The dam is a combined earthfill and concrete gravity type structure, it is 2,010 feet long, rising 146 feet from firm rock and 130 feet above the streambed, with a spillway and five gate-controlled outlets in the concrete section. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 33,550 acre-feet at spillway crest and an area of 1,100 acres when filled that level. The project controls a drainage area of 102 square miles, five percent of the watershed of the Susquehanna River upstream from Binghamton, NY, exclusive of the separately controlled Chenango River. The project forms part of the protection for Binghamton, and it reduces flood heights throughout the Susquehanna River basin. The cost of the East Sidney project was $6,049,504. Under a Corps real estate agreement, the Town of Sidney operates and maintains the East Sidney Recreation Area. Recreational facilities include a beach, picnic area, playground, campground, and boat launch.

Authorization:

The project is a unit of the comprehensive flood control plan for the protection of communities in southern New York and eastern Pennsylvania authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 22, 1936, as amended by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938, and is described in House Document No. 702, 77th Congress, second session.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
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http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/recreation/sidney.htm