What should we do?

- 5,700 NYS dams
- An underestimate
- Highest density near NYC
- every 1,200 acres or 3 miles of stream
- 79 yrs. old average
Mara Kill, Gardiner, NY
Jew Creek, Milton, NY
Storms destroy dam in Mountaintdale

Fallsburg to seek aid from FEMA

By LEONARDO CHIRICOS
(Staten Island Advance)

Mountaintdale - Rain from tropical storms Irene and Lee have destroyed the earthen dam at Mountaintdale Park in Fallsburg, and town officials are hoping state aid can preserve what’s left of the 60-year-old lake created by a 1956 storm surge.

The 13-acre lake has been a popular fishing and hunting spot for residents and seasonal campers since it was created in 1956 by Hurricane Betsy.

More than 7 feet of water from the one-time 14-foot-deep lake have poured through a gaping hole in the dam, which arrived under heavy and steady rains over the past two weeks.

"We’re going to try to fix and we’re going to try and keep enough water in the lake to hopefully save the fish," said Fallsburg Supervisor Steve Vagianos.

"We’ll do that on a temporary basis, but we’re going to be making a claim to FEMA under the Federal Emergency Management Agency to replace it."

Some residents reported damaged parts of the park’s access road, temporarily stranding about 50 seasonal campers.

The storm also caused the lake’s water to spill over, which combined with the rain to cause large swells of the 8-foot-deep hollow.

Tropical Storm Lee essentially finished the job turning a hole in the dam.

Town officials evacuated several seasonal campers on Wednesday, concerned that the otherwise slow-draining lake was about to turn into a major flood.

"Water from the 13-acre lake at Mountaintdale Park in Fallsburg drains through a gaping hole in the 60-year-old dam," said town supervisor Steve Vagianos.

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Town officials evacuated several seasonal campers on Wednesday, concerned that the otherwise slow-draining lake was about to turn into a major flood.

"At that point, we have a hard time getting people out," Fallsburg supervisor Steve Vagianos said.

"If we can do it in-house, we will."
Hunter’s Brook, Yorktown, NY
Muitzeskill, Schodack, NY
Quassaick Cr., Newburgh, NY
Echo Lake, Arden Brook, Tuxedo, NY
Peterskill, Gardiner NY
Black Cr. Esopus, NY