

# another Dam newsletter



Ohio Dam Safety Organization, Summer 2008

email us: [ODSO@live.com](mailto:ODSO@live.com)

## Ohio Dam Safety Organization

by Joe Stock, Jr., P.E., Chairman

The Ohio Dam Safety Organization (ODSO) was formed in 1995 as a division of the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO). ODSO is also affiliated with the national Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO). Membership to ODSO is free and open to all who are members of the WMAO. It is ODSO's mission to promote dam safety in the State of Ohio by establishing a partnership between dam owners, operators, engineers and regulators. We do this by providing forums for education and discussion on dam safety related issues and providing a voice for all concerned in the formation and implementation of dam safety policy in the State of Ohio.

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## OSDO Needs Your Email

by Joe Stock, Jr., P.E., Chairman

As part of the ongoing mission of ODSO to better serve our members and dam owners throughout Ohio, we will be emailing our members periodic updates regarding legislative news, upcoming workshops, and general information pertinent to Ohio dams. Please take the time to email us an updated email address at **[ODSO@live.com](mailto:ODSO@live.com)** so we can provide this updated service to you.

In addition to providing information to our members via email, we also encourage everyone to visit our website at <http://www.wmao.org/div/odso/index.shtml>. On the website you will find information regarding our organization, past newsletters, and links to regulatory information, workshops, engineer/contractor lists and much more!

## Emergency Preparedness Plan

by Pete George

In the next few months, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water and the Ohio Dam Safety Organization (ODSO) will be hosting five workshops around the state in order to assist Class I (high hazard) dam owners in the development of an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP). The EPP brings together contact information along with other pertinent information to assist dam owners during an emergency situation. These workshops are free to dam owners and provide an outline to get them started in the development of a complete Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Owners will have time to work with Division of Water staff engineers on completing their EPP and ask professional engineering consultants questions as well. A completed EAP is still required for Class I dams. Completing the EPP is an important step in fulfilling the EAP requirement.

The five dates and locations are as follows: June 20 at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, Ohio; July 16 at Wayne National Forest on US 33 near Nelsonville; July 30 at the Day Lodge at Caesar Creek State Park; August 13 at Akron Wildlife District 3 Office; and the final workshop is August 27 at Findlay Wildlife District 2 Office. A workshop agenda is currently being developed.

I encourage Class I dam owners to attend a workshop close to them and to take advantage of this opportunity for development of their EPP. Once completed, the EPP will provide valuable information and a clearer understanding of what should be done during a dam safety emergency. If you have any questions, please contact Division of Water engineers Rodney Tornes at 614/265-6737 or Peter George at 614/265-6725.

## Trashracks for Pipe and Riser

### Spillways

By Pete George

Pipe and riser structures are used as the principal spillway for many of the dams in the State of Ohio. The proper operation of these spillways is an important part of maintaining the overall safety of the dam. Pipe and riser spillways are susceptible to obstruction and damage by floating debris such as leaves, branches, and logs. One device used to ensure that these spillways operate correctly is a trashrack. Trashracks are designed to keep trash and other debris from entering the conduit and causing damage or fouling of the riser pipe.

A well-designed trashrack will stop large debris that could plug the pipe but allow unrestricted passage of water and smaller debris. The larger the outlet pipe, the larger the trashrack opening should be. In the design of a trashrack the maximum openings should be no larger than one-half the size of the outlet pipe. For example, if the outlet pipe is 18 inches in diameter, the trashrack openings should be no larger than 9 inches by 9 inches. This prevents debris from passing through the riser and blocking the outlet pipe. This rule applies up to a maximum trashrack opening of two feet. For smaller spillway systems, trashrack openings should be at least 6 inches by 6 inches regardless of the size of the outlet pipe. Another important design criteria is that the trashrack should be securely fastened to the top of the riser. The connection should be strong enough to withstand the loads it will experience during periods of high flow.

Maintenance should include periodic checking of the trashrack for rusted and broken sections and repairing as needed. Trashracks should be checked frequently during and after storm events to ensure they are functioning properly and to remove accumulated debris. Extreme caution should be used when attempting to remove accumulated debris during periods of high flow.

For additional information please read the Division of Water Fact Sheet 95 – 38 titled “Design and Maintenance of Trashracks.”

## ODSO Executive Board

by Joe Stock, Jr., P.E., Chairman

ODSO is governed by an Executive Board of representative dam owners elected at our annual Fall meeting. The Executive Board consists of one member representing each of the following seven areas of dam safety interest:

- Academia
- Conservancy Districts
- Dam Construction Contractors
- Engineering Consultants
- Industrial Dam Owners
- Municipal Dam Owners
- Private Dam Owners

The Executive Board’s Officers are Joe Stock-Chairman from Buckeye Engineering representing Engineering Consultants, Chad Schroeder-Vice Chairman from Miami Conservancy District representing Conservancy District and Tom Moe-Secretary/Treasurer representing Private Dam Owners.

The Advisory Committee members are Dick Lorenz (immediate past Chairman) from the City of Westerville/Water Division, Pete George from ODNR/Division of Water/Dam Safety Program and Scott Jerrone from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

This year’s Executive Board consists of two newly elected members including Chris Engle from Ohio Contractors Association representing Dam Construction Contractors and Pete Kusky from Aqua Ohio, Inc. representing Industrial Dam Owners.

Additional Board member includes Jim Evans from Bowling Green University representing Academia, and Jeff Brooks from City of Columbus representing Municipal Dam Owners.

Further information is available on our website: <http://www.wmao.org/div/odso/>

## WMAO and OLMS to Merge Efforts

By Dana Oleskiewicz

Membership Chair, Ohio Lake Management Society

The Ohio Lake Management Society (OLMS) was formed in 1986 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to (mission) “promoting the scientific research and sound management of Ohio’s lakes through education and technical assistance, collection and dissemination of water-quality data and advocacy of the policies that enhance the quality and protect the ecological and recreational benefits of lakes for the people of Ohio.”

The founding members of OLMS wanted the membership in the organization to be very diverse, and therefore OLMS has representation from academia, government, industry, the nonprofit sector – including lake associations, and citizens. Over the past 20 years, OLMS has been very successful at linking research to lake enthusiasts throughout Ohio using educational outreach such as conferences, workshops, student events, and its’ major program, the Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring (CLAM).

Several years ago, OLMS began a discussion with the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) about a possible partnership, being that both organizations have very similar missions. It was decided that OLMS would become a Lake Management Division of WMAO, thus strengthening all of our efforts with a larger and more organized voice advocating for protected water quality.

Ultimately, WMAO will gain a greater membership pool that can be used to leverage grant dollars and political support, as well as a grassroots base of citizen members. OLMS will benefit through a stronger connection to decision makers in Ohio and can function more efficiently with better administrative support.

To help this newly formed partnership, the by-laws of both groups have recently been modified to allow for a merger in membership categories. Specifically, WMAO has added a citizen level of participation to maintain the desired grassroots involvement, which is currently at \$25 as an annual membership fee.

OLMS will remain autonomous in its decision making and activities; however, joint programs, merged operations, and closer communication will result allowing both OLMS and WMAO to better address the mission of effectively managing water resources in Ohio. To learn more about OLMS, visit [www.olms.org](http://www.olms.org).

## WMAO/ODSO Annual 2008 Fall Conference

by Scott Jerrome

The Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) is now planning for its 37th Fall Conference to be held November 12 & 13, 2008 at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center (4900 Sinclair Drive, Columbus, OH 43229). The theme of this year’s conference is “Water for a Changing Ohio”. ODSO is organizing a breakout session during this conference to present topics on dams and dam safety, and conduct their annual meeting with election of Executive Board members.

Abstracts were to be submitted by May 30. The Conference Planning Committee is reviewing the abstracts and will inform authors of those that are accepted. Accepted abstracts will be compiled and posted on the WMAO web site.

**SESSION TOPICS:** Presentations were to focus on the following potential session topics addressing water and water-resources management:

- Dams and Dam Safety
- How to effectively plan (local, regional, state) for the future water resource needs of Ohio
- Planning and implementation to address water resource/watershed issues
- Innovative methods for modeling and forecasting Ohio water resource condition and needs
- Protection of water resource/watershed through land use alternatives
- The effects of climate change, land use, and/or demographic patterns on Ohio water resources
- The future of Ohio water resource policy and programs
- Water resource protection and improvement as an economic development engine
- Development and maintenance of water infrastructure
- Research application opportunities for water resource planners and managers
- Successful water resource education and outreach materials
- Preparing our next generation as stewards of Ohio water resources

Please check the WMAO website <http://www.wmao.org/meetings.shtml> for information on submission of abstracts, and future information on registration for the fall conference.

## Upcoming ODSO Events

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANS WORKSHOPS. The Ohio Dam Safety Organization (ODSO) will team up with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to host five workshops around Ohio to assist Class I dam owners in developing an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) for their dam. Various members of ODSO will be presenting and will be available for guidance afterwards. Workshop locations and dates are:

- June 20 – ODNR, Columbus Ohio
- July 16 – Wayne National Forest near Nelsonville, Ohio
- July 30 – Day Lodge at Caesar Creek State Park
- Aug 13 – Akron Wildlife District 3 Office
- Aug 27 – Findlay Wildlife District 2 Office

## Dam Safety Loan Program

Reprint from ODNR's web site.

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) have joined to create two loan programs to assist the state's dam owners in funding safety related repairs and improvements. Public agencies will utilize the Ohio Water Development Dam Safety Loan Program and private or corporate owners may borrow through the Ohio Water Development Link Deposit Program. For more information, refer to <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/dsafety/damloans.htm>

## Executive Board Nominations Sought

By Richard Lorenz

The nomination committee is seeking nominations for representatives for the following ODSO Executive Board positions:

- Private Dam Owners
- Municipal Dam Owners
- Academia

Board seats are for two years, commencing in November 2008. The Board meets quarterly. Nominations will be placed on the ODSO ballot with voting taking place at the Fall 2008 WMAO conference. Absentee ballots will also be available in the Fall WMAO newsletter. You may nominate yourself or other interested candidate. Nominations must include name, email address, phone number and be sent to [Richard.Lorenz@westerville.org](mailto:Richard.Lorenz@westerville.org) or 614 901-6772 by Aug 1st.

## Dam Safety Awards

By Dan Hill

**BEST MAINTAINED DAMS.** Congratulations to the winner of last year's ODSO Dam Safety Award for best maintained dam. The 2007 winner (there was only one entry, in the Private ownership category, and which did meet the eligibility requirements) recognized at the Annual Meeting last November was:

### **Camp Francis Asbury Lake Dam, Shawnee Valley District U.M. Church**

Photos of many of the previous winning dams can be viewed at [www.wmao.org/div/odso](http://www.wmao.org/div/odso). Click on Awards and then on the name of the dam.

Nominations for the 2008 awards are now being sought. Eligibility is primarily based on two simple requirements: (1) the dam must be at least 5 years old; and (2) it must be in compliance with all of the Department of Natural Resources' dam safety regulations. Please note that it is not necessary to have recently completed improvements or major rehabilitation of a dam for it to be eligible. The purpose of this awards program is to encourage proper ongoing maintenance of dams. Remember: Safe Dams Are Well Maintained Dams!

This year's awards will be presented in conjunction with the Ohio Dam Safety Organization / Water Management Association of Ohio annual conference in mid November. To make a nomination for this year's awards, fill out the form in this newsletter and return it by **September 13, 2008** to: Daniel M. Hill, PE, Chair, ODSO Awards Committee, 1433 Inglis Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212

# Membership Application

Please complete this form and include it with your payment (made payable to WMAO) to:



The Ohio Dam Safety Organization  
A Division of  
Water Management Association of Ohio  
601 Dempsey Road  
Westerville, Ohio 43081-8978

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	BENEFITS
Individual	\$65.00	1 member
Organizational	\$180.00	3 members, additional members \$60 each
Sustaining	\$400.00	6 members, additional members \$60 each; business card advertisement space in 4 Ohio Water Table issues (Please provide complete information on each individual)
Student	\$10.00	1 member
Emeritus	\$25.00	1 member; must be 65 years of age with 5 years membership in WMAO or be approved by the executive board.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE \_\_\_\_\_

### AREAS OF INTEREST (Check all that apply)

- Agriculture
- Dam Safety (ODSO)
- Education
- Floodplain Management
- Groundwater
- Recreation & Navigation
- Research & Data Management
- Stormwater Management
- Water & Wastewater

**DID YOU KNOW???**

Reprinted with permission from ODNR

There are more than 50,000 dams identified in Ohio, though most of these are small and do not fall under the jurisdiction of Ohio's Dam Safety Laws. According to Ohio Administrative Code Rule 1501:21-13-01, regulated dams are classified based on the following:

**Class I**

- Dams having a total storage volume greater than 5,000 acre-feet
- Dams greater than 60 feet in height
- Dams whose failure would result in one of the following:
  - Probable loss of human life
  - Structural collapse of at least one residence or one commercial or industrial business

**Class II**

- Dams having a total storage volume greater than 500 acre-feet
- Dams greater than 40 feet in height
- Dam whose failure would result in one of the following:
  - Disruption of public water supply or wastewater treatment facility, release of health hazardous industrial or commercial waste, or other health hazards
  - Flooding of residential, commercial, industrial, or publicly owned structures
  - Flooding of high value property
  - Damage or disruptions of major roads including but not limited to interstate and state highways
  - Damage or disruption of railroads or public utilities
  - Damage to downstream Class I, II, or III dams or levees.

**Class III**

- Dams having a total storage volume of greater than 50 acre-feet
- Dams greater than 25 feet in height
- Dam whose failure would result in one of the following:
  - Property losses including but not limited to rural buildings.
  - Class IV dams and levees
  - Damage or disruption to local roads

**Class IV**

- Total storage volume of 50 acre-feet or less
- Dams less than 25 feet in height whose failure would result in one of the following:
  - Property losses restricted mainly to the dam and rural lands
  - Loss of human life not probable.

If you are unsure of the classification of your dam or the reason for your classification, please contact ODNR at 614-265-6731



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# ODSO 2008 Best Maintained Dam Nomination Form

Categories (check one):       Industrial       Private       Property Owner Association  
     Local Public       State       Conservancy District

Name of Dam: \_\_\_\_\_ ODNR File No. (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

