

Caddo Creek Watershed Dam No. 13

Lake Jean Neustadt Carter County, Oklahoma



Protecting Our People - Protecting Our Natural Resources

This is one of 2,107 examples of how local, state and federal government agencies have worked together to utilize the Natural Resources Conservation Service Watershed Program to address natural resource needs and improve the quality of life for thousands of Oklahomans.*

Caddo Creek Watershed Dam No. 13

Caddo Creek Watershed Dam No.13, known as Lake Jean Neustadt, was constructed in 1969 by the City of Ardmore and the Arbuckle Conservation District with the assistance of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Program.

The dam, located eight miles northwest of Ardmore, was constructed for flood control, municipal water supply and recreation. The lake provides municipal water for Ardmore and the recreational facilities around the 462 surface acres lake include boat docks, picnic tables, restrooms and a fishing pier.

The dam is one of 28 flood control dams that have been constructed in the Caddo Creek Watershed in Carter County.

Flooding was a common occurrence before the 28 dams were constructed. In the period between 1923 and 1942 there were 21 major floods (flood water covered more than one-half of the flood plain) and 32 smaller floods.

A major flood in 1957 caused over \$600,000 in damages. Floods damaged crops, pastures, fences and oil field installations and killed livestock. They also caused soil erosion and sediment deposition in streams.

In 1960 the Arbuckle Conservation District requested assistance from the NRCS in developing a watershed project that would consist of flood control dams and the installation of conservation practices. The 28 flood control dams were constructed between 1962 and 1979.



Lake Jean Neustadt provides flood control, water supply and recreational areas.

Benefits of the Caddo Creek Watershed Project – 28 Dams

- Provides \$2 million in average annual benefits from reduced flood damages
- Provides flood protection for highways, railroads and county roads and bridges
- Provides flood protection for 695 farms and ranches
- Impounded water has created fish and wildlife habitat, waterfowl nesting areas and livestock water
- Reduces sedimentation in streams and rivers by 126,00 tons of soil annually

The Caddo Creek Watershed Project is one of 129 projects in Oklahoma that have been planned and implemented by local people with assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission.

*2,107 flood control dams have been constructed in 61 Oklahoma counties. These watershed projects that also include thousands of conservation practices provide over \$90 million in average annual benefits.

For additional information about watershed projects in the state visit the Oklahoma Conservation Commission website at: <http://conservation.ok.gov> or visit your local conservation district and NRCS office.