

# Fourche Maline Creek Watershed Dam No. 7 - Lake Lloyd Church



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.*

## Fourche Maline Creek Watershed Dam No. 7

Fourche Maline Creek Watershed Dam No. 7, known as Lake Lloyd Church, is located 3.7 miles southwest of Wilburton, Oklahoma in Latimer County.

The dam was built in 1964 by the City of Wilburton, the Latimer County Conservation District and the Fourche Maline Creek Conservancy District No. 10 with the assistance of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program.

The dam is 65 feet in height and it creates a 225 surface lake. The primary purpose of the dam is flood control, but it also provides a source of municipal water for the City of Wilburton and surrounding rural water districts which serve 5,230 water users. The city paid for 2,875 acre feet of additional water storage for municipal water storage when the dam was constructed.

Public recreational facilities around the lake include twelve picnic tables, one pavilion and one boat ramp.

Dam No. 7 is one of 14 dams in the Fourche Maline Watershed Project, all of which are in Latimer County.

### Benefits Provided by the 14 Dams in the Fourche Maline Watershed Project

- \$1.4 million in average annual benefits from reduced flood damages
- Provides flood protection for 744 farms and ranches
- Provides flood protection for 12 major bridges and numerous county roads and bridges
- 386 acres of wetlands have been created or enhanced
- Sedimentation is reduced by 92,000 tons of soil each year



Lake Lloyd Church provides flood control, a water supply for Wilburton and rural water districts, and recreational areas for local residents and visitors.

Before the watershed project was implemented flooding was a frequent occurrence in the watershed. Between 1938 and 1958 there were 35 floods where flood water covered more than one-half of the floodplain and there were 85 smaller floods. These floods destroyed crops, washed out roads and bridges and eroded the land.

The Fourche Maline 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.

2,107\* NRCS-assisted flood control dams have been constructed in 61 Oklahoma counties. These watershed projects, that also include thousands of conservation practices, provide over \$81 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.