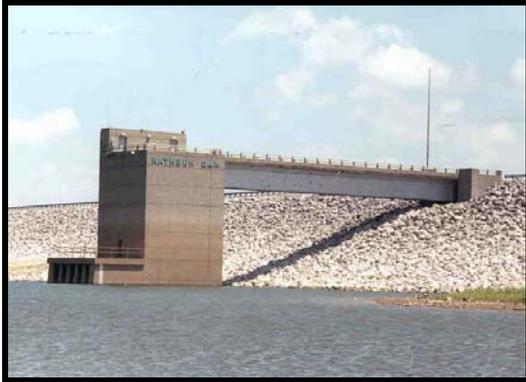




**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
Kansas City District

# Rathbun Dam, Rathbun Lake, Iowa

Located approximately 120 km (75 miles) southeast of Des Moines in south central Iowa.



**Location & Description:** Rathbun Lake is located approximately 120 km (75 miles) southeast of Des Moines in south central Iowa. The dam is located on the Chariton River at river kilometer 227 (river mile 142). The watershed is located in Appanoose, Wayne, and Lucas Counties. The dam is an earthfill embankment about 10,600 feet long and is constructed to an elevation of 86 feet above the valley floor with an uncontrolled service chute spillway with paved sill about a mile from the right abutment on the Chariton River in Appanoose County, Iowa, about 7 miles north of Centerville, and 1 mile north of Rathbun, Iowa.

The project purposes are flood control, navigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, water supply, and water quality control. Water supply was added as a project purpose by a reallocation of recreation storage approved in July 1985. Drainage area above the damsite is 549 square miles.

**Progress (Completed and Under Maintenance):** Construction of the project was initiated 11 September 1964. The project was placed in operation in November 1969 and is complete. Lands acquired for the project consist of 33,909 acres in fee; and 2,029 acres in easements. Initial cost of constructing the completed project was \$27,033,210; cost of supplemental recreation development (Code 710 work) was \$588,948; operation and maintenance costs to 30 September 1996 were \$37,828,049 and flood damage reduction is equal to \$145,381,000 since the project went operational in 1969.

