

Dam Maintenance



Maintaining a dam which was originally built in 1912 to 1916 is an ambitious venture. It involves engineering science, construction skills, financial resources, personal diligence and governmental agility. The Lake Barcroft Dam is particularly demanding in terms of dam safety and emergency action planning because of its large size, urban watershed and the complexity of its Bascule Gate's electronic and hydraulic systems.

WID is currently completing a major maintenance and improvement construction project which coordinates a hydraulic construction firm, hydraulic oil supplier, electroplating specialty company, consulting engineers and WID staff. Carbon steel piping which tends to rust over time is being replaced by stainless steel pipes. Pistons are being re-electroplated. Rust removal and repainting of exposed surfaces provide like-new protection. And a new electronic stilling well system is being installed. All of this has to be done with the dam in place and functioning normally.

The cost comes from a WID budget category called **Dam Maintenance**. This is WID's primary responsibility and an example of *What's New at the WID*.
