

South Fork Rivanna Reservoir



Photo courtesy of Rebecca Bodor

The South Fork Rivanna Reservoir, located off Route 29 north of Charlottesville on the South Rivanna River, was constructed and impounded in 1966. The reservoir was constructed to be the primary raw water source for the urban community area. The reservoir has a drainage area of 259.1 square miles and a surface area of 366 at the permanent pool elevation of 382. Two major streams, the Mechums River and Moormans River are tributaries to the reservoir. The design volume of the reservoir in 1966 was 1,700 million gallons of total storage with 1,250 million gallon of usable raw water storage. In 2002, a bathymetric survey indicated that the total usable raw water storage was 800 million gallons. The dam height is 60 feet with the normal pool level at 382 feet. Surface area of the permanent water pool is 366 acres. This reservoir is very popular both for canoeing and kayaking and is also known for its excellent fishing. Both swimming and motor boating are prohibited since this reservoir is a community raw water supply.



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