

# LAKEQUEST 2013

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## Lake Trail – Brosius Dam

### How Did the Dam Get Its Name?

The Brosius Dam is a 600-foot long rock-and-earth-fill dam that impounds Lake Linganore, the largest private lake in Maryland. The dam was built for the functional purpose of holding back the water of Linganore Creek, but the original developers believed that the environment is important and it should be disturbed as little as possible. That is why the dam was designed to look more natural, using earth and indigenous boulders as construction materials.

When it was completed, *Environment Monthly Magazine* voted the Brosius Dam “the finest example in the United States of architectural and engineering created to help the environment.” The dam was completed on June 3, 1972, the same year it received two honor awards, one for Environmental Excellence in Architecture & Engineering, and the second for Engineering Excellence from the Consulting Engineers Council, USA.

**TRAIL NOTES:** There is a gravel parking area for about 10 cars at the dam end of the trail, and limited parking at Coldstream Beach and along North Shore Way. The trail is approximately 2 miles and is rated EASY. It has a flat pathway with a surface that varies from grass, to dirt, to gravel, and eventually a concrete walkway (the Esplanade). The trail starts at Boyers Mill Road and runs along the northern shore of Lake Linganore, westward through Coldstream, North Shore and Aspen villages to the Brosius Dam. Several shorter trails connect to it.

#### SUPPLIES TO BRING:

- Quest Instructions and LogBook
- Pencil and a crayon (IMPORTANT!)
- Water and a snack
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray

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## PART I

QUEST START: For this Quest, begin at the entrance to the trail on the westward side of Coldstream Beach and head towards the dam.

1. Your first clue is at the very beginning of the Quest. Look out at the lake. Do you know how the lake was created? Did you know that there are no natural lakes in Maryland?

That's right! All of Maryland's lakes are manmade. Lake Linganore, the largest privately owned lake in Maryland, was built by creating an \_\_\_ A \_\_\_  \_\_\_ dam to hold back the water from Linganore Creek and the other streams that feed the lake.

2. Continue westward on the lake trail. Stop at the carved log bench and rock outcropping. Take a seat on the bench. Do you know how the water gets into the lake? The water in the lake comes from several creeks and streams, groundwater, stormwater runoff, and rain. The level of water in the lake is controlled by the dam. Some of the materials used to build an earthen dam are compacted dirt, rock, and clay.

Next, step behind the bench and underneath one of the materials used to build the dam. These overhanging  O \_\_\_ \_\_\_ will help you make a special sound.

Now for the really fun part! Face the lake and yell a word as loud as you can. Listen carefully for your echo to come back to you!

3. Continue heading west on the trail. Find the next trail marker and have fun exploring the stream where the Audubon Lake Access Trail meets the Lake Trail.

Cross the foot B \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_  and continue onto your next stop.

# LAKEQUEST 2013

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4. To answer your next clue, stop at John Shuey's Memorial Bench. The plaque on the bench says that he loved Lake Linganore. We, in Lake Linganore, enjoy the lake for its natural beauty and for recreation, but the lake is also important to many other people throughout the county. For example, the lake serves as the primary water reservoir for the City of  D \_\_\_\_\_ and is a major water source for other parts of the county.
5. Leaving this location, continue down the trail until you reach the dam. At this point you will be at the top of the dam and can view the spillway or "waterfall". Look down towards the base of the waterfall and boulder area and see if you can spot the decorative \_\_\_\_\_ N  \_\_\_\_\_ along the northern wing of the dam area.
6. Next, locate the Brosius Rock. Read the inscription to help solve your final clue. The Brosius Rock was placed here when the dam was completed in June 1972. The rock serves to honor the vision and life's work of J. William Brosius and commemorates the two honor \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ for excellence the dam received.

Congratulations! You've reached the end of your quest! This is a great section of the trail to see the dam and Lake Linganore from a new perspective. At this point of the Lake Trail, you are above the dam and the Lake, and can enjoy the views from this higher vantage point.

Keep Going...Part II follows...

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## PART II

### **So, how *did* the dam get its name?**

1. Unscramble the letters from your clues to reveal the Quest's answer!

The dam is named for the \_\_\_\_\_ of William and Louie Brosius, Lake Linganore's original developers.

2. Next, find the unscrambled word on Brosius Rock's inscription. Use the crayon you brought along on this Quest to make a rubbing of the word in your LakeQuest LogBook.

**\*\*To receive credit for this Quest, please email a photo of your team doing this Quest and the unscrambled word to [FriendsofLakeLinganore@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofLakeLinganore@gmail.com)\*\***



### Bonus Quest

For the adventurous, cross the top of the dam and continue onto the Nightingale Lake Trail on the other side of the lake. The Nightingale Trail is about 2.4 miles and is considered DIFFICULT due to rocky, hilly terrain.

Write your own Nightingale Trail Quest and submit it to [FriendsofLakeLinganore@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofLakeLinganore@gmail.com). Your Quest may be featured in LakeQuest 2014!