



# FOUR LAKES TASK FORCE December News

## EVENTS

### December 12, 2023

Board Meeting  
12:00-2:00 p.m.  
Secord Township Hall

### December 8, 13, 15, 20, 22

Preliminary Day of Review  
session times vary  
Book a session at  
<https://bit.ly/FLTFSAD>

### January 15, 2024

Public Hearing for  
Assessment  
9:00-12:00 p.m. and  
1:00-4:00 p.m.  
Beaverton Activity Center

### February 6, 2024

County boards approve  
Capital and Operations  
assessment rolls



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Work is currently taking place on all four dams. Beyond construction, teams have been busy preparing for the January 15, 2024, public hearing. At the public hearing, we will review the 2025-2029 Operations & Maintenance computation of cost and special assessment roll, total dam restoration costs, and the Capital Assessment roll.

This month, we will continue to work with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire permits for Edenville Dam. We are close to the “administratively complete” stage of permitting and expect a permit hearing in January.

As we enter the holiday season, on behalf of the FLTF board, we wish you a joyful and safe holiday. 2024 will bring exciting developments in the restoration of the Four Lakes. Thanks for walking alongside us and for your continued support.

Dave Kepler, President, Four Lakes Task Force



## UPCOMING MILESTONES

Smallwood auxiliary spillway complete by mid-December

Receive bids for Edenville Dam by January

Start Edenville embankment restoration

SECORD DAM



Auxiliary spillway concrete placement started as excavation nears completion. The existing powerhouse demolition is complete. Crews also finished the micropiles on the right abutment and started backfilling and grading this area.

SMALLWOOD DAM



Crews made excellent progress pouring concrete for the auxiliary spillway. The lower chute has two large pours and one wall pour complete. In the upper chute, the last pour inside the chute was completed. The powerhouse was demolished at the dam and concrete is being poured. The team is continuing to prepare rebar and forms for future concrete pours.

EDENVILLE DAM



Edenville embankment work continues at a slightly slower pace due to winter conditions. Crews completed the Soil Cement Bentonite cutoff wall along the entire embankment and the contractor is preparing to “de-mobilize” from the site. Final quality control data will be reviewed on the wall before formally releasing the contractor from its obligation to Four Lakes Task Force. Currently, the main activity includes placing gravel filters on the downstream side of the embankment and installing a toe drain system to contain and direct any seepage through the embankment to the river.

**FUN FACT:** Blade and excavator arm control of some excavators and bulldozers used at Edenville are controlled by Global Positioning System (GPS) allowing for very accurate grading and depth control.

SANFORD DAM



Construction is underway! The first step in the process is to pass water around the spillway using a temporary bypass channel. This will allow the spillway structure to be isolated from river water using a cofferdam. Work crews installed a cofferdam on both ends of the temporary bypass channel, set a temporary access bridge and will de-water the contained areas. Once de-watered, riprap and ~200 ft of steel sheet pile, installed during restoration, will be removed to form a channel for the water to flow.

**FUN FACT:** Cofferdam enclosures are used to enclose and de-water an area for work. They take many shapes and sizes and are differentiated by their construction and intended use. A cofferdam over 1 mile long was built to permit the construction of the Livingstone Channel in the Detroit River!

