

Usually, the lake is below the normal (prescribed level of 6') in September . It varies based on how much summer rain we get. We start the draw down slowly the last week of September.

If the lake is below 6' the last week in September, the gates stay closed or are open a very small amount to proof the operation of the gates.

The draw down policy and our goal is to draw the lake down to as close to 4' as possible by October 15. Whatever the level is on the 15th, is the maximum low level for the rest of the year. We do not go below that level until the gates are closed for the winter. This is to protect the togue spawn. We do adjust the gates to maintain as close to the October 15 level as possible until freeze up. But not lower!

Some summers the lake is naturally low from no rain and evaporation during the dog days of summer. The last 2 years the gates have been closed from early May and are not opened at all until late September. This year the gates were closed on May 7 and have not been touched since. The lake is at about 5' 10" right now. We have found that it normally takes 2 solid weeks with the gates wide open to draw down close to the desired 4' level. For the last several years, we have tried to maintain as much water as nature allows, up to the end of September, for the finish of fishing season and boat usage.

Again, we do not significantly open the gates to draw down water until the last week in September. If the gates have been closed all summer and the lake is low it is due to lack of rain and evaporation. It is not due to the opening of the gates drawing water off in early September.