



Flat River Reservoir Redevelopment Area

A Public Information Guide for Coventry Residents

This is a long-term effort supported by community input, technical planning, and collaboration with town officials and stakeholders.



What is the Flat River Reservoir Redevelopment Area?

The Town of Coventry is creating a Redevelopment Area around Johnson's Pond (Flat River Reservoir) to:

- Develop strategies for long-term maintenance/ state of good repair of the Dam
- Enhance recreational access for residents and visitors
- Support infrastructure improvements that enhance recreational use of the Pond
- Foster the ecological stability of the reservoir and its surrounding environment
- Promote tourism and public enjoyment of natural resources
- Restore the use and quality of residential waterfront properties

This planning effort is a community-driven process and involves defining a boundary for the district, gathering public input, and developing actionable strategies for access, recreation, and environmental protection. Improvements to existing locations may include signage, clean-up, or new facilities such as parking, paths, and boat docks & ramps.

Public Access Points to Johnson's Pond

The planning team has identified several key access points around the pond. **Note: Some areas are under review for improvement or formal designation. Please respect private property and posted rules.** Here's what we know so far:

Access Point Name	Description	Access/Parking
The Dam at Gatehouse Farm Road	Access has been cleared behind the Town DPW, making it ideal for walking and connecting to the bike path, with the potential for a kayak launch. The Town made recent improvements. Limited ADA accessibility.	Park at the end of Gatehouse Road, past the Animal Shelter. You'll cross the bike path, please use caution.

Have questions or ideas? Reach out—we want to hear from you! Visit Johnson'sPondRP.org for updates, meeting dates, and more details.



Access Point Name	Description	Access/Parking
Zeke's Bridge Fishing Access	Just off Harkney Hill Rd., there is a small, cleared area for parking, ideal for kayak launches, fishing, and open water access. Limited ADA accessibility.	Find the turnoff on the North side of Harkney Hill Road, just east of the bridge.
Francis H Sherman Memorial Park	Located just off Old Flat River Road, there is a small trail featuring a gravel parking area and a kayak launch, fishing access, and picnicking. Limited ADA accessibility.	Find the marked park entrance, with a small parking area, on the north side of Old Flat River Road.

What Has Been Done So Far?



The Town and the consultant have:

- Launched a planning process to define the area
- Mapped access points and ownership of town land
- Developed a dedicated website for information and updates
- Hosted a kickoff meeting and laid out the scope
- Prepared for upcoming workshops to gather YOUR input!

A boundary draft has been established and a schedule is set to prioritize investments and enhancements. The next Coventry Redevelopment Agency Meeting will outline the next steps.

Get Involved!

Community input from surveys and workshops will continue to shape priorities. This summer and fall, the Town will be holding community meetings and workshops to:

- Share draft ideas and strategies
- Hear from you about what matters most
- Build a shared vision for the reservoir's future



Key Community Input and Next Steps

- Short-term improvements, such as access signage, cleaning debris, or opening boat ramps, are being explored as quick wins.
- Longer-term plans include establishing a redevelopment district with a collaborative model for managing public improvements. Let's work together to shape the future of Johnson's Pond.

Have questions or ideas? Reach out—we want to hear from you! Visit Johnson'sPondRP.org for updates, meeting dates, and more details.