

January 16, 2026

Behind the Spillway: Post 1

Welcome to *Behind the Spillway*, an area where you'll be able to find everything from technical project updates to press releases to interesting facts about the Madison Dam Rehabilitation Project.

If you're in the area of Lake Moraine, you may have noticed that we are beginning to install the temporary siphon system at the Madison Reservoir!

As a reminder, this is preliminary work to support the drawdown for the upcoming project *and* to alleviate current limitations with the existing low-level outlet. This temporary siphon system is mainly comprised of two 24-inch pipelines that will run through the existing Auxiliary Spillway (the old stone masonry spillway) and extend out about 100 yards into the reservoir. Warning buoys will be installed near the inlet of the siphon pipelines within the reservoir.

The Canal Corporation will be utilizing a barge in the reservoir near the dam to complete the installation. They'll be breaking ice from the barge with an excavator as needed near the dam and spillways so they can move around and get the pipelines installed. The barge will be launched from the dam. This work should take the better part of a month.

Is there something you'd like to see here? Are you interested in writing a guest-post? Shoot me a note at Jackie.Schillinger@nypa.gov or call any time at 518-281-5510.