About The Outlet Dam

The Lake Youngs Outlet Dam is designed to withstand the most severe conditions, including major earthquakes. Seattle Public Utilities personnel work with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) Dam Safety Section to keep up with current safety standards regarding inspections and monitoring.

SPU has recently installed a state-of-the-art dam monitoring system designed to keep downstream citizens safe from flooding.

The new system can quickly identify any unusual conditions to give SPU personnel time to resolve the problem, and if necessary, to notify the public. These instruments gather information that is continuously fed to SPU's Operation Control Center, which is staffed 24 hours a day.

Partners In Safety

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) works through the King County Office of Emergency Management to coordinate with the cities of Covington, Auburn and Kent, and other local jurisdictions in preparation of the Lake Youngs Outlet Dam Emergency Action Plan.

Lake Youngs Employee Resource Center.

CITY OF AUBURN WASHINGTON

KENT WASHINGTON

City of Covington

King County

Seattle Public Utilities

700 5th Ave. Suite 4900
PO Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

SPU provides our customers with reliable water, sewer, drainage and solid waste services. We protect public health and balance our social and environmental responsibilities to the citizens and community, while providing cost effective services to our ratepayers.

Cover photo by Hawk Jones, aerial photo by Carlos Albarracin other photos courtesy of the Seattle Municipal Archives.

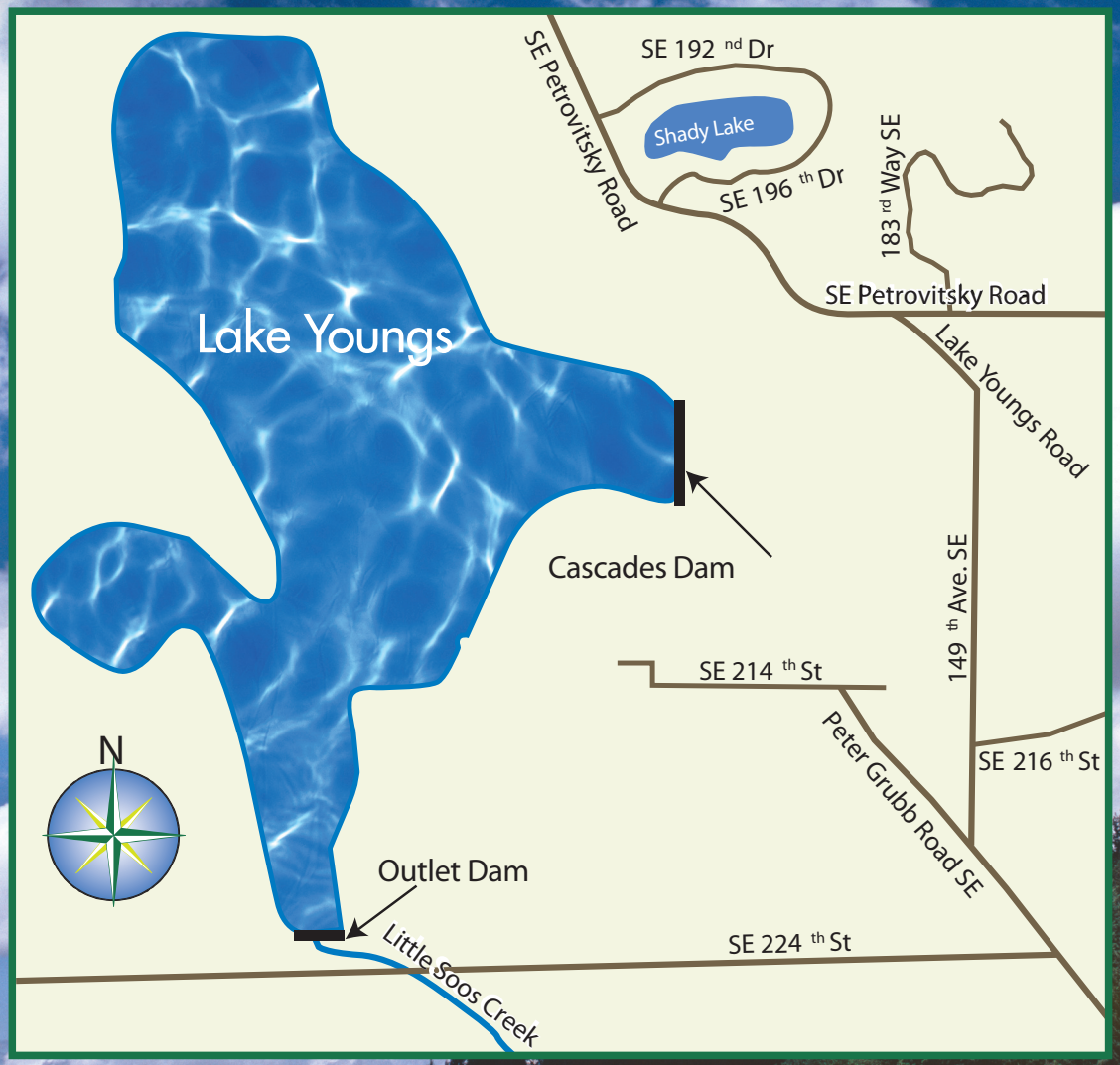
Lake Youngs Reservoir and Outlet Dam

Seattle Public Utilities

Lake Youngs Reservoir and Outlet Dam

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) owns and operates the Lake Youngs Reservoir and Outlet Dam. These facilities are part of the Cedar River water supply system which provides water to more than a million people in King County.

The Reservoir is located northeast of the City of Kent near the city of Covington and is accessible only to SPU staff and authorized visitors. Contact Daniel Huang, Project Manager at 206-233-2535 if you have questions or would like to arrange a tour of the facility.



Be Prepared...

If you live or work downstream of Lake Youngs Outlet Dam, near Little Soos Creek here's how you can be prepared in the event of an emergency.

1 Listen for the Emergency Alert System on television and radio. The Emergency Alert System includes the National Weather Service weather-alert radio, and all local broadcast media. KIRO 710-AM radio is the primary outlet for emergency media information in your area. KPLU is also an emergency broadcaster.

2 Obtain a tone alert weather radio to provide vital information in case of emergency. These are available from many electronics retailers. Further information may be found on the Internet at: www.kingcounty.gov/prepare

3 Know where to evacuate. In the event of an emergency, evacuate to higher ground to get out of the flood zone. Sit down with family members and go over your emergency evacuation routes both by vehicle and via foot and designate an emergency meeting place. Activate your family preparedness plan.

For more information about emergency planning contact your local emergency management office at the following business numbers: Auburn 253-876-1925, Covington 253-638-1110, Kent 253-856-4440, King County 206-296-3830.

For more information regarding Lake Youngs Outlet Dam contact:

Daniel Huang, Project Manager
206-233-2535
daniel.huang@seattle.gov