

Your Views: Centerway Dam gates are fully open. Come see for yourself

15 hrs ago (0)



I thought I'd respond to the Sunday Sound Off comment regarding high Rock River Levels.

First, your claim that the gates are not fully open is inaccurate. All gates, including the four visible floodgates, the sluice gate (not visible from the street) and the two hydro-electric turbines in the building are and have been fully open since Jan. 23!

Second, there are a number of factors contributing to the rise in the Rock River levels and being aware of them gives you a better understanding of why.

- The amount of rainfall over the last five years has been inordinate during the spring.
- The amount of new construction puts more and more land under concrete and asphalt, causing increased runoff.
- Global warming plays an integral part in the early melt and runoff of snow and ice.
- The level of Lake Koshkonong level had been lowered more than seven inches to stave off the rise in the level of the river. However, rains again have played a part in that river level.
- With each narrowing of the river, the water will back up to residents upstream, such as the narrows just north of Memorial Bridge.

Since I operate the Centerway Dam for Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, I invite the author of the Sound Off submission to visit the dam Monday through Saturday from 8 to 10 a.m. I would be happy to give you an opportunity to view all the gates' position first hand. Until that visit, please be sure your facts are straight when making claims.

DUANE SNOW

Centerway Dam operator



SECTIONS

Columns

Letters to the Editor

Other Views

Our Views

Political cartoons

Sound Off

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