

Turtle Mountain SCD-2026 Achievement Winner-

Carbury Dam Recreation Area



Key Historical Milestones

- Authorization (1966): The project was officially approved to address flood control needs within the Boundary Creek Watershed.
- Construction (1981–1982): Physical construction began in June 1981 and was completed the following year.
- Town Origins: The nearby town of Carbury, which gives the dam its name, was founded in 1901 as a station for the Great Northern Railroad. Folklore suggests the name was actually a mix-up with the nearby town of Roth due to a signage error by railroad officials.

Carbury Dam

Turtle Mountain SCD is proud to announce 'Carbury Dam Recreation Area' as their 2026 Conservation Achievement Winner.

The Carbury Dam Recreation Area Board consists of Bruce Miller, Jim Hall, and Joe Donnelly. Melonie Bowers serves as the park attendant.

The Carbury Dam Recreation Area, located in Bottineau County, North Dakota, was developed as part of the Boundary Creek Watershed Project. Authorized on August 31, 1966, under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, the project was designed to manage floodwaters, enhance wildlife habitats, and provide outdoor recreational space.

Recreation and Infrastructure

The area was developed to serve as a multi-purpose public resource. Historical and current facilities at the Carbury Dam Recreation Area include:

- **Water Management:** The dam creates a 130-acre reservoir with a maximum depth of approximately 45 feet, managed primarily for Northern Pike fishing.
- **Public Facilities:** The site features 28 campsites with electrical hookups, a public boat ramp on the east side, picnic shelters, and swimming areas.
- **Activities:** Since its completion, the area has supported year-round use for boating, fishing, hiking, and camping.

Turtle Mountain SCD's partnership with Carbury Dam Recreation Area

Turtle Mountain SCD has also utilized the Carbury Dam Recreation Area in the past by hosting their annual 7th Grade Conservation Tour out at their main picnic shelter and surrounding areas.

For several years, Turtle Mountain SCD collaborated with Bottineau 8th grade students to plant approximately 200 evergreen trees (each year) on the hillsides surrounding Carbury Dam. This continued until the past few years ago, simply because we were running out of areas to plant the trees—that's a good thing!

Turtle Mountain SCD also has planted numerous trees and shrubs along the sides of the campsites at Carbury Dam, as a way of creating privacy screens for the campers and beautifying the surrounding area.

Congratulations once again to Carbury Dam Recreation Area for being selected as Turtle Mountain SCD's 2026 Achievement Winner!

Carbury Dam Recreation Area Board

(Left to Right):

- Jim Hall
- Bruce Miller
- Melonie Bowers
- Joe Donnelly



