



Committed to a Clean and Full Lake Lanier

Lanier Outlook

Newsletter for the Lake Lanier Association
October 2014

Important Dates to Remember



January 15-18, 2015
Atlanta Boat Show



Saturday, September 26, 2015
Shore Sweep

Lake Lanier Association.
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Message from the Board

Hello LLA members! As we enter the last quarter of 2014, we are very pleased to report that your association has experienced outstanding progress with initiatives this year.

Water Safety continues to be a major focus of your Association.

We have implemented several programs that are maturing in 2014. The solar lights placed on hazard markers has been in full swing with 120 lights presently operational (100 installed in 2014) on the south end of the Lake. A survey of Lanier stakeholders conducted in August was one hundred percent favorable. The positive comments were accompanied by some requests to begin the installation process north of Browns Bridge as soon as possible. Plans for the northern part of Lanier are being developed now, with installations beginning early in 2015.

Water safety programs have been implemented by many supporters this year. New education classes, stronger BUI laws, certificates of course completion required for boaters sixteen and under, as well as increased focus by the Corps, DNR, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Boating and Fishing clubs, Lanier Marinas and others have dramatically reduced accidents and boating fatalities on Lanier. Other safety programs are planned for 2015 with specific focus on parks and swimming areas. There have been drownings at docks and swimming areas in 2014, and non-boating safety programs will be examined next year.

Clean Lake Activities are a significant activity for your association.

Adopt-a-Lake sampling has provided very significant information to EPD and other agencies, as they manage the water quality of Lanier. We are proud of the 25 volunteers that sample Lanier at 20+ locations every month providing identification of "hot spots" that need attention to maintain the water quality of Lanier.

Shore Sweep was completed last



2014 continued Progress & Programs

month, with the best organized and largest collection of trash in our history. The "scouting" concept was implemented across all of Lanier for the first time. The 1100 volunteers focused on the significant concentrations of trash, with 12 tractor trailer loads of trash collected and removed from the Lake. This year we removed several large items (abandoned docks and boats) from the Lake. LLA volunteers also worked in conjunction with Hall County to focus on the Flat Creek area where significant trash accumulates.

Lanier has been very close to full pool (1071 feet above sea level) for over 18 months.

Your Association works closely with the Corps and the Georgia legislature to emphasize the value of keeping Lanier as close to full pool as possible. We also are working to raise the full pool two feet which would provide Georgia with an additional 26+ billion gallons of water storage for Georgia during droughts.

We are always recruiting new members, as well as member volunteers for participation on committees and projects. If you are interested in helping with our programs, please call our office to learn more about available activities.

Shore Sweep 2014 brings in 50 tons of trash



Shore Sweep 2014 was a banner year for us! We collected a whopping 50 tons of trash. We estimate we collected, in the single day, the equivalent of 12 tractor trailers full of trash. Not bad for a day's work! Over 1100 volunteers participated and we had a record number of boaters turn out for the event.

The volunteer base included Rotary and Interact Clubs, Boy and Girls Scouts, Junioresettes from Women's Clubs, Keep Dawson County Beautiful, Keep Gwinnett Beautiful, Keep Forsyth County Beautiful, Keep Hall County Beautiful, property owners, boaters, fishermen and volunteers who want to protect and maintain the sheer beauty of the lake Lanier.

The mood that resonated from Shore Sweep volunteers, "It's fun, exciting and extremely gratifying to be part of this huge effort to make Lake Lanier and clean and safe lake for all to use."

Pre-scouting the shore line prior to Shore Sweep day to locate the location and type of debris really made assignment of volunteers more efficient.

This year we saw more activity in volunteers collecting and dropping off trash at the eight advance drop off locations.

Special thanks to Boat Dock Work, Marine Specialties, and



Martin Docks who were all extremely helpful in removing and transporting heavy trash such as parts of abandoned docks and Styrofoam. Without their help, these items could not have been removed.

A special thanks to the following individuals that served as the Shore Sweep 2014 location and area captains. These individuals volunteered their time and resources not only for the day of Shore Sweep, but also for several preplanning sessions as well as a post event review.



Special Thanks to....

Name	Title	Location
Cynthia Cochran	Captain	Aqualand Marina
Tammy Wright	Captain	Bald Ridge Marina
Kelly Norman	Co-Captain	Clarks Bridge Park
Howard Bradley	Co-Captain	Clarks Bridge Marina
Beth de Neergaard	Captain	Gainesville Marina
Connie Wiggins	Co-Captain	Gwinnett Park
Tyler Young	Co-Captain	Gwinnett Park
Dale Hopfer	Co-Captain	Holiday Marina
Jan Pappanduros	Co-Captain	Holiday Marina
Patti Reilly	Captain	Lake Lanier Islands
Angie Smart	Captain	Port Royale Marina
Dave Rosselle	Captain	Sunrise Cove Marina
Michelle Hester	Captain	Warhill Park



Gordon Brand	Committee Chairman
George Daniel	Committee Member
Bonny Putney	Area Captain
Robert Eidson	Area Captain
Kevin Smith	Area Captain
Gordon Brand	Area Captain



SHORE SWEEP 2014 Thank you to our sponsors...



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Flat Creek restoration work poised to get underway

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Jeff Gill

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October 8, 2014

Work could start in November on a new round of efforts to help with flood protection and water quality in Gainesville's Flat Creek watershed.

Gainesville City Council voted this week to award a \$1 million contract to SpecPro Environmental Services of Oak Ridge, Tenn., for a restoration project focusing on an area around Hancock and Georgia avenues, particularly the old "fire" pond at the old Gainesville Mill.

Plans call for converting the water body into a regional detention pond, resembling work done on the pond next to the Public Safety Complex off Queen City Parkway.

"We're going to remove the existing chain-link fence in the area and open it up for the public to be able to access and use as a greenspace with sidewalks and benches," said Barclay Fouts of Gainesville Public Utilities.

Along with that work, crews will complete a 1,200-foot stream restoration.

"A lot of concrete streambed that's been in there for years will be removed and we'll grate out a new center line for the creek that will (allow it to) meander, and we'll revegetate it," Fouts said.

In general, "this will look like the first two projects ... that turned out to be nice greenspace areas," he said, referring to earlier work in the

watershed.

"They've held up well. They've improved water quality and aquatic life and improved downstream flooding."

Flat Creek has long been an environmental issue for Gainesville-Hall County.

A 6-mile waterway that winds its way to Lake Lanier west of McEver Road, it has been listed on the state Environmental Protection Division's Impaired Waters List.

Duncan Hughes, headwaters outreach coordinator with Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, has said his group "certainly supports and appreciates Gainesville's efforts to better manage and control stormwater in the Flat Creek watershed."

"Flat Creek has long failed to meet Georgia's water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria, and stormwater is a major pollutant delivery mechanism for bacteria and other potentially harmful substances."

Total project costs for the first phase of the new efforts is nearly \$1.2 million, with funding from the city and a \$387,747 EPD grant.

Horace Gee, the city's environmental services administrator, has said plans call for digging out the pond, originally about 7 feet deep, to a depth of 14 feet.

"Right now, because of the siltation over the hundred years it's been there, it's filled in — it's only like 3-4 feet deep," he said in May.



WORK IN PROGRESS

The pond will have a daily pool of about 6 feet, leaving the remaining 7-8 feet to be used for flood protection, Gee said.

With the project, "when we have heavy rains, the majority of the flow will be diverted into the pond, so that it can be released on a more even time frame back into the stream."

That way, "we can have some hydrologic controls over the velocity of the water."

The restoration is slated for a spring finish, Fouts said.

Two more phases are planned, ending at E.E. Butler Parkway.

Overall project costs could run about \$2 million.

"The most important part is getting this regional detention (pond)," Gee said. "That's why we're working on the lower end (of the watershed) and working our way up, so we've got a way to capture any of the heavy rains."

Solar Light Update

October will be the last solar light installation for the year. We will have 122 solar lights on hazard markers on the south portion of the lake. Plans are well underway for the 2015 solar light program.

We will begin hazard marking on the north portion of the lake. The program has been well received by all users of the lake. Many boaters have commented on the lights value toward preventing damage to their boats and have suggested areas that need marking. We welcome all suggestions and comments concerning our program. We also ask for your help in monitoring our lights. Please contact the Lake Lanier Association or the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary,

Flotilla 29 if you discover any problem with our lights or hazard markers.

Our program has been able to continue because of the support of Forsyth County, Hall County and through donations to the program by members of our community. Mr. Tom Child of Marine Specialties has provided a service boat for solar light installation. We thank all donors for their help in making our lake safer.

We would like to remind all users of the lake to use caution as our lake level recedes. Use your depth sounders and most important slow down at night and wear your life preserver.

Solar Light Sponsors

A special thank you to the
William D. Allen Family
and
Jeffrey Daigrepoint
for sponsoring solar lights on Lake Lanier!

Solar Light sponsorship costs \$250. To sponsor a light, contact the Lake Lanier Association at lakeinfo@lakelanier.org, by phone at (770) 503-7757, or see the sponsorship form on our website under the Safe Lake tab.

September 2014 Lake Lanier Index

The temperature is the same as last month at 80 degrees one degree cooler than 2013. All of the Secchi readings were lower than August and 2013. Our Secchi reading averaged 6.5 feet 0.3 feet less than last year and 2.3 feet lower than August. Our lowest reading was 3.3 feet at 3 stations in the Upper Chestatee and Chattahoochee branches. Section "A" was 4.4 feet compared to 5.3 last month and 5.5 2013, "B" 7.3 feet August 10.7 last year 8.1, "C" 8.6 feet 11.4 last month and 8.8 2013. The chlorophyll a readings increased in all areas. Two stations had chlorophyll a above 10 micrograms per liter and an average of 6 over the Lake. This is most likely due to the Lake turning (when the lake cools at the surface causing a mixture of layers). The increase of chl a and lower Secchi readings will compel us to drop the **Lake Lanier Index to 6.0.**

Our Index has been updated using a newer method for chlorophyll a testing. The new method is more sensitive, thus higher readings. We started testing in 2000 and AMPRO labs purchased equipment for the analysis of our samples using the best method available. In fourteen years there have been improvements in chlorophyll a testing and the cost of equipment is expensive. We are very fortunate in that Gwinnett County Water Labs has offered to do our testing using the new method, the same one used by Georgia's EPD and the water lab at UGA.

Adopt-A-Lake divides Lake Lanier into three sections "A" north of Brown's Bridge, "B" the center region south of the Bridge to a line from Six Mile Creek east to Aqualand Marina, and "C" south of this line to Buford Dam. We have 30 stations that volunteers test the first weekend every month. Secchi readings are taken by lowering a weighted disk into the water and measuring the distance it can be seen thus giving a gauge of clarity. Chlorophyll a is used to determine nutrients in the Lake. The Lake Lanier Index is only a measure of nutrients and clarity and not of water safety.

Thanks to our wonderful Adopt-A-Lake volunteers, Gwinnett Water Lab for our chlorophyll a analysis, and the support of all Lake Lanier Association members. We are forever indebted to AMPRO Labs for testing our samples for over fourteen years and being professional and delightful to work with.



We always want more members to help us achieve our goals of keeping Lake Lanier clean, full, and safe. Below is a membership application to give to your friends and neighbors who may not already be members and ask them to join us!



615F Oak St, Suite 100
Gainesville, GA 30501
770-503-7757
www.lakelanier.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enter your name and address information below / New Address? Please write below

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip

Phone Number:

Email Address*:

**Please be sure your email address is correct. We use email for much of our member correspondence.*

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

☐ Family, \$50-\$199

☐ Captain's Club, \$200-\$499*

☐ Admiral's Club, \$500-\$999*

☐ President's Club, \$1000 and up*

____ Please send me my free Lake Lanier Association hat for my gift of \$200 or more. For online payments, email lakeinfo@lakelanier.org to request a hat be mailed to you.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS:

☐ Business Member, \$250

Name listing on LLA website

☐ Business Sponsor, \$500

Name listing plus logo on LLA website

☐ Business Medallion, \$1000

Name listing, logo, plus brief company description on LLA website

☐ My check is enclosed.

----- Credit Card Payment -----

☐ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Amount _____

Name as it appears on card _____

Account Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Three digit security code from back of card _____

Signature _____

**YOU MAY ALSO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY PAYPAL VIA OUR WEB SITE, WWW.LAKELANIER.ORG.
IF YOU HAVE A PAYPAL ACCOUNT, YOU MAY SET UP YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT TO AUTOMATICALLY ANNUALLY BILL.**



Lake Lanier Association
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*Committed to a clean, full,
and safe Lake Lanier to enhance its
economic value in Georgia.*

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Kroger Community Rewards



Don't forget to update your Kroger Community Rewards designation for the Lake Lanier Association nonprofit organization as your beneficiary. Kroger requires individuals to update their beneficiary organization annually. So far in 2014, the Lake Lanier Association has received over \$230 in income from Kroger to support lake programs and services through our members shopping at Kroger and designating us as the beneficiary!

If you haven't already signed up, you need a Kroger Plus Card to participate. You can get a Plus Card at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. Once you have a Kroger Plus Card, go to the Kroger website <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> and register your Plus Card. As part of that registration process, you will be asked to designate a beneficiary organization. Please choose the Lake Lanier Association, organization #37224.

2015

Now is the time to be thinking about year-end tax planning as well as budgeting for 2014 charitable contributions, stock donations, and sponsorships. The Lake Lanier Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations to the LLA are tax deductible to the extent the law allows. We have 2015 sponsorship opportunities for both the annual golf tournament as well as Shore Sweep.