



Committed to a Clean and Full Lake Lanier

# Lanier Outlook

Newsletter for the Lake Lanier Association  
October 2015

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## Important Dates to Remember



Saturday, January 14-17, 2016  
2016 Atlanta Boat

Lake Lanier Association.  
615 F Oak Street, # 100  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
770-503-7757  
[www.lakelanier.org](http://www.lakelanier.org)  
[lakeinfo@lakelanier.org](mailto:lakeinfo@lakelanier.org)

## BOARD MEMBER LISTING

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Jackie Joseph

#### STAFF

#### Executive Director

Joanna Cloud

(770) 503-7757

[jcloud@lakelanier.org](mailto:jcloud@lakelanier.org)

## Message from the Board

The summer season 2015 has concluded with outstanding success! The Lake maintained higher water levels than past years through September as a result of solid rains and good release actions by the Corps of Engineers. These higher levels contribute to maintaining the beauty of Lanier as well as providing safer boating and recreation.

Reflection on the last several months, you association has had a busy summer with significant actions:

- 1) Resuming the Solar Lights installations has been approved by the Corps of Engineers and will begin this month. Plans for the remainder of 2015 call for 100+ lights to be installed, completing the south end of the Lake and beginning placements north of Browns Bridge. We will install new lights in Forsyth, Hall and Dawson Counties this year. More lights are planned for 2016. As we continually remind everyone, the lights provide for better safety while operating watercraft at night. However, prudent operation and slower speeds are always the best aid to safety!
- 2) Shore Sweep was a success this year as many volunteers weathered the rain and significant trash was removed from Lanier. More information and results can be found inside this newsletter.

3) The Corps of Engineers has

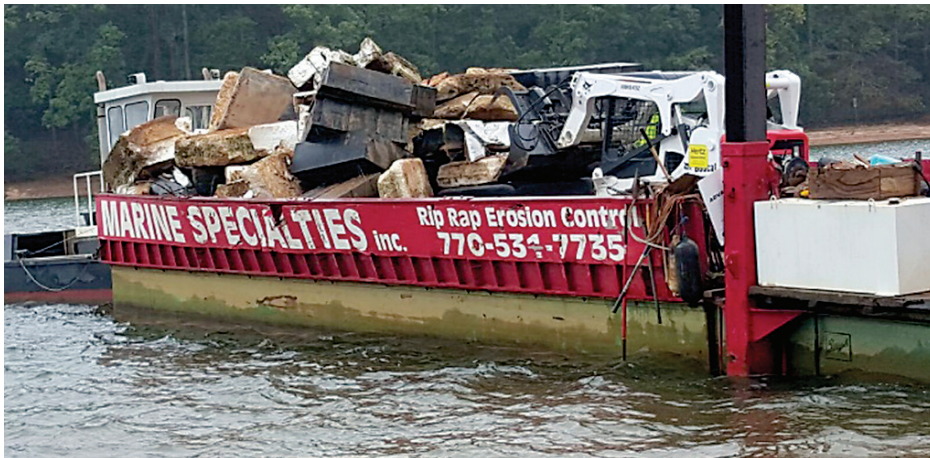


published the draft of their Water Control Manual with public reviews scheduled this fall. More information is covered within this newsletter.

4) Two other major programs are maturing with good success: Abandoned Boats and Docks and Rip Rap Coverage of eroding islands. More details are enclosed. Your Association will begin a membership drive for 2016. Our strength in supporting our mission of keeping Lanier Clean, Full and Safe is achieved by a larger membership. With a stronger voice, we can influence external decisions that affect the Lake. We will be asking our members to assist in the drive. More information on our plans will be available in the next several months.

Have a great fall and holiday season.

# Shore Sweep 2015 brings in 40 tons of trash



the Lake Lanier Association. Singleton Marine also provided the hot dogs, including the grilling labor and equipment, at that site.

A special thanks to the following 12 Shore Sweep drop off location captains, 5 area captains, planning committee and sponsors who volunteered countless hours and energy for Shore Sweep and its mission to preserve the beauty of Lake Lanier and make it a safer place for all to use.

A hearty thanks to all of the boat and land based volunteers who participated in the 2015 Shore Sweep. Hundreds of volunteers on Shore Sweep day braved the rain and wind to collect over 40 tons of trash.

Even though the weather didn't cooperate and the number of volunteers was down, the day was still a success. One of the reasons the day was such a success, despite the rain, was that our volunteers were able to bring a lot of trash out, in advance, to one of the eight advance drop locations around the lake that was then picked up by scheduled barges on the day of Shore Sweep. Utilizing those advance drop locations means that we are able to collect a lot of trash and have it ready for disposal prior to the Shore Sweep event even getting started!

The TrashOut mobile app for locating trash was enthusiastically used and endorsed by volunteers and we plan to use that tool, or something similar, for Shore Sweep 2016.

Special shout out and thank you to Singleton Marine this year at Shore Sweep. This was the first time we have had a business partner step up and completely handle a Shore Sweep site for us. Jeremy Ewers, the Big Creek Shore Sweep Captain, is an employee

at Singleton and did a fabulous job at Big Creek as a volunteer Captain for



## SHORE SWEEP 2015

### Thank you to our sponsors...

Aqua Sports Adventures	Gainesville Marina	Pittman Construction
Bald Ridge Marina	Habersham Marina	Port Royale Marina
Chattahoochee Riverkeeper	Leon Jones Feed & Grain	Resource Alliance
Coca Cola	Normans Landing Restaurant	United Community Bank











# Thank you to these “Super” volunteers for making Shore Sweep 2015 happen!

Location	Name	Title
Aqualand Marina	Cynthia Cochran	Captain
Bald Ridge Marina	Tammy Wright	Captain
Balus Creek Boat Access	Tom & Diane Rothberg	Captain
Big Creek Boat Access	Jeremy Ewers	Captain
Clarks Bridge Park	Jay Lawson	Co-Captain
Clarks Bridge Park	Howard Bradley	Co-Captain
Don Carter State Park	Dave Rosselle	Captain
Gainesville Marina	Beth de Neergaard	Captain
Gwinnett Park	Deanna Greco	Co-Captain
Gwinnett Park	Teri Summers	Co-Captain
Lake Lanier Islands	Patti Reilly	Captain
Longwood Park	Dennis Ingle	Captain
Port Royale Marina	JD Liebrock	Captain
Warhill Park	John Barker	Co-Captain
Warhill Park	Kirby Burt	Co-Captain

Gordon Brand	Committee Chairman
George Daniel	Committee Member
Bonny Putney	Area Captain
Robert Eidson	Area Captain
Kevin Smith	Area Captain
Kelly Norman	Area Captain
Lu Treadway	Boaters Captain





## Solar light committee report for October

The Corps of Engineers has given us permission to begin our 2015 solar light installations. As soon as weather permits and our install boat becomes available we will be finishing installing solar lights on the south side of Browns Bridge and we will also begin installation north of Browns Bridge.

New to our program, yellow reflective tape will be installed on all lighted marker. Assisting in the tape marking installations will be the Lanier Crappie Anglers Club from Cumming. For marinas and boating clubs with no wake and sailing race course buoys,

we are offering to assist in the procurement of the reflective tape at our discount cost.

We thank all community residents who have helped provide funding for our solar light program. Your contributions provide for installation, repair and monitoring of our solar lights. We have established plans for our 2016 install program. Thanks again for all support to our solar light program. We welcome any comments or suggestion. Please contact our office with any questions.

## *Thank you to these solar light sponsors*

In Memory of  
Emma Jayne Groover

In Memory of  
"Kristina" Soyang Kim

In Memory of  
Dan McGrath

Aqualand Marina

Gainesville Newcomers Club

Lakeside News

Lanier/Forsyth Rotary Club

North Forsyth 400 Rotary Club

## August 2015 Lake Lanier Index

The Lake Lanier temperature climbed to 87, four degrees warmer than July and seven degrees warmer than 2014. We had some of our lowest Secchi readings. The overall Lake averaged 6.2 feet 1.2 feet lower than last month and 2.6 feet lower than last year. The lowest reading was less than a foot in the Upper Chattahoochee and the highest off Old Federal Island of 10.4 feet. Section "A" averaged 4.5 feet, "B" 7.6 feet and "C" 6.5 feet. All readings were lower than July. Our chlorophyll a readings increased, probably due to warmer weather and increased Lake temperatures. The Lake averaged 7.3 micrograms/liter 0.6 over last month and 3 micrograms/liter over 2014. The highest reading was in the Upper Chattahoochee of 12.6 and the best in Cinnamon Cove of 3.9. We will lower our **Lake Lanier Index to 5**. This matches our lowest Index with high chlorophyll a and lower Secchi readings. Lake Lanier levels on August 1st, 1068.1, the 15th 1067.4 and due to some nice rain the Lake rose to 1067.6 on the 30th.

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 week 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.



## Abandoned and Derelict Vessels and Docks Update



Slow but steady progress is being made against the Abandoned, Derelict Vessels & Dock (ADV&D) initiative. We successfully removed a vessel at East Bank Park in August and are scheduled to dispose of another abandoned vessel this month with assistance from our commercial partners, Tow Boats US and Terry's Towing. We are gaining traction on the disposal of smaller vessels when we cannot identify owners. That's the good news.

And now, the bad news. We have identified 2 additional vessels. The retreating waterline has caused these vessels to surface and we are currently investigating ownership. We have also added two derelict and abandoned docks to our list of inventory. Below is a picture of the abandoned dock located just north of mile marker 8TH. We are asking if anyone has

any information on this single slip, white Styrofoam floatation dock, please call the Corps of Engineers at 770-945-9531. Any information might be helpful; in fact, Lake Lanier community involvement could help our program immensely.

The working relationship on this initiative between the Lake Lanier Association, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, is strengthening. We are working constructively to solve the fundamental funding issue and are actively supporting the boat titling legislation that gets a fresh look in 2016.

If you want to help with this initiative, join the Lake Lanier Association and let us know of your interest.

## Shop Amazon Smiles



Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate a portion of the sale to the Lake Lanier Association! Use the below link to directly access the Lake Lanier Association support program from AmazonSmile!  
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1264797>

## 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. In 2014, the Lake Lanier Association 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.



# Water Control Manual News

The Corps of Engineers has released its long-awaited Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the new ACF Water Control Manual. As you might expect, it is extremely complex and long. As of the time this newsletter went to press, LLA officials had not had time to

digest it thoroughly or prepare a comprehensive report. However, we can report the most essential news. The proposed changes generally support Georgia's request for an increased allocation of water storage.

The Two tables included in the EIS illustrate the latter point: Table 5.2-3 shows, for each USACE project, the percent of time the reservoir level is below the various impact levels during the recreation season if no change is enacted (the "No Action Alternative").

**Table 5.2-3.**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Percent of time below Initial Impact Level</b>	<b>Percent of time below Recreation Impact</b>	<b>Percent of time below Water Access Limited Level</b>
Buford	17	5	1
West Point	21	3	1
Walter F. George	3	0	0

Table 5.2-19 shows for each USACE project the percent of time the reservoir level is below the various impact levels during the recreation season if the proposed action is enacted.

**Table 5.2-19.**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Percent of time below Initial Impact Level</b>	<b>Percent of time below Recreation Impact</b>	<b>Percent of time below Water Access Limited Level</b>
<b>Buford</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>West Point</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Walter F. George</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## The DEIS and appendices are available to the public for review:

- Online as PDF documents: [Click here](#)
- As a CD when requested in writing to:  
 Commander, USACE, Mobile District,  
 Attn: PD-EI (ACF-DEIS)  
 P.O. Box 2288  
 Mobile, AL 36628
- As a CD at the DEIS open house meetings (a limited number will be available)



## **Do Your Part, Get Involved!**

In view of the direct impact the WCM will have on Lake Lanier, it is crucial that everyone who cares about the lake educate themselves about the proposed changes and share their input with the federal government before the new WCM is finalized. If you don't act by the deadline, your voice will not be heard and you will not have any effect on the Manual that controls how your lake is going to be managed by the Corps. The LLA will publish more information to members as it become available. But here is how you can educate yourself and make your voice heard:

# **PUBLIC COMMENT & OPEN HOUSE**

The public comment period will end 60-days after the publication date  
(which was October 2, 2015).

An Open House public meeting will be held locally:

**Monday, October 26, 2015  
4:00pm-7:00pm Eastern time  
Gainesville Civic Center  
830 Green Street NE  
Gainesville, GA 30501**

## **QUESTIONS**

Specific questions may be directed to:

**Mr. Brian Zettle, Mobile District  
Environmental and Resources Branch  
Planning and Environmental Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District  
P.O. Box 2288  
Mobile, AL 36628-0001  
Telephone: (251) 690-2115 Fax: (251) 694-3815  
Email: [brian.a.zettle@usace.army.mil](mailto:brian.a.zettle@usace.army.mil)**



**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!**



**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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

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 are moving toward email based communications for several of our membership services.

**PERSONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

**Family Levels:**     Bronze \$50                       Silver \$100                       Gold \$150

- 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 Membership, \$250      Name listing on LLA website
- Business Sponsor, \$500              Name listing plus logo on LLA website
- Business Medallion, \$1,000          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 \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**YOU MAY ALSO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY PAYPAL VIA OUR WEBSITE, [WWW.LAKELANIER.ORG](http://WWW.LAKELANIER.ORG). IF YOU HAVE A PAYPAL ACCOUNTY, YOU MAY SET UP YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT TO AUTOMATICALLY ANNUALLY BILL**

All dues and donations are tax-deductible under IRS 501 (c)3 Not for Profit tax code, as permitted by law



## Progress on reducing shoreline erosion

The LLA continues work on an important Clean Lake initiative begun in 2014 to help reduce shoreline erosion in the lake. Erosion ultimately reduces the total water storage capacity which can have a negative impact on our drinking water supply as well as the safe recreational use of the lake. We are focusing on the installation of rip rap on island shoreline which has no adjacent private property owners who might otherwise fund rip rap in area near their property.



Hall County voters approved the extension of a 1 penny sales tax during voting in March of this year. Shoreline protection was included in the list projects designated for support from funds raised with this sales tax. We have been working to identify potential island shoreline areas in need of erosion protection. We expect to review our initial recommendations with representatives of Hall County Government in the coming weeks.

Earlier this year, the LLA commissioned a study of island shoreline erosion which was conducted by representative of the University of North Georgia Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis. They examined satellite photos of 21 islands located south of Browns Bridge on the Hall county side of the lake. They found the total land mass of these islands has decreased by an average of 11% from 1980 to 2010. This confirms a serious concern for future health of our lake islands. Several of islands

included in this study have lost over 35% of their land mass during this 30 year period. The total land mass lost from these 21 location is estimated at a slightly over 83,000 cubic meters.

We hope reach agreement with Hall County before the end of this year on which islands are in most need of attention and begin the rip rap installation by early in 2016.

Many of you have seen the results on our first island rip rap project which was completed in January of this year. The island is located at the south end of the Three Sisters Island. This project involved the installation of over 1,000 tons of stone covering approximately 600 lineal feet. 100% of the cost of this project was funded through contribution from Corporate Partners. Tommy Bagwell, President of American Protein Corporation in Cumming provided the bulk of the funding. Marine Specialties Inc. completed

the installation work. Blue Grass Materials in Cumming provided the stone and Grizzle Trucking provided hauling services. Each of these partners provided a significant discount for their services performed on this project.

We look forward to continue our efforts in reducing shoreline erosion which helps protect the future of Lake Lanier for all of its stakeholders.



**WORK IN PROGRESS**



**Lake Lanier Association**  
615 F Oak Street, Suite 100  
Gainesville, GA 30501

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Now is the time to be thinking about year-end tax planning as well as budgeting for 2015 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.



**2015**