

Clean Lake Lanier Pledge

For landscape areas:

- Grow native plants and trees along the lakeshore.
- Mow tall and fertilize less to keep out pollutants.
- Use organic/slow release fertilizers only if needed.
- Maintain a 50-foot buffer zone from the water's edge without fertilizer. 100-foot would be even better.
- Keep fallen trees and logs in shallow waters – fish need them!
- Plant a rain garden to absorb rain water.
- On driveways and paths, use surfaces that allow rain to soak in.
- Wash automobiles or boats on lawn areas instead of pavement to minimize storm drain pollution.
- Of course, properly dispose of household litter and don't let it blow or get washed into the lake.

For septic systems:

- Have system inspected every three years and pump the tank as necessary – generally every three to five years.
- Use water efficiently and practice water conservation.
- Turn off faucets while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Run the dishwasher and clothes washer only when full but don't overload the system. Do not do all laundry in one day. Space out the washing machine use over the week.
- Don't use toilets to flush trash.
- Use commercial bathroom cleaners and anti-bacterial soaps in moderation. Treatment in the septic tank depends on natural bacteria.
- Don't dispose of household hazardous waste or cloggers in sinks or toilets. This includes household chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze, paint, diapers, cat litter, cigarette filters, coffee grounds, grease, and feminine hygiene products.
- Care for the drainfield.
- Plant only grass over and near the system -- roots from nearby trees or shrubs can clog the drainfield.
- Don't drive or park vehicles on the drainfield.
- Keep roof drains and other rainwater or surface water drainage systems away from the drainfield.

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Vinson Institute of Government-University of Georgia

I have read these recommendations and pledge to abide by them to the best of my ability for the overall health, protection, and beauty of Lake Lanier.

Property Owner Signature

Address

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