

Seminole County's Current Projects for the Bear Lakes: Asher, Bear, Little Bear, and Cub

This update on Seminole County Projects was provided to the Bear Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) by Kim Ornberg, Manager of the Seminole County Watershed Management Division. The priority of the below listed projects are based on cost, design, and construction.

- **Lake Asher:** Alton Drive Stormwater Pond Modification - the County has applied for grant money from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to go toward the construction. The County's half cent sales tax will pay the remaining cost. The preliminary design is completed. The consultant hired by the County is working on services for final design and permitting, and post monitoring; **2018 update on project to be presented at the BLPA General Meeting August 23rd. by Seminole County Staff, Kim Ornberg with the project consultants (ECT and Pegasus Engineering)**

(Lake Asher): Restoration Project - Project included herbicide treatments

(3 treatments over 6 weeks), approval of Florida Department of Environmental Protection funding for Lake Asher restoration project, mechanical harvesting completed, followed up with routine herbicide services for invasive species funded by the MSBU, followed by shoreline restoration workshops.

- **Bear Lake:** Cecilia Drive FY17/18 - assessment and design of nutrient separating baffle boxes. Baffle boxes were funded under the sales tax this year, 2018

(Bear Lake): Hibiscus Ln. stormwater pump a/k/a Balmy Beach Drain - pump to retention pond project is proposed and funded to begin design and permitting next year, 2019

(Bear Lake): Playa Way Underground Retention System and Power Easement - no Progress

(BLPA must remain active in assisting on an alternative project for the storm-

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BLPA UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING

(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Asher)

Thursday, August 23, 2018

St. Andrews Church Fellowship Hall
 9913 Bear Lake Rd.

7:00 pm (note time change)

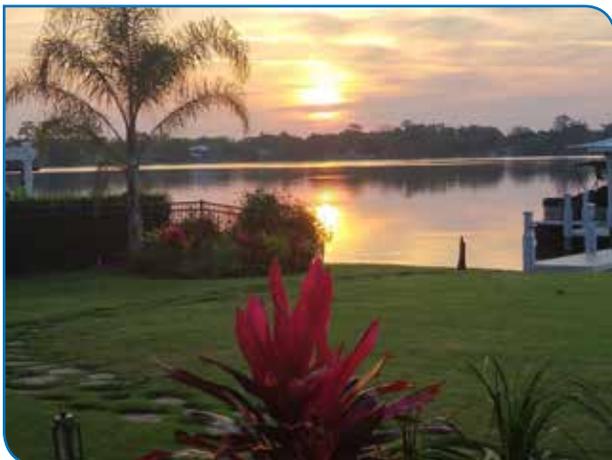
IMPORTANT MEETING ON IMPROVEMENTS TO UNTREATED STORMWATER FLOWING INTO THE BEAR LAKES LAKE ASHER/ALTON DR. STORMWATER POND MODIFICATION

SEMINOLE COUNTY WATERSHED MANAGER, KIM ORNBERG, AND PROJECT CONSULTANTS ECT AND PEGASUS ENGINEERING WILL PRESENT THE PROJECT STATUS AND DETAILS FOR THE ALTON DRIVE POND RETROFIT

Special Guest:
 COUNTY COMMISSIONER
 LEE CONSTANTINE



Please join us on Thursday, August 23, 2018, to hear about important topics affecting all the Bear Lakes!



Hopefully Bear Lake area residents stop periodically to soak in the beauty that surrounds us. Some of you on the east side may enjoy the sunsets but on the west side of Big Bear Lake the sunrises can often take your breath away. Photo taken on Paradise Point by Sherri Walls

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water treatment due to Power Easement property use may not be approved);

• **Little Bear Lake Carp:** June 10, 2016, added 42 Triploid Grass Carp (Carp) and requested more due to non-effective and possible mortality rate due to size of carp (small). Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Invasive Plant Management Section, only permitted for an additional 15 Carp.

(Little Bear Lake): Bio Base Assessment and Mapping completed March 2018

• **Cub Lake:** Ditch/pond – The County has designed and permitted this project. Funds are currently ready. The Hamilton property/Cub Lake regional pond is ready to go out for construction bid in the next few weeks.

(Cub Lake): County will conduct Vegetation Survey – Cub residents will address possible lake access with the County for launching boat;

• Unincorporated Seminole County, which includes the Bear Lake Watershed - Fertilizer Ordinance FY17; Ordinance began Oct. 1, 2017 – For information, go to www.blpa.net for article in the April 2017 newsletter, and go to the Seminole County site: www.seminolecountyfl.gov/fertilizer

BLPA will continue to keep its members informed of any new developments.



(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)
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Bear Lake Access Privileges

A frequently asked question is "How do I get on Bear Lake?" The answer is to either live on the lake or have deeded access.

Did you know that there are more residents with deeded lake access to Bear Lake than there are lakefront residential homes?

Residents with deeded access are approximately 444. There are approximately 174 residential homes on Bear Lake

Here are the numbers:
Paradise Point Community Club: 360
Bear Lake Association - Lake Asher: 42
Bear Lake Community Club - Lynwood Drive: 19
Bear Lake Heights - Linnel Beach Drive: 23

If you have additional information to add to the survey, please call Nancy Dunn at 407-920-4975

Note: The Bear Lake Preservation Association has no lot, keys, or boat ramp access to Bear Lake.

ADVERTISE HERE!

Do you have a business? Would you like to advertise in the next BLPA Newsletter?
Full-Page Ad \$100 • Half-Page Ad \$50 • Business Card Ad \$30
If so, please contact Judy Ihrig for details at 407-292-4632

CLASSIFIED

Do you have a lake related item "For Sale?" If so, consider advertising in the next BLPA Newsletter - Business Card Size is \$15
Judy Ihrig for details at 407-292-4632

Cecelia Storm Drain Repairs

In August, residents observed construction repairs to storm drain pipes and two culverts on Cecelia Dr. The Seminole County Roads-Stormwater crew made a few repairs to the storm water culverts in the Paradise Point area. The repairs included excavating the road down to the culverts and wrapping a fabric around the culverts to prevent material from entering the pipes and causing a depression in the road. All measures were taken to prevent any material from entering the lake. The picture shown included straw swaddle and tyvar fabric protecting the drain from material entering it. All work has been completed in the location as of 7/13/18 besides the asphalt repair of the road.



In order to make sure the Lakes are being protected residents are asked to report any construction in and around the Bear Lakes ASAP to BLPA Directors: Bill Houston, (Ecology Committee) 407 721-0219 or Nancy Dunn (Lakewatch) 407 920-4975



Lake Asher Report

By Thomas Calhoun, Senior Environmental Scientist with Seminole County



Before photo (July 2016) shows Lake Asher covered with muck islands and vegetation.

In July, an algae treatment took place in Lake Asher using the product GreenClean. Active ingredient (sodium carbonate peroxhydrate). The treatment was done in 2 applications to be sure not to drop Dissolved Oxygen levels and prevent a fish kill. The white buoy has water quality meter attached to it that reads pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Conductivity, temperature, turbidity and TDS every 15 minutes. The water quality meter is



After Mechanical harvesting to remove invasive vegetation photo (July 2018) shows a cleared lake and the location of Water Quality Meter in Lake Asher.

going to remain in the lake throughout the summer. Attached is a photo of the buoy. **Our SERV program has scheduled a planting day for September 15th.** We are going to bring in native vegetation and volunteers to help replant around the lake. Secchi reading for 7/2/2018 0.6 meters in a total depth of 1.8 meters. (Approximately 2' water clarity reading taken at 5 1/4' deep)



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We just moved onto Bear Lake and would love to help our new neighbors with all your insurance needs!
- Bruce & Donna Morse

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PROGRESSIVE

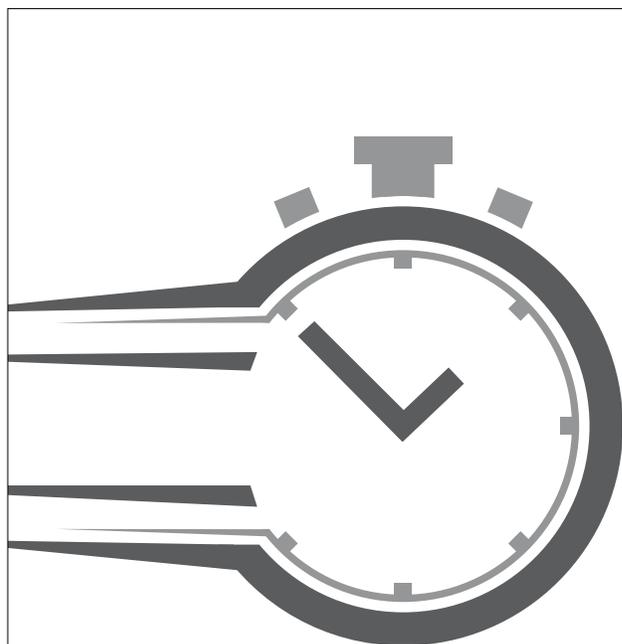


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PUMP IT!

Is it time to have your septic tank pumped out? Yes, before the next hurricane hits adding to the summer rains which have saturated the ground! Septic tanks need pumping out to properly work and not pollute! As part of your Preservation of our Lakes, do your part! It is time.

LAKEWATCH and Rainfall Data for the Bear Lakes

	Date	Rainfall	Clarity Level	Water Level (Above Sea Level)
Bear Lake	2/18	.75"	10'	103.48
	3/18	2.71"	8'	103.3
	4/18	3.25"	8'	103.26
	5/18	8.7"	7.5'	103.74
	6/18	2.35"	7'	103.44
	7/18	7.8"	7.5'	103.7
	Little Bear Lake	2/18	.75"	10'
3/18		2.71"	11'	103.74
4/18		3.25"	12'	103.83
5/18		8.7"	12'	104.3
6/18		2.35"	11'	104
7/18		7.8"	11'	103.9
Cub Lake		2/18	.75"	15'
	3/18	2.71"	8.5'	100.0
	4/18	3.25"	7'	100.1
	5/18	8.7"	7'	100.1
	6/18	2.35"	8'	101.1
	7/18	7.8"	8'	101.2

Note: *Rain data in this chart reflects the rain amounts collected during the time period from the last month's LAKEWATCH data collection date to the next month's data collection date, and not for the month itself.

Eelgrass Smothers Shorelines and Vegetation

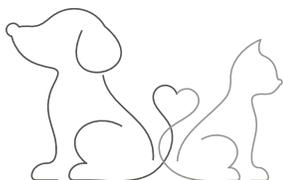
Rake it out before it decays!
 Eelgrass washes up onto shorelines from winds and wake. Piles of decaying eelgrass release nutrients back into the lake unless the dying plants are removed by residents. These nutrients feed algae as much as our grass clippings and fertilizers and they all make our lakes turn greener. In the summer months, when recreational boating increases, propellers can chop up submerged growing eelgrass in areas along the shorelines of the lake which are 15' deep or less, sending more leaf blades to the shorelines. Carp also eat the roots of the plants, and we see whole plants floating around, until it all ends up on the shorelines, or over at the drain! Residents know very well it is our duty to continue to "do our part" by raking it out and disposing of it, or hiring someone to routinely haul it off before it releases the nutrients. After all, good lake stewards have been doing their part since 2008 when 200 acres of eelgrass took over the bottom of a much clearer Bear Lake.

If you want to see the progress the carp have made to reduce the amount of eelgrass growing in Bear Lake and Little Bear Lake (making it more manageable for residents) see the BLPA April 2018 Newsletter which displays bio volume heat maps of submerged vegetation reports from January and March of 2018 at www.blpa.net, newsletters and on the Seminole County Watershed Atlas www.seminole.waterstlas.org.



Top Right: What's left of a larger patch of Native Blue Flag Iris, smothered by eelgrass washing up on shorelines. This area once had a larger patch of the native iris which blooms in February. Shoreline vegetation, such as iris, pickerelweed and other native vegetation cannot survive with the stacking of decaying eelgrass at the waters edge, as occurs in Bear Lake.

Above: A beautiful display of Iris in full bloom. The Blue Flag Iris (grows wild along the shorelines of rivers, lakes, and wet areas in Florida. This was the same patch on Bear Lake in 2007 before eelgrass was growing in Bear Lake.



SPRING RUN VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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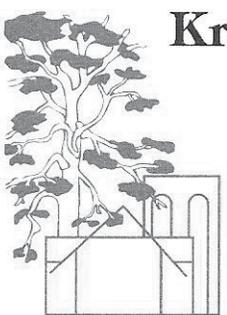
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407-293-6802 • Worship: 9:30 am
Sunday School: 10:30 am



Real Estate Update

Provided by Susan Burton, Realtor®

This is a list of the current inventory and as you can see, the homes in this area are selling very quickly. There is very low inventory which is a strong positive for selling your home.

Active Listings

- 3042 Holliday Ave (4 bdr/5 ba)..... \$1,199,000
- 5711 Bear Lake Circle (6 bdr/4 ba)..... \$1,237,000

Sold Listings

- 9800 Bear Lake Rd (3 bdr/ 2 ba)..... \$749,000
- 5711 Bear Lake Circle (6 bdr/4 ba)..... \$800,000



Frank "Happy" Oropeza Loves to fish for "Specks" (Speckled Perch or Black Crappie) on Bear Lake. This photo was taken in January when these fish are biting best!



Seminole County Sheriff's Department Contact for the Bear Lakes

For suspected criminal activity on any of the Bear Lakes or dangerous behavior/activities on the lake, contact Sergeant Chris Stronko 407-708-7600. For ALL Emergencies dial 9-1-1





(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Lake Asher)

BLPA 2018 DONATION FORM/ CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Please make your check payable to "BLPA":
 \$85.00.....Requested Donation-BLPA Contributor \$50.00.....Requested Donation - BLPA Senior (62+)

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BLPA UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING GENERAL MEETING

(Bear, Little Bear, Cub, and Asher)

Thursday, August 23, 2018

St. Andrews Church Fellowship Hall

9913 Bear Lake Rd.

7:00 pm (note time change)

IMPORTANT MEETING ON IMPROVEMENTS TO UNTREATED STORMWATER FLOWING INTO THE BEAR LAKES LAKE ASHER/ALTON DR. STORMWATER POND MODIFICATION

**SEMINOLE COUNTY
WATERSHED MANAGER,
KIM ORNBERG, AND
PROJECT CONSULTANTS ECT
AND PEGASUS ENGINEERING
WILL PRESENT THE PROJECT
STATUS AND DETAILS FOR THE
ALTON DRIVE POND RETROFIT**

**Special Guest:
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
LEE CONSTANTINE**

Please join us on Thursday,
August 23, 2018, to hear
about important topics
affecting all the Bear Lakes!



PO Box 162605
Altamonte Springs, FL 32716

Red Algae on Bear Lake Identified as Botryococcus



The Seminole County Watershed Management Division received a call from a resident off of Bear Lake Rd. on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, about a red substance on the surface of the lake. Principal Environmental Scientist and long time friend of the Bear Lakes, Shannon Wetzel, went out, took a look and grabbed a sample. It appeared to be an algae bloom of *Botryococcus* sp. which is a green algae but it appears reddish brown and floats on the surface of the water. It was in a small area (about 4 parcels) on the east side of the lake where the wind was pushing it up on the shore. "We've seen this bloom on several other lakes in Seminole County in previous years. I would expect the wind to break apart the bloom and push it onto shore where the algae will dissipate."

Several residents from all around the lake reported the red algae for over a month, as the winds shifted and it floated from one shoreline to the next.

Nancy Dunn stated the red color along the shorelines is the same algae also identified in Bear Lake as *Botryococcus* in 1997, when Bear Lake's water clarity was a clear 17' at the time. Residents reported a clear oil along the shorelines and a sample collected by Nancy was picked up by the University of Florida LAKEWATCH team who determined by their lab to be the green algae, *Botryococcus*, in it's dying stage. Nancy has been a volunteer of University of Florida LAKEWATCH, collecting monthly water samples on Bear Lake for 27 years.

If you have a question, feel free to call your LAKEWATCH VOLUNTEERS - Bear Lake- Nancy Dunn 407 920-4975; Little Bear Lake- Jan Brown 407-295-6739; Cub Lake- Margaret Bundy 407 497 0295; Lake Asher and all other lakes- Seminole County Watershed Management Division 407-665-2455.