

2023

**GRACE LAKE
LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Annual Meeting

- Agenda

Lake Management Plan

- General Provisions
- Community-Based Activities & Events
- County Services
 - Lake Management & Supplemental Programs
- Current Fiscal Year
 - Planned Treatments & Funding
 - Recommendations
- Next Fiscal Year
 - Projected Treatments & Funding
- Exhibits
 - Agenda & Notes Prior Year
 - Financial Summary
 - Historic Reports/Data
 - Roles & Responsibilities

GRACE LAKE: ANNUAL MEETING

Date // Location:	Friday, January 27, 2023 /2:00 pm-3:00 pm/ ZOOM - Virtual
Community Liaisons:	Harry Jaeger, Mark Kamrath, Marianne King, Ivana Monges
Liaisons Present:	Harry Jaeger, Mark Kamrath, Marianne King, Jennifer Grammar, Vanessa Smith
Seminole County:	Thomas Calhoun, Tony Cintron, Daniel Barber, Chad Day, Michael Eason, Tameka Morton, Michelle Rosa-Munger, Lynda Reaves

General Topics & Updates

Lake Management Program

- Welcome
- Shoreline Protection Ordinance Status
 - County Shoreline Ordinance adopted April 2021
- Lake Status Nutrients/Habitat Scores [Bioassessment Indices - Refer to Exhibit C]
 - TSI scored 45 in Good category
 - LVI score in Impaired status
 - Future plantings to maintain score
 - LVI/BioBase data on Watershed Atlas website:
<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/shared/ecology.asp?wbodyid=7564&wbodyatlas=lake>
- Treatment Plans - Current & Proposed [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Monitor hydrilla and treat as necessary (early detection and rapid response)
 - Upcoming Hydrilla/southern naiad perimeter treatment
 - **Monitor and treat invasive shoreline vegetation (torpedo grass and alligatorweed)**
 - Evaluate grass carp fish effects and adjust stocking rate as necessary
 - Triploid grass carp stocked – (20) December 2022
 - Monitor shoreline and treat as necessary
- General Recommendations for Lake Community [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Increase native aquatic plantings in areas devoid of vegetation
 - Promote “welcome packages” to new lakefront homeowners (**Email electronic version**)
 - Lakewatch samples – Lakewatch volunteer Ivana Monges
 - When lake recedes homeowners should mow down invasive plants such as torpedo grass
- 2023 Shoreline Planting Event – **April 29th**
 - Plants to be funded by MSBU
 - To be coordinated via Tony Cintron
 - **SERV event dependent on water levels Add trees, No Thalia on residential lots**
- Other
 - Email Addresses for routine communications and important announcements
 - Nutrient study on Grace Lake watershed, including Myrtle Lake, funded by capital improvement funds on hold
 - Ramp completed January 2023

MSBU Program & Resource Management Department

- Financial Summary [Refer to Exhibit B]

GRACE LAKE LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Scope of Public Lake Management Services

The scope of public lake management services funded by non-ad-valorem assessment includes those services associated with managing aquatic plant communities as deemed beneficial and/or critical to restoring, developing and/or maintaining conditions that enhance the water quality and over-all health of the waterbody; with emphasis on providing public services for public purposes which by definition of public are limited to the waterbody and respective shoreline when/where noxious and/or invasive exotic vegetation could/would threaten or impede the waterbody.

Governing documents

- Seminole County Ordinance 2017-30
- FWC Triploid Grass Carp Permit

Methods for Aquatic Weed Control as authorized via County Ordinance/Resolution

- Chemical (herbicides)
- Biological (sterile triploid grass carp fish [TGC])
- Mechanical (harvesting, cutting, etc.)
- Physical (hand removal)

Targeted Invasive/Exotic Aquatic Vegetation

- Hydrilla, torpedo grass, primrose willow, alligator weed, cuban burhead sedge, wild taro, water shield, duckweed, lily pads, salvinia, paragrass, slender spikerush and algae.

Frequency of Aquatic Vegetation Management Treatment (herbicide)

Treatment services are performed at the direction of the Seminole County LMP as per the Grace Lake Management Plan reviewed at the annual planning session with the expectation that the Seminole County LMP may alter anticipated treatments on an as merited basis per changing/evolving conditions noted during site inspections.

Herbicide Treatments - Service Provider

- As determined by Seminole County

Funding

Financial management of the MSBU fund is provided by the Seminole County MSBU Program. Financial plans developed by the MSBU Program include eligible expense funding requests submitted by the Lake Management Program and other cost and revenue components typical to MSBU funds. Financial information inclusive of prior year actual outcome, current year working budget and next year budget proposal data is reported annually. Assessment levy is subject to Board approval and the standard procedures associated with non-ad valorem assessment. The financial plans may be adjusted by the County as merited per changing/evolving essential services as directed by the County and per financial planning considerations. The annual assessment is capped at \$425.00.

Seminole County Employees

Information for contacting the employees of Lake Management and the MSBU program:

Lake Management – Thomas Calhoun (tcalhoun@seminolecountyfl.gov), Tony Cintron (acintron@seminolecountyfl.gov), Daniel Barber (dbarber02@seminolecountyfl.gov), Chad Day (cday02@seminolecountyfl.gov)

MSBU – Michael Eason (meason@seminolecountyfl.gov), Tameka Morton (tmorton@seminolecountyfl.gov), Michelle Rosa-Munger (mrosamunger@seminolecountyfl.gov)

Lake Liaisons

Designated property owners (or their designated representatives) provide community representation at annual planning sessions with the County and serve voluntarily as the key point of contact for community inquiries and concerns. The liaisons for Grace Lake are: Harry Jaeger (hjaeger@cfl.rr.com), Mark Kamrath (markamrath@gmail.com), Marianne King (marianneking2525@gmail.com) and Ivana Monges (liken13@hotmail.com).

COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

LMP recommends/encourages homeowners to coordinate a resident-based volunteer event involving native plantings creating a beneficial shoreline for Grace Lake. The intention of such an event is to plant beneficial native aquatic plants in key areas along the bank. It is especially important that as the aquatic invasive plants (such as torpedo grass) are being treated, native aquatic plants should be established within these areas. The presence of the recommended native plant species along the shoreline provides habitat for fish and wildlife, helps impede invasive exotics from re-establishing, and reduces erosion of the shoreline. All of these best management practices are essential to providing the conditions that promote an environmentally stable habitat to be enjoyed by generations to come. The key to success is dependent on strong participation of the Grace Lake community.

Continued recommendations for community initiatives are as follows:

- 1) Plant a healthy shoreline with native emergent plants;
- 2) Establishing a formal Lake Association holding at least one annual meeting with topics relevant to your lake;
- 3) Establish a backyard berm and swale system where applicable;
- 4) Continue to increase educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN), Lake Management Video mail-outs, and reduction of residential pollution such as grass clippings, Contact us at 407-665-5542 for assistance;
- 5) Fertilize wisely by using phosphorous free and slow-release nitrogen based fertilizers only. Visit www.seminolecountyfl.gov/fertilizer for more information; and
- 6) Provide content for the Seminole County Water Atlas Lake Management Webpage for your lake (such as newsletters and photos).

Important to Note: When herbicides are applied along the shoreline to invasive plants (such as torpedo grass), overspray onto adjacent desirable vegetation may occur. In order to avoid damage to desired vegetation, manual (by hand) removal (by property owner) of the undesirable species from among the desirable species along the shoreline is advised. If the invasive plants are removed by this method, spraying the area can be reduced, thereby offering greater protection to the desirable species. The physical removal of dead/decaying aquatic plant material will reduce the volume of decomposing vegetation on the lake bottom (muck layer) and will increase the success of the efforts to limit the re-growth of the invasive plants. The presence of submerged aquatic vegetation (“SAV” such as hydrilla) should be communicated to your lake liaison for their reporting to the County so appropriate treatment of SAV can be provided.

COUNTY SERVICES – Lake Management & Supplemental Programs

While the MSBU assessment includes a nominal charge for administering the MSBU, the amount charged does not cover all the expenses incurred by the County on behalf of the waterfront property owners. Grace Lake is monitored by LMP to assess the aquatic plant growth. LMP provides continued evaluation of the aquatic plant species, such as hydrilla, and provides community updates on the status of treatments and waterbody bioassessment.

Current Fiscal Year – Planned Treatment & Funding

Primary Aquatic Plant Management Expectations

Hydrilla growth in Grace Lake has likelihood to continue, however, the timing and extent of hydrilla re-growth is affected by multiple natural and environmental factors that cannot be controlled or predicted with certainty. While extensive growth of hydrilla is possible at any point in time; it is anticipated that routine spot treatments of hydrilla with herbicide and continuous biological control pressures from the triploid grass carp fish will be sufficient to manage hydrilla re-growth during the current fiscal year. The anticipation of spot treatments for the current fiscal year takes into consideration the historic trend of hydrilla management required at Grace Lake, as well as current conditions observed at lake. As with any lake with a history of hydrilla infestation, long-term planning to include financial preparation for whole lake treatment is advised. For emergent invasive plants, lower water levels result in backpacking for some areas of Grace Lake as defined by essential services.

Fluctuating lake levels present treatment challenges for invasive emergent aquatic plants during low level conditions which prohibit airboat access in certain areas for herbicide application. LMP schedules treatments based on their routine inspections, confirmed status of the lake needs, and best professional lake management practices. LMP continues to encourage mowing of areas where low level of water presents the opportunity to do so (such as dry lake-bed). This assists in minimizing excessive invasive plant material growth and reduces treatment dependency/costs for when the lake level normalizes.

Funding Expectations

Refer to current fiscal year data provided in Exhibit B.

Next Fiscal Year – Projected Treatment & Funding

Primary Aquatic Plant Management Expectations

The projected treatment plans for the next fiscal year remain consistent with the plans and expectations noted for the current fiscal year. Primary expectations are as follows:

- 1) Continued monthly aquatic herbicide maintenance for shoreline non-native vegetation and hydrilla treatments (as needed),
- 2) Future grass carp stockings if deemed necessary, pending permit authorization,
- 3) Continued monitoring of hydrilla, other submersed aquatic plants, and grass carp fish,
- 4) Encourage mowing during periods of drought particularly when aquatic maintenance services are suspended.

Funding Expectations

Refer to next fiscal year data provided in Exhibit B.

Exhibits

A - Agenda & Notes from Prior Year Meeting

B - Financial Summary

C - Historic Reports/Data

D - Roles & Responsibilities

Exhibit A – Agenda & Notes from Prior Year Meeting

Date // Location:	Friday, March 4 th , 2022 /2:00 pm-3:00 pm/ ZOOM - Virtual
Community Liaisons:	Harry Jaeger, Mark Kamrath, Marianne King
Liaisons Present:	
Seminole County:	Daniel Barber, Tony Cintron, Michael Eason, Kim Ornberg, & Lynda Reaves

General Topics & Updates

Lake Management Program

- Welcome
- Shoreline Protection Ordinance Status
 - County Shoreline Ordinance adopted April 2021
- Lake Status Nutrients/Habitat Scores [Bioassessment Indices - Refer to Exhibit C]
 - LVI score improved to Healthy
 - Future plantings to increase score – April 2, 2022 (planting event)
 - 3 maps created so far: 52% coverage pre-treatment, 2019 - 22% coverage, 39% coverage
 - Perimeter treatments for hydrilla – last treated in December
 - LVI/BioBase data on Watershed Atlas website:
<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/shared/ecology.asp?wbodyid=7564&wbodyatlas=lake>
- Treatment Plans - Current & Proposed [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Monitor hydrilla and treat as necessary (early detection and rapid response)
 - Evaluate grass carp fish effects and adjust stocking rate as necessary
 - Triploid grass carp stocked – (40) stocked in June 2018, (60) December 2019, (20) December 2021
 - Monitor shoreline and treat as necessary – actively treating Torpedo
- General Recommendations for Lake Community [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Increase native aquatic plantings in areas devoid of vegetation
 - Promote “welcome packages” to new lakefront homeowners
 - Lakewatch samples – new Lakewatch volunteer Ivana Monges
 - When lake recedes homeowners should mow down invasive plants such as torpedo grass
- 2022 Shoreline Planting Event – Dates Available
 - Plants to be funded by MSBU
 - Water elevation lowest in April/May
 - To be coordinated via Tony Cintron
 - Plantings requested to block small lobe and interstate
 - Still too deep for successful cypress plantings to block I-4
 - Planting event took place April 2, 2022
- Other
 - Email Addresses for routine communications and important announcements
 - Permanent ramp location – Harry?
 - Waiting on quote from Chuck
 - Grace Lake outfall project – neighborhood drainage project moving forward Myrtle Lake Hills/Highland?
 - Nutrient study on Grace Lake watershed, including Myrtle Lake, funded by capital improvement funds possibly next year

MSBU Program & Resource Management Department

- Financial Summary [Refer to Exhibit B]

Exhibit B - Financial Summary

MSBU FUND: GRACE (LAKE)

	Tax Year	2021	2022	2023
	Assessment	\$ 425	\$ 425	\$ 425
	Fiscal Year	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24
Revenue				
		Actual	Working	Proposed
Beginning Fund Balance		\$ 21,433	\$ 21,658	\$ 21,073
Assessment Revenue		\$ 13,724	\$ 13,670	\$ 13,670
Other (Interest)		\$ 153	\$ 100	\$ 100
Other - General Fund/WMDiv or 1c ST		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MSBU Program Fund Advance				
TOTAL Revenue		\$ 35,310	\$ 35,428	\$ 34,843
Expenditure & Reserves				
		Actual	Working	Proposed
Application Fee Recoupment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MSBU Program Administrative Fee [7% Rev FY20-21]		\$ 957	\$ 955	\$ 955
Other County Services (Service Entity)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fund Advance Repayment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contracted Services		\$ 12,695	\$ 13,400	\$ 10,900
<i>AWC Services (via AAM)</i>		\$ 11,116	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,500
<i>Chemicals (Non-AAM)</i>		\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
<i>FAS/GEN Testing</i>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Plants, Palm, Shrubs (SERV)</i>		\$ 1,279	\$ -	\$ -
<i>TGC Fish</i>		\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400
<i>Fish Barrier Inspection/Minor Repair</i>		\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Fish Barrier Replace/Major Repair</i>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Harvesting (and/or Cattails/Eelgrass)</i>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenditure & Reserves		\$ 13,652	\$ 14,355	\$ 11,855
Reserve/Contingency¹		\$ 21,658	\$ 21,073	\$ 22,988
<p><small>1 Note: These funds are secured (1) for maintaining rate stability as annual cost are known to fluctuate, (2) in preparation of planned or anticipated future expenses, (3) to provide response to emergency and/or urgent needs for which planning was not feasible. These funds are not intended for expenditures that could be planned and included in annual budget planning processes.</small></p>				
LM Program Enhanced Services Cost		<i>Pending development & confirmation</i>		

Reserve/Contingency Funds

The primary purpose for establishing operating contingency funding is twofold – (1) To have funding on hand to accommodate unexpected essential aquatic weed control emergencies that cannot be reasonably foreseen, planned or identified in routine budget planning & forecasting and (2) To provide rate stability as costs for ongoing services often vary from year to year. By establishing contingency and reserve funds, such funding may be allocated temporarily from these funds to operating expenditures to avoid periodic spikes in assessment.

Contingency funds are developed by financial management planning decisions and by default when actual expenditures are less than budgeted expenses. Although reserve/contingency funds are not expected to be expended in any given year, these values are included under expenditures because they are “on hold” for future needs and are classified by accounting practices as expenditures.

In the financial summary (Exhibit B) the total dollars in reserve/contingency are identified in the expenditure section on a single line (darker shading). The total dollars in contingency are calculated by subtracting the other expenditures (typically “contracted services” and “administrative fee”) from the total revenue. Contingency funds may be used as deemed essential to meeting emergency needs of the waterbody; however, the overall intention of use is as per the noted sub-categories.

When a negative value is displayed in the sub-category labeled “operating contingency”, it is an indication that the other subcategories reflect targeted sub-category values that have not been fully developed. For the other sub-categories to be fully developed, the “operating contingency” sub-category must be zero or a positive value.

The sub-category labeled “Reserve: Other” is included for improved transparency as use of these funds is on hold for purposes that are subject to Board confirmation and subsequent evaluation of ordinance provisions (potentially ordinance amendment) before these funds can be budgeted and utilized for the proposed purposes.

C - Historic Reports/Data

Additional information for Grace Lake can be found on the Seminole County Water Atlas website at:

<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/?wbodyid=7564&wbodyatlas=lake>

Lake Grace Water Quality Report: How Does My Lake Rank

TSI SCORE: 45 GOOD

The Trophic State Index (TSI) is a classification system designed to "rate" individual lakes, ponds and reservoirs based on the amount of biological productivity occurring in the water. Using the index, one can gain a quick idea about how productive a lake is by its assigned TSI number. A "Good" quality lake is one that meets all lake use criteria (swimmable, fishable, and supports healthy habitat).

A TSI score of 60 or above is considered impaired (or polluted) lake. Continued reduction of TP sources (personal pollution, run-off, landscaping practices, shoreline erosion) can help reduce phosphorous in your lake that is abundantly available, potentially creating algae blooms.

Lake Vegetation Index Bioassessment (LVI): How Does My Lake Rank?

31 Impaired

The Lake Vegetation Index is a rapid bioassessment tool created by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to assess the biological condition of aquatic plant communities in Florida lakes. The latest LVI conducted on Grace Lake (August 10, 2022) resulted in a score of **31 Impaired**, placing the lake in the Impaired category. This is a decrease from the prior year's LVI score **45 Healthy**. This is a result of a reduction of sensitive native taxa.

Aquatic life use category	LVI Range	Description
Category 1 "exceptional"	78–100	Nearly every macrophyte present is a species native to Florida, invasive taxa typically not found. About 30% of taxa present are identified as sensitive to disturbance and most taxa have C of C values >5.
Category 2 "healthy"	43–77	About 85% of macrophyte taxa are native to Florida; invasive taxa present. Sensitive taxa have declined to about 15% and C of C values average about 5.
Category 3 "impaired"	0–42	About 70% of macrophyte taxa are native to Florida. Invasive taxa may represent up to 1/3 of total taxa. Less than 10% of the taxa are sensitive and C of C values of most taxa are <4.

Grace Lake

Trend Report

2022



TSI Score: 45

(Trophic State Index)

Good

LVI Score: 31

(Lake Vegetation Index)

Healthy

FDEP Status

(Florida Dept of Environmental Protection)

Not Impaired

TMDL Status

(Total Maximum Daily Load)

No TMDL

BMAP

(Basin Management Action Plan)

No BMAP

Soldiers Creek Watershed

14 acres

Lat 28° 43' 02" N

Lon 81° 22' 24" W

WBID 2986C

For more information please visit:

seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/

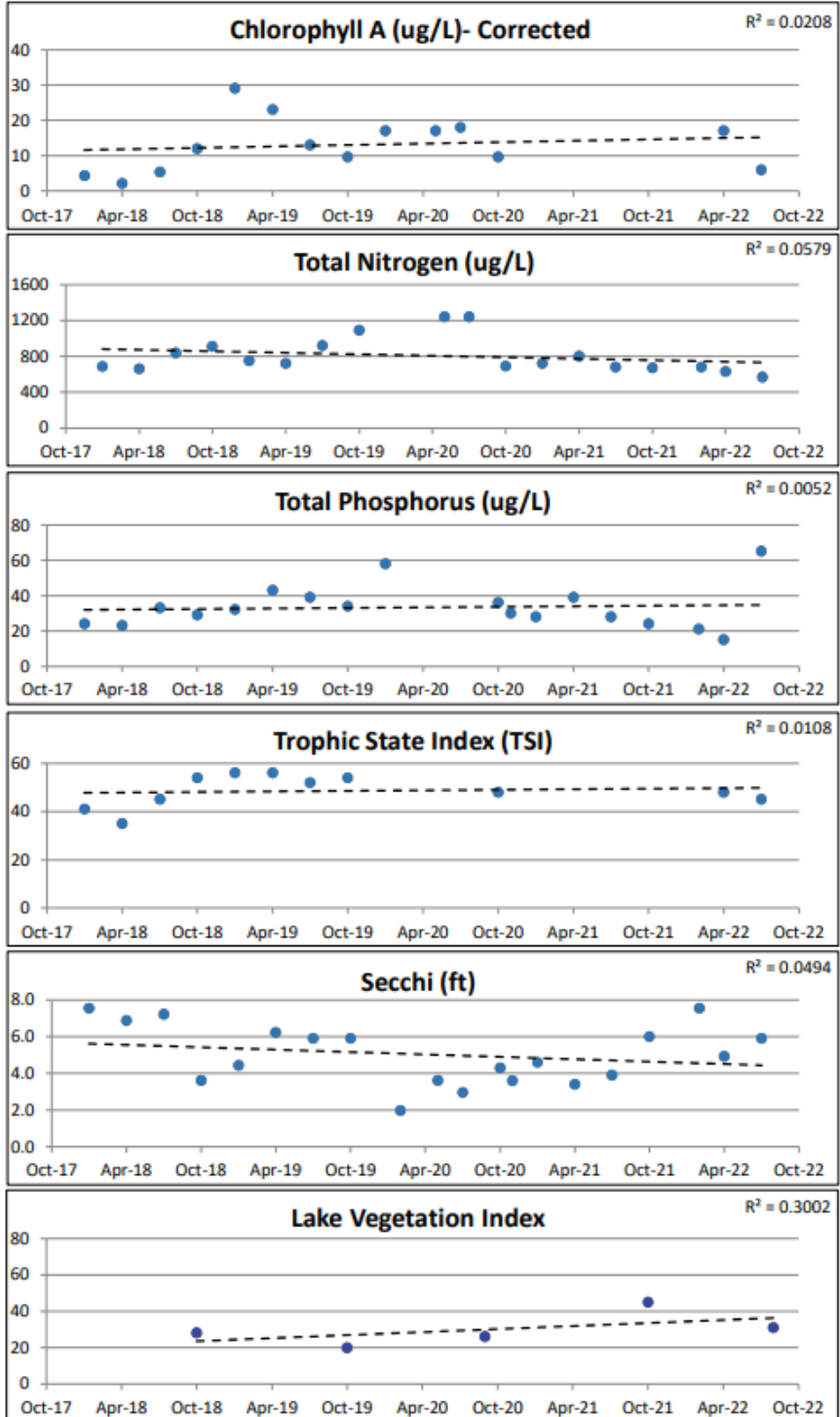


Exhibit D
ROLES & RESPONSIBILITY
General Outline

COUNTY

Seminole County will

- ✓ Govern the MSBU
- ✓ Provide financial management of MSBU fund and assessment levy
- ✓ Ensure activities conducted with assessment funding align with the scope of services documented in the governing ordinance
- ✓ Ensure the lake is monitored and services are appropriately rendered
- ✓ Maintain decision-making authority relative to public services and will defer to best lake management practices when making such decisions
- ✓ Provide an ongoing lake management plan based on the defined service scope, permitting, conditions at the lake, funding parameters, and best lake management practices. The Lake Management Plan will be developed and maintained by the Lake Management Program with liaison participation
- ✓ Initiate and manage service contracts, monitor results, and communicate updates on a routine basis
- ✓ Conduct annual meetings that offer opportunity for liaison discussion as to prior, current, and future action plans
- ✓ Encourage liaisons and assist with educational outreach efforts to protect the health and water quality of the waterbody

LIAISONS

Liaisons will

- ✓ Encourage communitywide awareness and participation relative to environmental stewardship recommendations and opportunities
- ✓ Provide communitywide communication and assist the County in the distribution of relevant lake information
- ✓ Attend annual lake management and budget planning sessions conducted by the County
- ✓ Serve as representatives of the community on lake issues, representing the respective lake community as a whole
- ✓ Monitor lake conditions and provide feedback to the County as to observations