

Living at Walnut Grove Lake

SUMMER 2022



Walnut Grove Lake 2022 Summer Events!

*Mark your calendars and make plans to join the fun with your
Walnut Grove Lake Community*

- **June 26th** Mailbox Judging

- **July 2nd** 8 a.m. Fishing Rodeo check-in at dam area
6 p.m. Boat Parade begins at Parris Edwards dock (162 Leif Cove)
9 p.m. Fireworks at dam area

- **August 15th** Dredging process to begin



Thank you to all the homeowner volunteers that help keep our neighborhood safe and beautiful!

**Dottie Burana
Mary Chew
Parris Edwards
Edna Gaia
Jane Hanafin
Patt Hardaway
Chuck Hormann
Tammy Hormann
Kathy Laizure
Beth Masters
Sid McMillan
Margie McMillan
Cecil Norwood
Tyler Penman
Jane Raymond
Jim Waismith
Carl Werve**

If you would like to volunteer, please email Beth Yobak byobak@psgi.net or Suzy Ward sgwin@aol.com for upcoming opportunities.

Special Thanks to Bob Ransom for clearing off the mud on the boat ramp in preparation for the July 4th festivities!

A Letter from the President

The first holiday milestone has passed, and we are coming up on the 4th of July season. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help with the annual Easter Egg Hunt and the upcoming July 4th festivities. These events would not take place without your generous support.

As announced in our previous newsletter, the Lake Dredging project has finally been brought to fruition and will start on August 15th. We will publish more details once the dredging contractor makes their final site visit on June 24th.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the WGLHOA Board Members and the residents of the HOA for their patience, understanding and support during the planning and rollout of this major undertaking. It has taken three (3) years of blood, sweat and tears to get us to this point. We still have some challenges ahead, but our end goal is in site and we look forward to a cleaner and healthier lake environment.

As always, let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Hope to see everyone "out on the lake"!

DC Fearn
President, WGLHOA



Have you noticed a change in your lake grass and having issues?

Please contact **Bob Ransom** (901) 490-4553 to discuss solutions!

Committee Reports

REMINDER!

Please be mindful when cutting your grass not to get the grass clippings in the lake. The grass acts like a fertilizer to the algae, which we are to combat.

Lake Aeration

The installation of the aeration system has been completed by Everblue Lakes. The WGLHOA Board will be finalizing the security and screening of the aeration equipment on the dam this month.

Lake Dredging

The contracts for the dredging project have been executed. Envirodredge will be our contractor of record. Envirodredge will be on site June 27 – 28 to conduct the final walk through with the WGLHOA Board of Directors. The dredging schedule will be solidified during this visit and the Board will publish it once it is set.

Dredging will start August 15th and last approximately 30 days. Stay tuned for more details in regard to navigating around the lake, boat access during the dredging process and general information about the sections of the lake that will be targeted for dredging.

Bia Augmentation

The first round of bio-augmentation has been completed by Everblue Lakes. The Association contracted with Everblue Lakes for 30,000 gallons of biological treatment to be placed into the lake to help with the reduction of organic material (muck) currently in the lake. The final volume placed in the lake was 45,000 gallons. The additional 15,000 gallons will help 'jump start' the process. The next biological treatment will take place in September 2022 once the dredging project has completed.

Fishing Report

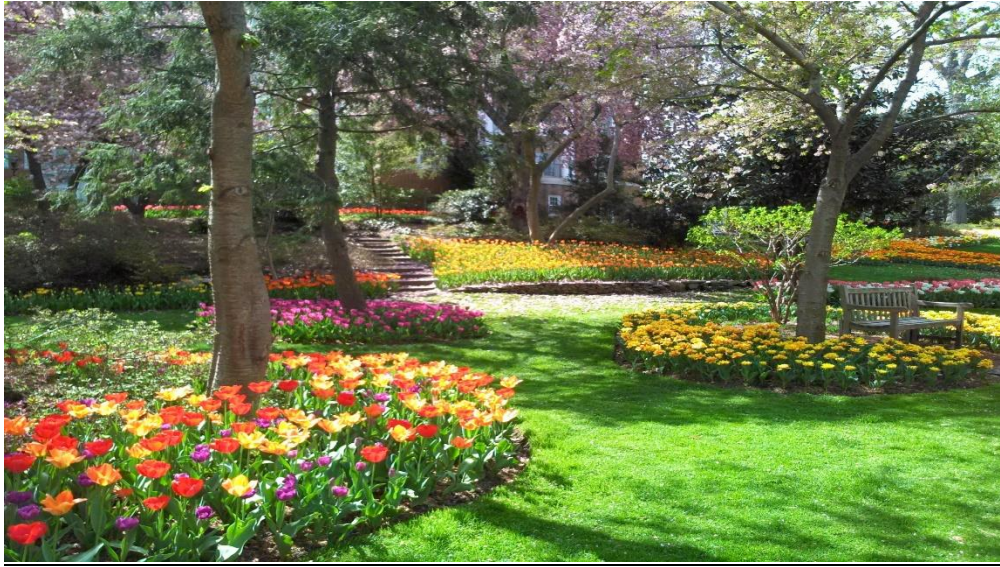
Fishing on WGL has improved as of late due to more stable weather, the new aeration system and the addition of "biobugs" to our lake water. Though I have observed fewer fishermen, the bite seems to be pretty good from my experience and those that I have talked to. Bass are easily caught on spinner baits, ned rigs, plastic worms and crank baits.

New WGL resident, Justin Allsopp, a manager at Orvis, says hair poppers and large flies work well near the aerators and elsewhere. As a note he also gives fly fishing lessons if anyone is interested.

Bream are doing well on micro grubs, beetle spins and crickets, which are available at the Shelby Farms bait shop. There have been no reports on crappie to my knowledge.

Water Testing

A comprehensive water test will be conducted after the dredging site survey on June 28th and before the start of the dredging process. We will also have the water tested again once the dredging project has concluded. The purpose of the water testing is to gauge the overall health of the lake and also check on the nutrient loading before the next bio-augmentation treatment.



SUMMER IN OUR LAWN AND GARDENS

While spring in the lawn and garden was all about cleaning up and getting our plants in the ground, summer brings the fruit of our labors – whether that is fresh garden vegetables, herbs, or beautiful flowers. To get there, however, we have to keep everything alive and healthy into and through what we all know can be some brutal mid-south heat and humidity. Nothing poses quite the challenge in that heat as does keeping those hot thirsty plants watered.

It is important, both for our water bill and our environment, to use water wisely in our lawns and gardens. Here are a few tips to get maximum efficiency from your watering systems and practices.

1. ***Improve the water-holding capacity of your soil.*** You can do this by adding organic matter to your soil, such as compost, and adding mulch on top of your soil. Mulch is more than just “lipstick” for your garden – it helps preserve the moisture in your soil and shield it from evaporation.
2. ***Check all your hoses and faucets for leaks.*** Leaks can waste up to 10 gallons of water a day – that’s 3,650 gallons of water a year! Also, turn off those outside faucets when not in use.
3. ***Collect rainwater for use in your garden.*** This can be a real money and water-saver! During the summer, a large portion of our potable water use is outdoors – washing cars, filling pools, and watering our lawns and gardens. Most home gardeners see their water bill go up significantly during the summer months. Collecting rainwater for gardening not only conserves water but eliminates many of the chemicals used to make our water safe for drinking, which are not necessarily the best for our plants.

So how do you collect rainwater? The simplest method is to use rain barrels. These can be purchased and range in price from \$70 to \$300, or you can make your own. No special plumbing is required.

On the most basic level, all you need is a “catchment” surface, which is something the water lands onto and runs off of. In other words, your roof! In a 1-inch rain, just 90 square feet of roof will shed enough water to fill a 55-gallon drum. Next, you need a way to direct the water into the rain barrel. That would be your downspout and/or a rain chain or flexible pipe. You then need a basket filter with a fine screen to keep debris out of your barrel. Finally, install a spigot low in the barrel to which a hose can be connected, and, if needed, a spigot higher in the barrel for filling watering cans.

4. ***Time your water use for efficiency.*** Water early in the morning when demand is low and when you will lose less water to evaporation. In other words, try to get the water in the ground before the heat of the day sets in.
5. ***Use efficient watering methods.*** Avoid sprinklers that create a fine mist and avoid watering in windy conditions. Wherever possible, replace overhead sprinklers with drip or trickle irrigations. Drip lines and soaker hoses installed around your plantings deliver water directly to the root area and can reduce water use by 25-50%.
6. ***Avoid overwatering.*** Calibrate any sprinkler systems and/or time your manual watering to apply only in the amount and at the speed your soil can absorb. Remember, overwatering leads to runoff, which goes into our beautiful lake. That runoff can carry fertilizers and other nutrients that your lawn and garden need, but our lake does not.

On a different note, and in closing, I want to say how much we are enjoying everyone’s showy hydrangeas these past few weeks! Our woodland surroundings make beautiful settings and perfect conditions for these and the oak leaf hydrangeas, in particular, are just showing off right now! Thank you to all our neighbors for maintaining the beauty of our surroundings. That is one of many things that makes Walnut Grove Lake an awesome place to live!