

Living at Walnut Grove Lake

SUMMER 2023



Walnut Grove Lake 2023 Summer Events!

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

- **June 24th** Mailbox Judging
- **July 1st** 8 a.m. Fishing Rodeo check-in at Simpson Park
6 p.m. Boat Parade begins at Jane Raymond's (74 Viking Dr.)
9 p.m. Fireworks at dam area

After Fireworks Clean Up- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

July 2nd 10:00am-12:00 biscuit sandwiches, donuts, and Bloody Mary's!
Please text/call Suzy Ward to be put on the cleanup team, bring the family!
Suzy Ward-
901-351-6147 or email sgwin@aol.com

- **September-** *Concert on the lake -details to come*

A Letter from the President

Life at the Lake

We are approaching our busiest season here on Walnut Grove Lake. Our fishing rodeo, boat parade and fireworks display are just a few weeks away. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board members and volunteers for their efforts in making the 4th of July holiday weekend a success. As a reminder we still have volunteer opportunities for upcoming events.

The State of the Lake

So far, we have completed the spring maintenance on the aeration systems, the first Bio-Blast and Oxy Guard treatments, and installed the new Auto-Bio system. I have been asked by many of the residents why the lake water is so brown. Jeff Conners, with [Everblue Lakes](#), addresses the situation in this newsletter.

Security Patrols

After a lengthy negotiation process, we have finally secured the services of Signal 88 for our security patrols. As many of you have noticed we are experiencing an uptick in non-resident activities on the dam and park areas. We are currently fine tuning the process, so we get more coverage in the mornings and afternoons in these areas. Please let the Board know if you have any comments or concerns regarding the security patrols.

Construction Activities

With Spring and Summer comes lots of construction activities in the neighborhood. If you are thinking about upgrades or exterior renovations, please submit a [Construction Application](#). Clif Cunningham has provided some additional information and guidelines in the newsletter.

Compliance

I would like to announce that Sid McMillan has agreed to join the Board as our Compliance Liaison. Sid will act as a bridge between the Board and Keith Collins. Sid will also be identifying and tracking compliance violations and reporting these activities to the Board.

In closing, I wish everyone a great summer and look forward to seeing you on the lake.

Dave Fearn



Yard of the Month 8433 Arendal Drive



Garden of the Month 190 Viking Drive





Yard of the Month 24 Viking Drive



Garden of the Month 8428 Arendal Drive



Committee Reports

Fishing Report

Spring has sprung and early summer is almost upon us. Boating and fishing have really picked up, along with other recreation on Walnut Grove Lake. Water temperatures have risen, and fish spawning activity has increased, as well as the bite. Terrific catches of small but chunky bass have been the norm on small crankbaits, Ned rigs, and plastics. Bream are beginning to show up occasionally on beetle spins, grubs, crickets and worms.

Surprisingly crappie have been showing up in quite a few catches, mostly small, but several being around a pound to a pound and a half. Most were caught on mini jigs, big eye jigs or beetle spins. Catfish have been sparse, but a large one was caught and released by a fisherman on the dam estimated by eyewitnesses at 8 to 10 lbs. For our lake and its population's health, please be wary of allowing fertilizer and grass clippings to wash into our lake.

Construction Application Process

If you are planning on adding any permanent structures on your property – or – modifying a permanent structure's size, shape, and/or color; please submit a Construction Request in advance. The Construction Request (available in either PDF and WORD formats) are found on the WGLHA Forms and Documents webpage - <https://www.wglha.com/forms-and-documents>.

A set of common Questions & Answers are integrated into the Construction Request forms for easy reference and if you have more complex questions you can e-mail our HOA Managers Joyce and Faith at Keith Collins or ask Board members directly on our WGLHA Homeowner Hotline Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wglha> .



By Everblue Lakes

Our lofty goal for this season is to keep the lake from having green algae on the surface for more than a few days. A realistic goal is to delay the lake from turning green for as long as we can. Earlier in the season, we installed an Auto-Bio system, which is meant to continuously brew and distribute our BioBlast product throughout the lake. This single white tank can do over 20 days what our crew does in three days with the big yellow tanks. Moreover, a longer period was the strategy, and it seems to be paying off.

We also used another product meant to offset algae blooms and increase oxygen in the deeper waters. The lake has been quite receptive to these treatments and has yet to turn green. Though the water may look brown, this is promising because it shows signs of life in the form of diatoms and zooplankton swimming in the water. The filter of our Auto-Bio system has been full of these little creatures, which is a great indication to us that they are flourishing with the bacteria and oxygen we're bringing to the lake. Zooplankton and diatoms are an important aspect of every aquatic ecosystem, and make up a large part of the bottom levels of the food chain, providing energy for small fish, aquatic insects, etc. We've even had fishermen come up and tell us they've been catching more and bigger fish!

The image below shows the filter; each individual spec is a zooplankton, and you can see how in mass, they can make the water appear brown!



It's a great sign to see how the wildlife is already changing after a year. However, while we're seeing some small wins, it's important to note that this is still a small battle in a larger, ongoing war. As mentioned earlier, the goal is to hold the lake from turning green, weeks or months longer than last year. The later in the season it happens, the better. We would consider late August or September a big win. It will still take time for us to improve the quality of your lake for the long-term, and with the unpredictable nature of how climate change will affect weather, such as temperatures and precipitation, there may be some short term bad with the long term good. We ask for your understanding and thank you for your patience.

Jeff Conners, Everblue Lakes

Tips and Tricks for a Flourishing Summer



Choose the Right Plants for Summer: opt for heat-tolerant plants such as marigolds, petunias, zinnias, and sunflowers. These plants thrive in the summer heat and add vibrant colors to your garden.

Mulch for Moisture Retention: Apply a layer of organic mulch around your plants to retain moisture in the soil, prevent weed growth, and regulate soil temperature. Mulching also adds nutrients to the soil as it breaks down.

Watering Wisely: Water your plants deeply but infrequently to encourage deep root growth. Water in the early morning or late evening to minimize evaporation. Consider using a drip irrigation system or soaker hoses to conserve water and ensure efficient watering.

Use Compost: Improve soil fertility by incorporating compost into your garden beds. Compost enriches the soil with essential nutrients, enhances moisture retention, and promotes beneficial microbial activity.

Prune and Deadhead: Regularly prune overgrown branches and deadhead spent flowers to encourage new growth and prolong the blooming season. This will help your garden stay neat and promote healthier plants.

Control Weeds: Stay on top of weed control by regularly removing them before they have a chance to take over your garden. Use mulch, hand pulling, or targeted organic herbicides to keep weeds in check.

Attract Pollinators: Create a pollinator-friendly garden by including nectar-rich flowers such as lavender, salvia, and coneflowers. Provide a water source like a shallow dish with rocks for bees and butterflies to drink from.

Monitor Pests: Keep an eye out for pests like aphids, caterpillars, and snails. Identify the specific pests and use appropriate organic pest control methods such as neem oil, companion planting, or introducing beneficial insects like ladybugs.

Fertilize Appropriately: Apply balanced organic fertilizers or slow-release granules to provide the necessary nutrients for your plants. Follow package instructions for application rates and frequency.

Harvest and Enjoy: If you have a vegetable or herb garden, harvest ripe produce regularly to encourage continuous production. Share the surplus with neighbors or local food banks to promote community engagement.

Enjoy the summer and the beauty that a well-tended garden brings to your neighborhood!