

Lake Asbury Municipal Service Benefit District

Report from the Chairman, September "The Lakelighter"

Lake Asbury Watershed & Flooding Study

Thanks to Ronnie Robinson, BCC Commissioner, who persuaded the BCC to hire an engineering firm to conduct this much needed study. The first phase began 8-12-09. LAMSBD provided CDM, Jacksonville, FL with boat and road tours of all hot spots on all three lakes impacted by Henley Rd, Route 218 & Seminole Village. The tour included the Lowe property on Lake Asbury Dr which backs up to Seminole Village. Seminole Village is situated approximately 1,100 feet from Lake Asbury Dr. The tour included a review of the county retention pond on the Lowe property.

The County gave CDM copies of all the photos sent to them over the last 12 months. LAMSBD provided data, maps and photos not provided by the County. CDM returned on 8-19-09 to revisit certain hot spots including a tour of Seminole Village.

Governor Crist's Impact on Lake Asbury

Veto of HB 713: The Board had sent a letter requesting the reasons for the veto so we could properly understand his veto, and secondly allowing us to plan for the next local bill process. To date, he has not responded. Rep Proctor's office is setting up a conference call for LAMSBD Vice Chairman DeAnn Bjornson, Rep Bill Proctor, Wayne Flowers, LAMSBD Attorney & a Governor's Aide.

Denial of Stimulus Money: Again another denial by the Governor, but his staff did suggest we contact the Florida Division of Emergency Management (Florida FEMA) in reference to the South Lake Asbury spillway. The Chairman had a conference call with this unit, 7-15-09, and was able to persuade the group to allow LAMSBD to pursue grant money. The FL FEMA advised us to join and get involved with (LMS) the Clay County Local Mitigation Strategy Committee. We were also advised we needed to get our project(s) on the priority list and strive to obtain County approval for the proper ranking of the project. It should be noted the process could take 3 years because we are not the only group seeking a FEMA Grant. If successful, FEMA's portion would be a maximum of 75% which is true of most of FEMA grants.

LMS

The Chairman & Bob Rumble joined the LMS (Local Mitigation Strategy Committee) and attended the August meeting and presented the LAMSBD story. The group asked us to be guest speakers at the 9-8-09 meeting to present the South Lake Asbury spillway project and other lake requirements to the Local FEMA Committee.

Lake LARC Dam Erosion

There is major erosion on the south side of Lake LARC dam on the Lake Asbury side. The Board had sent a letter to Rev. Berkey, Executive Director of the FL United Methodist Camps & Retreat Ministries asking for help in solving the major erosion problems. The erosion has the potential of creating dam failure if it's not properly controlled. One cavity is approximately 8 feet long, 4 feet high and 4 feet wide. This cavity was filled after receipt of our letter. We were disappointed to learn the major void was filled with a stack of sod rather than some type of rock riprap. The cavity has been filled with sod in the past and has blown out with heavy rains. As a result, the cavity has grown. We have also requested the County to build a berm on this section of the dam to force water into the drain. We will continue to closely monitor the issue.

Clay County Public Works

We want to thank Dave Austin, Public Works Director for his continued cooperation to solve the problems impacting the lakes. We realize the County is short on money like all counties, but Clay County is making the effort and we appreciate it.

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Hydrilla

The Board has not completed its review, as to whether or not, lake lot owners should be treating their lakefronts with Aquathol K. The Chairman has heard rumors of the miss use of Aquathol K. More will follow on this subject. Remember if you apply the chemical on your own, you could be personally liable.

Other Methods of Hydrilla Control

You can Goggle for mechanical lake weed control and find a number of products. One lake lot owner uses the beach groomer (www.beachgrommer.com) which is connected to their lake irrigation pump. It does not kill hydrilla or remove it. We have been advised it does a great job of keeping the lake bottom clean preventing the hydrilla from moving in. **Note: We are not recommending this product.**

Lake Ryan Weed Problem:

We have determined that the weed is Salvania. The method of removal and cost will discussed at the September Board Meeting. The floating fern has also entered LA via the overflow on LR dam.

Lake Facts

Lake Ryan: Named after the Ryan family. This earthen fill dam was constructed in 1969. The following is based on 1975 data: Lake size is approximately 5.5 acres, lake length is 1,200 feet, with 42 acre water feet, and approximately 13,685,760 gallons of water, dam is 250 feet in length, 29 feet high, and 23 feet wide.

Three piezometers are located on the dam.

In addition, no gasoline powered boats are allowed on this rustic lake.

Drain Pipes on the Lakes not covered by County Easement

A drain pipe located on Circuit Rider Rd had failed and emitting sentiment into LA. The County initially refused to repair because there was no easement. The residents were able to convince the County to disconnect the pipe and connect the street drain pipe to a County drain system. There may be other situations like this on the lakes.

Quick Sand Warning

During the CDM tour of the lakes on 8-12-09, one of the tour members fell into a quick sand pocket. The pocket was in the silt filled in finder off Arthur Moore Dr. Quick sand pockets probably can be found in other areas of the lakes. It is important that everyone understand this serious problem of deep beds of water soaked sand that can engulf anything upon it. This problem is greatly enhanced by all the recent rains.

Hurricane Season

We are now at the height of the hurricane season. LAMSBD is not responsible for flood damage to a district member's property. We suggest you contact your Homeowners Insurance Agent for information.