



The Leesville Lake Association Newsletter

November 2011

Local Area Lake Association Members meet with Congress

A delegation representing the Association, Smith Mountain Lake Association, Tri-County Lake Administrative Commission (TLAC), local governments and other non-profit organizations met with members of Congress on Oct. 25 to discuss the burdens imposed on home and land owners, businesses and others by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's mandates relating to the latest Shoreline Management Plan produced by Appalachian Electric Power Co. (AEP).

We will post a report of the meeting and actions arising from it on the Association Web site and in the next newsletter.

The issues at the center of the meeting with Congressional members were based on a briefing, entitled "Cut Unnecessary Regulatory Burden" (CURB), presented at the Association's quarterly Members' Meeting on Oct. 13. After the presentation, many of the 31 members and others present engaged in a lively question and answer session.

The ongoing efforts by the newly formed local group Cut Unnecessary Regulatory Burden (CURB) to make changes to Appalachian Power's current Shoreline Management Plan is starting to gain some attention nationally. <http://www.curb-ferc-aep.com/>

A recent online petition started by CURB president Bill Brush received over 5,000 signatures from residents from all over the country. The petition was on the We the People website found at WhiteHouse.gov. The site was set up to give people the opportunity to encourage the Obama Administration to take action through signatures. According to the site, if a petition gets enough signatures it is reviewed by White House staff and sent to policy experts to issue an official response.

Members of the community met with Sen. Mark Warner in August, have been in close contact with Virginia 5th Congressional District Rep. Robert Hurt to talk about the Shoreline Management Plan, and just recently took their concerns to Washington DC where they met with our area's state representatives.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

VOICE YOUR SUPPORT for current Legislation ...

C.U.R.B.



this Power

We encourage you to make your comments regarding these bills to your current members of Congress. You can call, write, fax, email or go online to show your support.

For the House Bill H.R. 3244: Landowner Protection Act of 2011
On the web: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h112-3244>

US House of Representatives
<http://www.house.gov/>
Congressman Robert Hurt
5th district
1516 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515-4605
Phone: (202) 225-4711
Fax: (202) 225-5681

For the Senate Bill S. 1758: A bill to amend the Federal Power Act go to:
<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s112-1758>

US Senate
<http://www.senate.gov/>

Senator James Webb
Email - <http://webb.senate.gov/contact/>
Web Site - webb.senate.gov/
144 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20510
Phone (202) 224-4024
Fax (202) 228-6363

Senator Mark Warner
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Web Site warner.senate.gov/
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WASHINGTON DC 20510
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DC Fax: 202-224-2530

From The President

The Leesville Lake Association has been very busy testing the quality of the lake water, removing debris, updating our web site, preparing our 2012 calendar, educating ourselves and taking action concerning issues related to the Shoreline Management Plan, recruiting new members, and identifying funds to support needed projects.



All of these activities are vital parts of the effort to make Leesville Lake a great place to live, work and play. I hope you will consider adding your support by continuing to renew your membership each year and encouraging other who use the Lake to do the same. We need your support for various projects as well and many of you have stepped forward and provided valuable help when needed. Thank you!

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Gerry Caprario for his eight years of outstanding dedication and service as a Director on the Leesville Lake Association Board. Gerry was one of the founding members of the board and was Treasurer and Safety Committee Chairman as well as handling, along with his lovely wife Janet, the responsibility for a number of our picnics during his tenure on the board. Associations like ours could not exist without dedicated people like Gerry. Thank you Gerry for your valuable service to your Association.

There was an excellent attendance at our October General Membership meeting to hear about issues with Appalachian Power Company's Shoreline Manage Plan(SMP) and how some of the regulations are impacting economic and property values on both Smith Mountain and Leesville Lake. There are concerns that the SMP contains regulations requirements that are not necessary and violate Federal, State and County regulations and/or directives. Many attempts were made to discuss these issues with APCo but they did not provide any relief so it was felt that taking our concerns to our elected officials was the best recourse. A meeting was held in Washington with appropriate officials on Wednesday, October 19th to address some of these issues. Another meeting is being held in Washington on Tuesday October 25th to reach as many Senators and Representatives as possible with our message. People in other states are also experiencing problems with regulations that do not reflect the input of the people being regulated.

We will report the results of these meetings as soon as we have information. We are optimistic that we can come to an understanding with all parties involved to improve the process as well as the outcome concerning SMP regulations.

Thank you again for your continued support and please contact me or any board member if you have ideas or advice as to how we may serve you better. I would be happy to talk with you if you would like to take a more active role with our association.

Sherwood Zimmerman
President, Leesville Lake Association



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Layout & Design - Kathy Dalton - Backwoods Designs	



Leesville Lake Residents
can call
1-800-956-4237
You can now also report
debris online.

APCO has launched a new website, Property owners and visitors can use the site to report floating debris that is found in Smith Mountain and Leesville reservoirs.

Reports can still be phoned in by calling the company's 24-hour, toll-free Customer Solutions Center at 1-800-956-4237.

The site can be found at
www.smithmtn.com.
It is also available through
www.AppalachianPower.com

The LLA has joined the social media!



Search Leesville Lake Association
or use the link on the website.

Public Relations Committee
By Gordy Bratz



Our goal is to promote the activities and projects of the Association. We do this through news releases and articles sent to local newspapers and radio and TV stations and by announcements on the Association's Web site and in this newsletter.

In 2012 we intend to promote the activities and projects highlighted in this issue. We welcome new members to the committee. If interested please contact:
Gordy Bratz at gbratz@leesvillelake.org;
Danielle Apple at dapple@leesvillelake.org;
Richard Beaton at rbeaton@leesvillelake.org;
Sharon Reilly at sreilly@leesvillelake.org or
Kathy Dalton at kdalton@leesvillelake.org.



The Leesville Lake Association Newsletter

How can we Improve?

We would like to hear from you, any suggestions or ideas are welcomed just send an email to newsletter@leesvillelake.org.

We look forward to 2012 as we continue to spread the word and encourage anyone who may want to join in our efforts to keep Leesville Lake clean and safe for all. To keep up to date on LLA events, meetings and volunteering opportunities you can follow us on facebook, sign up for the electronic mailing list, or our website www.leesvillelake.org.

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Mark Jackson
434-324-8243
434-841-4734

NOW OFFERING Bobcat & Backhoe Services

Membership Committee
By Julie Moore



This fiscal year we had 12 new member households join the association. This was below our projected number, but 12 was enough to hold our total membership number steady. Please continue to encourage your neighbors and friends to join. Our participation and interest in Lake issues are primary factors when the counties decide how much funding to give us.

If you have friends and neighbors who aren't members, please let them know we need them. I'd like to welcome our new members who've joined since our last newsletter. Thank you for your support.

Treasurer Report
By Julie Moore



When our fiscal year ended August 31, 2011 we were right on our budgeted target for the year.

Of our total income, 52% was for Debris Removal from our surrounding counties, 6% was for Beautification Day from sponsors, 30% was for Water Monitoring primarily from APCo, and the remaining 12% was for administrative and miscellaneous items such as dues, new members, calendar sales, T-shirt sales, interest, and other fund raising activities.

Of funds spent, 46% was for Debris Removal, 5% was for Beautification Day, 40% was for Water Monitoring (this program was slightly over budget due to a piece of more modern testing equipment needed, approved by the board, and purchased; this equipment was partially reimbursed and will possibly be fully reimbursed in the future), and the remaining 9% was for administrative/miscellaneous items.

Thanks to all our members and sponsors for your continued support.

Safe Boating is No Accident.

Take a Safe Boating Course

Visit uscboating.org




**2011 Leesville Lake Beautification Day
Diamond Sponsors**



AEP AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER



Pete Cox Lakeside Services
authorized dealer for **MARINE**
State of the Art Inshore Elevators

(434) 532-5333 www.LakesideServicesOfVa.com

**Debris Committee
By Roger Winters**



AEP provided status on their current debris removal efforts on Leesville Lake to the Leesville Lake Association

The following is a summary of that status:

AEP's contractor for debris removal efforts for Leesville lake started work on 06/09/11.

They set up at Myers Creek boat ramp and worked the area from mile marker 6 through mile marker 12.

They have worked about 88 hours and filled 9 dumpsters according to AEP. The actual tonnage removed is 28.37 tons. (based on landfill weight receipts)

AEP's skimmer and crew moved to Leesville lake on 07/05/11. They set up at the Leesville Dam boat ramp and worked the area from the Dam through mile marker 3.

They filled 14 dump truck loads which is equal to 7 dumpsters. The estimated tonnage removed is 42 tons.

The skimmer crew then moved to Brumfield Graves subdivision on Leesville lake on 07/20/11.

They are still set up at Brumfield Graves and have been working the area from mile marker 7 through mile marker 13. They have filled 128 dump truck loads which is equal to 64 dumpsters. The estimated tonnage removed is 384 tons.

Total debris estimate of debris removed is 454.37 tons.

Note:

1 skimmer load is equal to 1 dump truck load.

2 dump truck loads is equal to 1 dumpster.

Average dumpster weight when the skimmer crew uses dumpsters (according to landfill weight receipts) is around 6 tons.

AEP reported that the skimmer will be here at Leesville Lake at least through October.

Water Quality Monitoring Program

By: Mike Lobue

Dr. Tom Shahady, Lynchburg College



The 2011 Leesville Lake water monitoring program is going well. Data was collected from mid-April through mid-October at eight monitoring stations from the tailwaters of the Smith Mountain Lake (SML) dam to the Leesville Lake Dam. The overall water quality of the lake is good, but we have some parameters that we are monitoring closely.

Some of the water samples from the Pigg River and Toler Bridge were very high for E. coli and nutrients after major rain storms and the SML tailwaters sample was high for nutrients in July. The dissolved oxygen in the SML tailwaters is low at times, but still above the state standard.

There are large clumps of curly leaf pondweed, an invasive plant species, above mile mark 9. We are not sure where the pondweed is coming from. As in prior years, dissolved oxygen is very low in the hypolimnion (bottom of the lake) in the portion of the lake near the dam in the summer, which is suggestive of eutrophic conditions or aging of the lake. Some blooms of plankton were noted and are being analyzed. Analysis of the chlorophyll and plankton will help with further interpretation of water quality.

2012 CALENDAR

By: Julie Moore

Our 2012 calendar is here and ready to be purchased for yourself or as gifts. It's beautiful as usual and we'd like to thank Lynn Stelle for the editing and graphics designs; Pat Donahue at CRI Digital Impressions for the printing; and all our members who contributed photographs that make the calendar the beauty that it is.

Below is the list of photographers chosen for 2012:

Cover, Sandy Stratton
Introductory page, Mary Wolff
January, Jan Parry
February, Terry Stelle
March, Tobi Moriarty
April, Calla Michaelides and Bob Rankin
May, Carol Swinehart
June, Amanda Gunn and Beth Meyers
July, Pete Reinhardt
August, Carol Skeen
September, Beth Meyers
October, Jan Parry
November, Calla Michaelides
December, Margaret Gooden

The calendar can be purchased from any board member for \$10. If you prefer to have it mailed please send your check to Leesville Lake Association

PO BOX 68
Altavista, VA 24517

Please include the address where you'd like the calendar mailed. See below for the cost of the calendar plus the mailing fee.

1-2 calendars: \$10 for each calendar plus \$2.50
3-4 calendars: \$10 for each calendar plus \$4.00
5 calendars: \$10 for each calendar plus \$6.50

If you would like more than 5 calendars please call Julie at (434) 369-6630 or e-mail jmoore@leesvillelake.org to find out the mailing cost.

When you're out on the lake taking pictures, please keep the calendar in mind. For next year's calendar, 2013, the board has decided to do a theme. We'd like your pictures of people enjoying the lake. Please note we don't want portraits of people. We still want the lake to be the main focus, but try to capture how we use and enjoy the lake. thanks again to all who participated for 2012.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Mark Your Calendars Mark Your

Upcoming Meetings 2012

9th Annual Lake Beautification Day: May 19th

General Membership Meetings:

January 12, April 12, October 13, 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station

Annual Meeting & Picnic:

Saturday July 14, 4 pm to 6 pm, Tri-County Marina

Board of Directors Meetings:

February 9, March 8, May 10, June 14, August 9, September 13,
November 8; 7 p.m., Altavista Train Station

Coming Attractions in 2012

- Throughout the year: Report debris to both TLAC at (540) 721-4400 & APCO at (800) 956-4237.

- January: Report on the results of water quality monitoring in 2011 by the combined Association-Lynchburg College water quality monitoring program. Watch for it on the Association's Web site and in a forthcoming newsletter.

- Jan. 12: Members' Meeting. Featuring "Virginia's Firewise Program," a presentation about how to protect your home and property from wildfires and how communities and groups of homeowners can apply for dry hydrants. Given by Brad Wright, Va. Dept. of Forestry. 7 p.m. at the Altavista Train Station.

- Jan. 16: Newsletter deadline. Send items to Kathy Dalton, Editor, at newsletter@leesvillelake.org.

- Mar. 1: Quilt Raffle Tickets available from Board members.

- Mar. 17: Boating Safety Course by Coast Guard personnel. Time to be announced. Altavista YMCA.

- Mar. 24: Land & Lake-scaping Seminar. Featuring why and how to create a buffer zone along embankments and what to plant along shorelines to prevent runoff and improve your property. Presented by Evan Reedy, Reedy Hill Gardens. 9 a.m.-Noon. Altavista Train Station.

- Apr. 7: Boating Safety Course by Coast Guard personnel. Time to be announced. Altavista YMCA.

- Apr and/or May: Vessel Safety Checks. Courtesy assessment of equipment and items needed on-board power and pontoon boats helps keep your vessel up-to-date and lake-worthy. And the post-assessment decal helps keep the authorities "happy."

- May 19: Lake Beautification Work Day. Members and non-members alike are needed to remove debris from the lake surface and shoreline. Details to be announced.

- Jul 14: Members' Meeting & Picnic to thank those who support Association activities such as these.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

J. Tom Andrews
Rick & Amy MacFarland

The Board would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members since the last newsletter. We hope you'll find it rewarding to participate in events and meet other members.

If you ever have any questions please call or contact any board members. Board members telephones and e-mail addresses can be found in the newsletter or website at www.leesvillelake.org. You can also send an email to: membership@leesvillelake.org

Help Support The Leesville Lake Association



Bob Rankin Prints Now Available

Local Artist and Leesville Lake Resident Bob Rankin has donated prints of his Beautification Day T-shirt Art to the Association as a fund raiser.

Fifteen by eleven prints of three previous T-shirt Paintings are available to you for \$10 dollars each or all three for \$25 dollars.



Bob will autograph each one to your choosing.

To Purchase send a check to the
Leesville Lake Association
PO Box 68
Altavista, VA 24517

If buying individual prints please specify if it is the boat, fish or the eagle painting you prefer. Please include any personalization you'd like with the autograph by Bob.

Take Control of Boating Safety U.S. Coast Guard



Did you know that grossly negligent operation is considered a criminal offense? The U.S. Coast Guard and other law enforcement agencies may impose civil penalties, and operators can be fined up to \$5000, imprisoned for one year, or both.

Negligent operation may include:

Operating a boat in a swimming area;

Operating a boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

Speeding excessively in the vicinity of other boats or in dangerous waters;

Participating in hazardous practices while water-skiing or engaging in other tow sports;

Bowriding or riding on seat backs, gunwales or the transom; and Diving or jumping off a moving boat.

Coast Guard statistics show that operator inattention, carelessness or reckless operation, excessive speed and no proper lookout are the primary contributing factors in all reported accidents.

ALL OF THESE THINGS ARE UNDER YOUR COMPLETE CONTROL AS OPERATOR OF THE BOAT.

Emergencies . . . Can they find you?

Emergency response organizations urge owners of docks to put a sign with their house number and street address on the lake-side end of their dock.

This will help personnel on the lake accurately identify your property and direct responders to it more quickly in event of fire or other emergencies.



Top Tips for Winter Boating <http://www.boatinsurance.org>

If you live in Southern climates, you're likely to be able to have more opportunity to enjoy your watercraft than if you live in those colder climates. (In most cases, this is reflected in your boat insurance premiums, too.) Still, given the opportunity, you should absolutely take advantage of any winter boating opportunities that present themselves. First, however, you need to follow some basic guidelines to make sure your winter boating experience is a good one, and that the weather doesn't leave you filing a boat insurance claim.

Here are some of the top tips for winter boating:

Get your boat ready for winter. If you're not going to be using your boat during the off season, get it winterized in order to protect it from prolonged periods of non-use, and to get it ready for colder temps.

Cover your boat. Even if you're not worried about snowfall, you should try to keep your boat covered during the winter. If leaves fall and settle on your boat, for example, they're going to hold moisture up against the boat. This will contribute to the deteriorating of your hull, so use a cover to help maximize your boat's life.

Be aware of underwater obstacles. Lake and river levels tend to drop at least a little bit during the winter season. Make sure you're using the utmost caution when you're out on your boat to avoid those obstacles. Things like sandbars, stumps, rocks and other obstructions can cause a ton of damage to your boat. Consider a depth finder to help you navigate around objects, as it's considerably cheaper than having to replace your prop.

Dress for the weather. Even if it's not freezing, you can still be in a ton of trouble in the water when it's cold. Make sure you're dressed appropriately, and that you're dressed to endure the cold winds that come from traveling across the water in winter. Inventory your safety gear. The changing of the seasons is a great time to make sure that you've got all of the safety equipment you need to have on board.

Prioritize communications. While it's always a good idea to let someone know your float plan before you go out and to make sure you've got a cell phone, the dangers involved in winter boating makes this step even more important.

It's That Time.... is your boat ready?



With Fall quickly passing and winter approaching, many are preparing for the cold weather. For many boat owners, this translates into a need to winterize their boats and boat motors who aren't planning on using them again until warmer weather. During the winterizing process, it's also a good time for any annual maintenance or to schedule any repairs with your local marine service center that would take time away from enjoying the lake in the summer months.

Since most fuels now contain some level of ethanol, this is one issue that needs to be addressed when winterizing your boat. The gas separates if it sits unused for a period of time and can do major damage to your boat motor. The prevention of this is easier than ever with all the products designed to stabilize the fuel on the market.

Many resources are available on the Internet or at the local library if you should have questions on how to properly prepare your boat. If you are a new boat owner, perhaps you should ask the assistance of a friend with experience in winterizing or hire a professional to do the job at any local marine service center.

Follow your owners manual for your specific guidelines and prepare a checklist--and follow it-- creating a checklist to meet your boat and motor's requirements will save you hours of dealing with the consequences of an oversight next spring, chances are good that you will miss a step or two.

Spending a few minutes now and taking time to properly winterize your boat you reduce the possibilities of potentially expensive repair bills due to the harsh elements of the winter and the long period of non use. You might want to check your insurance policy too, many companies may not cover damages due to the lack of maintenance or neglect. A little time spent now can save you time, money and effort next spring.





Leesville Lake Association

"helping to make Leesville Lake safe and fun"

2011 Leesville Lake Board Members

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(P) - Pittsylvania County

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LEESVILLE LAKE ASSOCIATION NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT

All Leesville Lake residents, property owners, and lake users
are encouraged to join the Association.
Your membership dues go toward helping accomplish these goals.

- Safety
- Water quality monitoring
- Lake Clean up/debris removal
- Mile markers and navigational aids

Thank you for your help.

Make check payable to Leesville Lake Association

_____ \$25.00 tax deductible, annual dues

_____ Optional tax deductible donation

(list amount and include with your dues check or write a separate check)
and mail to:

Leesville Lake Association
PO Box 68
Altavista Va. 24517
www.leesvillelake.org

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

County where property is located or where you access the lake _____

Preference for receiving quarterly newsletter: Regular mail _____ E-mail _____

Corrections to information if already a member _____

Comments: Are there any lake issues that are of concern to you? _____

Are there any projects or committees that are of interest to you? _____