



The Leesville Lake Association Newsletter

February 2012

Boating Safety Course

Save your money. Attend a **FREE** Boating Safety Course on either March 17 or April 7 at the Altavista YMCA, at the corner of 7th Street and Franklin Avenue in Altavista.

Registration is required. Call the Y at 434-369-9622 to reserve seating. The courses begin at 9 a.m. and conclude about 4 p.m. All materials are provided. Bring a sack lunch.

The courses are taught by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary. Successful completion means you won't have to pay \$29.50 to take the Virginia Boat Safety Course and yet you'll still receive the Virginia Boater Education Certificate.

As of July 1, 2011, all PWC operators 50 years old and younger and Boat operators ages 20 and younger must have completed a boating safety course. This is the next phase-in of the Education Compliance Requirement for all Virginia boaters. Beginning July 1, 2012, all PWC operators regardless of age must take a boating safety course and Boat operators ages 30 and younger need to take a boating safety course.

PWC Age Restriction: No person under the age of 14 may operate a PWC. Those operators 14 and 15 **MUST** show proof of completing an approved and accepted boating safety course either in a classroom or online. The challenge exam or other provisions of the Education Compliance Requirement do not meet the requirements of the age restriction law.



The scheduled phase-in of the Education Compliance Requirement for all Virginia boaters.

Motorboat operators 40 years of age or younger shall meet the requirements by July 1, 2013;

Motorboat operators 45 years of age or younger shall meet the requirements by July 1, 2014;

Motorboat operators 50 years of age or younger shall meet the requirements by July 1, 2015;

All motorboat operators, regardless of age, shall meet the requirements by July 1, 2016.

“Land & Lake-scaping: Improving Property & Leesville Lake's Shoreline.”

March 24, 2012 - 9:00 AM. to 12:00 PM.

**At the Altavista Train Station
sponsored by the Leesville Lake Association.**

Learn why and how to create a lake-protective and property-improving natural buffer along the embankment of your lake- or river-side property.

Come to this seminar on March 24th
from 9 a.m. to noon at the Altavista Train Station,
414 Washington Street in Altavista.

Taught by a landscape professional, the seminar will explain in step-by-step fashion and through the use of illustrations what a buffer is, why buffers are excellent protective barriers on waterside property, and how to easily create buffers using natural and largely inexpensive native plantings. There is no charge to attend this seminar.



From The President

The recent weather causes us to start thinking about getting back on the water. Part of getting ready to enjoy the lake is being qualified to operate a water craft. The state of Virginia requires all of us to have completed a boating course to operate certain boats on Virginia waters. If you have not taken the required course now is the time to make plans to meet the requirements. Information on how to get registered is available in this news letter.



Efforts are still underway to include Campbell County and the Leesville Lake Association as members of the Tri-County Lake Administrative Commission (TLAC). This would be helpful to the counties because they could better serve their lake residents and would allow the Association to better represent Lake Issues and needs to the counties and receive much needed funding. This effort has been ongoing for several years but seems to be foiled by the parochial issues that arise with Franklin County having no part of Leesville Lake and Campbell County having no part of Smith Mountain Lake.

Efforts to establish a separate organization for Leesville Lake received little support because it would require additional monthly meetings for county officials and Appalachian Power Company (APCO) representatives and would be a duplication of expenses in some instances.

To date the Association has had to operate without any funding from the Counties while discussions continue. APCO has provided direct funding for water quality testing but would rather not have to deal with two organizations to cover the many lake issues currently addressed by TLAC for Smith Mountain Lake. Leesville Lake continues to be represented at TLAC monthly meetings and is allowed to participate in discussions but has no vote.

Meetings are scheduled for February and I will keep you advised of the progress. The Leesville Lake Board of Directors would have to approve any agreement or plan proposed.

Sherwood Zimmerman
President, Leesville Lake Association

2012 Calendars Still Available

The 2012 edition of the Leesville Lake calendar are just about sold out. Get yours now.
Call or E-mail any member of the Board of Directors.



The calendars feature notations of Association events and meetings throughout the year and other beautiful photos of "life on the lake" taken by members.

They cost just \$10. The marginal profit goes into the Association's general operating fund.

www.leesvillelake.org

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newsletter submissions & questions
newsletter@leesvillelake.org

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www.backwoodsdesigns.com



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!

JOIN US ON
facebook

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



May 19th

- Throughout the year: Report debris to both TLAC at (540) 721-4400 & APCO at (800) 956-4237.
- Mar. 1: LLA Annual Quilt Raffle Tickets go on sale Get your raffle tickets for the beautiful handmade quilt by Sharon Reilly. Just \$1 dollar from any Board member. The raffle will be held at the Members' Meeting on July 14 at the Tri-County Marina.
- Mar. 17: Boating Safety Course by USCG Auxillary Altavista YMCA. Registration is required. Call the Y at 434-369-9622 to reserve seating. The courses begin at 9 a.m. and conclude about 4 p.m. All materials are provided. Bring a sack lunch.
- Mar. 24: Land & Lake-scaping Seminar



We continue to be on budget for this year. Recently we received \$50,000 from Campbell County which was originally from VDGIF. These funds are specifically designated for hazard markers and will be held in an interest bearing fund until needed.

We also received \$2,000 from Pittsylvania County which was their budgeted contribution for our 2011-2012 fiscal year. These funds are not restricted by the county but the Board generally uses them only for debris removal.

We have requested approximately \$14,000 from Bedford County which they included in their budget for us this year. The funds have not been received yet but will also be used for debris removal when received.

Navigation Committee Report

