



A bimonthly newsletter for all Woodland Lake lot owners. This newsletter is intended to inform and entertain you.

## Topics of the Week

Board Announcements · 2

Annual Board Meeting · 3

Meet the Neighbor · 6

Sunshine Corner · 8

The Snake Pit · 7

## SPRING

Spring, we have waited so long for you. The waiting was hard and at times dark and difficult. Nevertheless, you're almost here now, and the memory of waiting is quickly disappearing. Things start warming up, the flowers bloom in beautiful vibrant colors and the birds sing.

No wonder they call it spring fever, it feels invigorating. These are days when the sun shines just warm enough, the wind dies down for a while, and it feels like anything is possible. It seeps into our veins, brightening our every move. We feel lighter, wilder, and more alive.

This time of year is regenerating; it gives your energy back. The sun comes out and we want to sing at the top of our lungs. We want to plunge our hands into the dirt and stick our nose deep into a bundle of fresh herbs.

We are not quite there yet, but here as spring begins, the ground has thawed, and plants have come back to life. The change is gradual at first, only a glimpse of what is to come, and soon it is a full-blown onslaught of flowers, vegetables, and fruits. All these new things are ready to be smelled, cooked, and eaten.

Spring we waited so long. We deserve you, and we welcome you back with open arms! You are full of potential, full of life. If I could bottle you up, I would.



**DID YOU KNOW WE ARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA?**

Woodland Lake Website: [Woodland-Lake.com](http://Woodland-Lake.com)

Facebook: Woodland Lake, MS

# BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

## Reminder



It is that time again. Everyone should have received their HOA Dues invoice by email or USPS mail. Dues must be paid to get your boat stickers and lake passes

Feel free to pay your dues via the Woodland-Lake Web page. <https://woodland-lake.com/pay-fees>

**PAYMENTS ARE DUE MAY 1ST**

## SPILLWAY UPDATE

Jon Anderson, Board Director for Dam and Spillway, has contacted an engineering firm to discuss a geotechnical study of the dam condition. This discussion is in its infancy, and we hope to have more details soon. The board continues to monitor the situation on a regular basis. As more information becomes available, we will provide updates.

## Reminder

The board would like to remind the association membership, per the DeSoto County Ordinances: Any pet that is not on your property must be leashed. Should your pet be found on another neighbor's property, that neighbor has the right to call Animal Control to report the violation of the ordinance.

While you can report a violation at any time, please be courteous with your neighbors. If you know the owner, the board would recommend speaking with your them prior to getting the county involved. Should the problem persist, contact Animal Control.

## Important Numbers to know:

Issue	Contact	Number
Barking, leash law, and animal neglect violations	Animal Services	662-469-8004
Adoption, surrender, or reclaim of cats or dogs	Animal Services	662-469-8004
Animal bite; seriously sick or injured animal	Normal hours: Animal Services	662-469-8004
	After Hours: Sheriff's Department	662-469-8027
Stray livestock	Sheriff's Department	662-469-8027
Dead animal pick up	Road Management	662-469-8025
Orphaned or injured wildlife	Mississippi Wildlife Birds	662-612-6455
	Mississippi Wildlife Animals	662-449-1646
Nuisance wildlife (Squirrels, raccoons, snakes, mice, etc.)	Wildlife Removal Company of your choice	

For more information go to the Desoto County Animal Services Website:

<https://www.desotocountyms.gov/92/Animal-Services>

## BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are scheduled for:

The FIRST THURSDAY  
of each month.

- Apr. 7th
- May 5th

**Annual Meeting**  
**June 4th**

- July 7th
- Aug. 4th
- Sept. 1st
- Oct. 6th
- Nov. 3rd
- Dec. No Meeting

**DID YOU KNOW...** Everyone is welcome to attend a board meeting. Be on the lookout for an email each month for details.

If you would like to bring a topic to the board, send an email to [info@woodland-lake.com](mailto:info@woodland-lake.com).

New agenda items must be submitted at least 1 week\* prior to the meeting.

*\* Last month's newsletter stated 2 weeks, correction - it is only 1 week.*



# 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

## Annual Meeting Coming Soon

The Woodland Lake Improvement Associations' annual meeting is right around the corner, and we would like to share key information and dates for the upcoming event.

**\*\*\* It is about improving our community, and everyone is encouraged to attend. The meeting is only once year.**

### CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

- Ally Martin - President
- Chris Christian – Vice President/Lake Management
- Tori Williams – Secretary-Treasurer
- Ed Miller - Grounds and Clubhouse Management
- Jon Anderson – Dam and Spillway
- Roland Harris – Construction
- Lori Harrison – Events and Communications

### POSITIONS OPEN FOR NOMINEES

Several board positions will be opening. They will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. It is imperative everyone is familiar with how elections are handled, and board positions are assigned. If you are considering a run for the board, please read further for important information.

First, one does not run for a position but instead runs to be on the board. The board meets directly after the annual meeting to match each position with a board member. This means you are not guaranteed the same position year after year.

Secondly, the board job descriptions are located later in the newsletter. If you are running for a board position, be sure you can fulfill the responsibilities for all listed positions.

Listed below are the positions to be considered at the 2022 Annual Board Meeting.

Position 1- – This position is up for renewal due to a board member resigning in the middle of a 3-year term. The board voted in Lori Harrison to fill the position temporarily until the association members could get together to vote. The board proposes Lori Harrison finish the two remaining years left. If not validated, a new vote will ensue.

Position 2 – Ally Martin has decided not to run again for the board, so this position will not have an incumbent.

Position 3– Tori Williams has decided not to run again for the board, so this position will not have an incumbent.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW

#### MARCH 31 - SUBMISSIONS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

This is the deadline for any annual meeting business. Please submit your request to [info@woodland-lake.com](mailto:info@woodland-lake.com)

This includes but is not limited to:

- Requests to amend Bylaws
  - Note these are subject to a vote by the current board of directors. If they pass. they will be included in the meeting packets mailed out on April 21st.
- Requests to speak at the board meeting
- Other miscellaneous requests

#### APRIL 7 - MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

**April's Monthly Board Meeting**, the board will discuss and vote on any submitted requests for the annual meeting. If you submitted a request, this is your opportunity to explain and discuss your request. If you are unable to attend, please have someone attend on your behalf and/or reach out to a board member. Those requests without representation will be reviewed and voted on using the given information.

#### APRIL 21 - MAILOUT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting packets will be mailed out via USPS no later than April 21st.

#### MAY 21 - PROXY DUE DATE

Proxies are essentially the equivalent of absentee balloting. Members can assign their proxy to a proxy agent (association member). This authorizes the agent to vote on behalf of the member. If you are mailing your proxy(s), it should be postmarked no later than May 21st, in order to be considered. 1 vote per lot.

# 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

## JUNE 4 - ANNUAL MEETING

Eudora Baptist Church  
9670 W. Commerce / MS-304  
9 AM - 12 PM

### RUNNING FOR THE BOARD?

This year, we would like to highlight the nominees running for a board position. If you have an interest in being on the board, we would like to publish your bio/profile in the May Newsletter. This will allow our association members the chance to learn a little more about you. Submit your article/bio to [awarman63@gmail.com](mailto:awarman63@gmail.com).

Please understand the bio/profile is not required. Nominations for the board can still be announced at the annual meeting.

### BOARD POSITION JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Some board members may take two roles.

#### President

- Facilitate meetings (tasks include procedural duties: calling meetings to order, reading the agenda, calling for votes and keeping the meetings on track)
- Familiarity with association rules and governing laws
- Responsible for all board contracts, orders, and documentation
- Keep association current on inspections/audits
- Ensure Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is completed/submitted every year
- Ensure taxes are completed
- Direct preparations for the annual meeting
- Attend Delta Crest annual meetings

#### Vice President

- Share leadership role/procedural duties with President
- Knowledgeable about association rules and governing laws
- Assume Presidential responsibilities when necessary
- Maintains order in meetings

#### Secretary – Treasurer

- Sign checks and get second signature from the President or Vice President
- Read minutes for approval at monthly board meeting
- At annual meeting: motion to forgo the reading of last year's minutes; check for corrections or additions to the minutes and read the financials.
- Sign off on financials approved at meetings
- Collaborate with bookkeeper on financials, status of payables and receivables.
- Maintain records of all meetings
- Responsible for the corporation's books and records
- Respond to correspondences from lot owners

#### Lake Management

- Collect Harvest Reports and review them with our biologist
- Notify board when biologist will test lake, present improvement recommendations to be approved by board and implement the plan
- Manage lake patrol (including review log sheets once a month, address any issues, fill logs at clubhouse, reimburse gas receipts, and remove patrol boat from lake for servicing once year)
- Help with any lake concerns

#### Construction

- Verify lot owner has approval from the county
- Review lot owner construction plans for compliance with association rules and regulations. Reviews appropriate building protocols with lot owner.
- Monitor construction to ensure compliance and erosion control.
- Responsible for filling out and signing approval forms
- Make sure all forms are filled out correctly and documentation/drawings are shared with the lot owner and filed for future reference.
- Report to the board about current construction projects
- Watch for erosion in and around the lake
- Move work barge as needed

## BOARD POSITION JOB DESCRIPTIONS (CONTINUED)

### Grass Management

- Verify company is cutting all areas listed in the contract.
- Get bids when the contract runs out.
- Ensure fertilizer and pre-emergent are applied to the dam.
- Watch the kudzu and high grass on the dam area.
- Make sure the company sprays for weeds in the rocks around the dam.
- Report any concerns about the common areas.

### Communication/ Events & Planning

- Send correspondence to the membership via email, mail, and/or social media.
- Create/Design, publish, and distribute a newsletter
- Send out meeting agendas and documents that members have opted to receive
- Keep the website up to date
- Make signs for events and set out the weekend before.
- Set dates for events and let the Board know
- Make sure we have supplies for the clubhouse
- Set up tables, chairs, and takedown for events
- Annual meeting arrangements (including food and drinks)

### Grounds and Building

- Clean restrooms once a week.
- Keep trash picked up around the boat ramp, parking area, clubhouse, and pavilion. Set trash can out on Mondays
- Keep building clean
- Coordinate clubhouse pressure washing once a year
- Advise Board if need supplies or repairs at the clubhouse

### Dam Walking and Piezometers

- Walk dam twice a month (and after heavy rainfalls). Write a report and put it in the logbook.
- Read piezometers at least once a month (more if there is a problem). Write a report and put it in the logbook.
- Report on any holes, kudzu, erosion, or any other concerns
- Prepare year-end dam inspection report and mail it to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Office of Land and Water Resources Dam Safety Division before the end of June
- Report major changes in the piezometers readings to the President and B&W Engineering.

### **RUBBISH**

Please remember the "Limb Pick Up" locations around the lake are for rubbish, tree limbs, small items that need to be either bagged or boxed up. No household garbage should be placed at "Limb Pick Up" locations around the lake. Currently, the DeSoto County Road Department comes by every Monday morning to pick up at the designated locations. If anyone needs further information on what is acceptable at these locations, please select the following link to the "Desoto County Rubbish" page.

<https://www.desotocountyms.gov/221/Leaf-Limb-and-Non-Household-Waste-Collec>

### **MOSQUITO CONTROL**

#### **We are already seeing mosquitos!**

We all know to remove standing water to avoid providing breeding grounds for mosquitos. The new non-septic treatment plants seem to create standing water. If you have standing water (other than the lake) you may try Mosquito Dunks. The floating tablets slowly dissolve and release a bacterium that is toxic to all species of mosquito larvae—and harmless to other living things. This larvicide gradually settles and travels through the water. It lasts for approximately thirty days.



**DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY OTHER MOSQUITO CONTROL TIPS?**

### **Want to help?**

We are looking for contributors! If you would like to work with the Newsletter Committee or if you have information to add to our monthly topics. Contact [awarman63@gmail.com](mailto:awarman63@gmail.com)

# MEET THE NEIGHBOR

## MRS. DIXIE MILLS.

Interview by  
Roland Harris

LOT 61 & 62  
Woodland Lake Dr.

The subject of this edition of the Woodland Lake newsletter "MEET THE NEIGHBOR" is Mrs. Dixie Mills who makes her home at lots 61 and 62 on Woodland Lake Drive.

Dixie, by her own admission, grew up in a "tomboyish fashion" on a farm in rural Michigan. She was constantly at the side of her father hunting, fishing, and participating in farming activities. These experiences led her to a lifelong appreciation of the outdoor activities.

Growing up in this environment, she was hired as a flagman on a construction site. She quickly graduated to a "Push Tractor Operator", on a D9 Caterpillar, pushing an earth scraper. Dixie moved from Michigan to Memphis in 1969 and notes the huge "Culture Shock" experienced by a farm girl from Michigan. Dixie joined the Aflac insurance team while living in Memphis and enjoyed a successful career servicing accounts from Indiana to Texas to Florida and points between.



An invitation from a friend living on the lake brought Dixie to Woodland Lake. Her love for crappie fishing inspired her to purchase a cabin (lots 166 & 167), on the western side of the lake in 1992. In, 2000, she relocated to the eastern side of the lake purchasing her present home on Lots 61 and 62 in 2000.

Her on going love for crappie fishing belie her impressive talents as an artist and painter. Several exhibits of this talent are tastefully displayed in her lovely home. She also takes personal pleasure in writing poetry along with collecting Red Skelton memorabilia, an extensive collection is prominently displayed in her home. She is a "Diehard" Saints fan and regularly follows sports events of all types. She is an avid golfer and member of the local Tunica National Resort golf facility.

Over the years, Dixie served on the Woodland Lake Board of Directors. She contributed to several improvement projects in support of our lake community. Her generosity extends far beyond supporting Woodland Lake Improvement Association. She is also a major contributor to both Saint Jude and Pets for Vets.

The newsletter staff would like to thanks Dixie for her continued support of our community. Thank You Dixie!

## CLASSIFIEDS

### REAL ESTATE / LOTS

Lots 158, 159, & 160, Spruce Dr, 2.39 acres, \$60,000,  
Lisa Burnette/ Agner & Ass., 662-470-5398

Lot 72, 2nd Beach Cv, 1.56 acres, \$62,500, Saxton  
Haltom/Bill Sexton Realty 662-349-7920

Lot 249, Woodland Lake Dr., .69 acres, \$14,500 Seth  
Billings/United Real Estate Mid-South, 662-470-6058

Lots 206 & 207, 1.9 acres,  
\$55,000 Seth Billings/United Real Estate Mid-South,  
662-470-605

Lot 89, Beech Dr. 1.3 acres, \$14,500 Seth Billings/United  
Real Estate Mid-South, 662-470-6058

# EVENT COMMUNICATIONS









## PREVIOUS HAPPENINGS

**THANKS TO ALL THAT ATTENDED THE PREVIOUS EVENTS.**

**Bass Tournament** - We appreciate the die-hard fishers that came out for the tournament; there were five teams entered. With lines in at 6:30 AM and morning temperatures near freezing, the bass decided not to play and instead stayed hidden away. The only fish caught were from the winning team with a total of 9.12 lbs. the biggest fish was 4.24 lbs. **Congratulations to Mike Foshée & Lance Martin.**

**Mardi Gras Masquerade Party** – What a great time was had by everyone! There was a large turnout and some excellent Cajun and Creole food choices. Thank you again to Ralph and Donna Terry for opening their home to the members of the association.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2022	APRIL 2022	MAY 2022	JUNE 2022
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>26<sup>th</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>7 AM – 12 PM</b> <b>Any Fish Tournament</b> <i>*no catfish</i></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>9-12 PM</b> <b>Lake Clean-up*</b> <b>Meet at Clubhouse</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>9<sup>th</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>10-3 PM</b> <b>Woodland Craft Fair*</b> <b>@ Clubhouse &amp; Pavilion</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>16<sup>th</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>6:00 AM – 12 PM</b> <b>Bass Tournament</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>1-3 PM</b> <b>Earth Day Picnic &amp; Plant/Seed Swap *</b> <b>@ Clubhouse &amp; Pavilion</b></p> 	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>13/14<sup>th</sup> - Fri/Sat</b> <b>Line In – Fri 8 PM</b> <b>Weigh In – Sat 10 AM</b> <b>All Night Catfish</b> <b>Tournament*</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>28<sup>th</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>12 PM -2 PM</b> <b>Memorial Day Picnic</b> <b>&amp; Fish Fry*</b> <b>@ Clubhouse &amp; Pavilion</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4<sup>th</sup> - Saturday</b> <b>Annual Meeting*</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>25<sup>th</sup> – Saturday</b> <b>4 PM –6 PM</b> <b>WL Appreciation Potluck*</b> <b>@ Clubhouse &amp; Pavilion</b> <b>Band @ 7:30</b></p> 

**Note:** All dates are subject to change; this includes but is not limited to the addition of new events, date changes, cancellations, etc. Please watch for change announcements on the Woodland Lake website, Facebook Page, or an email announcement.

- Association Sponsored Events are denoted with an asterisk \*.
- Individual members may host an event, which are not "Association Sponsored" functions. They are open to all members of the association if posted on the calendar.



# SUNSHINE CORNER



**The Sunshine Committee** is here for you, the association, friends, and neighbors. We not only welcome new lot owners, but we also do many different things to bring a little sunshine to our neighborhood, our fellow association members, and lake neighbors.

The Sunshine Committee has been busy delivering meals to those who were ill, delivering bereavement baskets to those who have lost a loved one, and delivering welcome bags to new neighbors. This committee goes beyond the members, as we have been blessed to have community volunteers step up when a meal was needed. Thank you, Terese Kelley and Ann Warman for preparing a needed meal.

Remember to contact Sheila or anyone on this committee if we can spread some sunshine to you or for someone you know who needs a Happy!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Pavilion, the Sunshine Committee will be sponsoring the Woodland Lake Spring Craft Fair. We currently have 17 vendors setting up, we will have food, drinks, and another silent auction. If you would like to participate as a seller, please contact at  
Sheila Deese, 901-484-2940.
- We are pleased to announce, both Jimmy and Sandra Stafford are doing well after their surgeries. We continue to think of them and wish them a speedy recovery.

## LETTER FROM THE STAFFORDS

### Update and Many Thanks

Many of you are aware that I had ankle surgery in mid-December. Sandra had gall bladder surgery three weeks ago. My dad fell in early February and fractured his leg, arm, and shoulder bones.

Sandra is about to recover. I thought I would be walking in week 10 but it is now week 13 and I am still working on it. Dad is rehabbing and slowly recovering.

Fortunately, we have been on the receiving end of Sheila Deese and the Sunshine Committee's Efforts! The results are well organized and amazing!

LAKE PEOPLE KNOW, Sandra and I very much appreciate every thought, prayer, call, visit, and.....FOOOOD, soups, casseroles, Italian, homemade bread.....**WOW!**

All of this love from y'all makes the recovery time pass faster. Also, it serves as a reminder of how fortunate we are to be part of such a wonderful Association!

We are anxious to put all of this mess behind us and return to LAKE ACTION!

Meanwhile , be safe and take care.

Jim & Sandra Stafford

If you would like to send a card to Mr. Stafford Sr. , I am sure he would love to hear from friends at Woodland.

Please send these to:

Jim Stafford Sr.  
3535 Kirby Parkway, Apt J 107  
Memphis Tn. 38115

*Congrats!*  
Congratulations & Best Wishes

**Jeff Hobbs & Marissa Roberts**  
*on the start of something beautiful!*

## WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS



- **Edward & Alice Ralph, Lot 089**
- **Memphis Investment Properties III, LLC, 099**
- **Kevin Parsons, 189**
- **Matthew Cottam/Luke Cottam, 230**



# Fishing Report

WOODLAND LAKE - 3/22/2022

The water is warming up, which means the fish will move closer to the banks. Lately we have been catching some nice bass. The crappie should get going soon!

We strive to keep the lake as healthy as possible. After a good day fishing, please complete the Fish Harvest report found on the Woodland Lake website. Woodland-lake.com@lake-management

## SPECIES DETAILS

**CATFISH** We have Channel Catfish, Blue Catfish, and Mudcats in the lake. Fish with minnows, they are pretty much all over the lake. While Channel and Blue catfish are great to eat. The meat on the mudcats is a little bit different. DO NOT re-release mudcats into the lake. *No Limits on catfish*

*YoYos are Allowed from sundown to sunrise and must be labeled. Questions: Chris Christian Mfallrabb@gmail.com.*

**CRAPPIE** Fish with minnows and/or jigs by the bank up to 8 feet out. We have seen them up to 17 inches on this lake. Hopefully, we will catch plenty this spring and have a fish fry or two. *No limits*

**BASS** Great time to Bass fish. Fish with crankbait around the banks - *Limits: All bass over 14" should be released*

### A FEW BIG ONES CAUGHT

THIS SEASON



Ed Miller - 2/20

Lance Martin - 3/11



## THREADFIN SHAD

Following the lake survey completed in April 2021, the threadfin shad population was depleted and needs to be replenished. This is most likely due to the week freeze in February last year.

The fishing committee will be meeting to discuss purchasing threadfin shad. This is intended to increase the population and size of the crappie and bass. If you would like to donate to this program any amount is appreciated. Please contact Lance Martin @ 870-335-8048

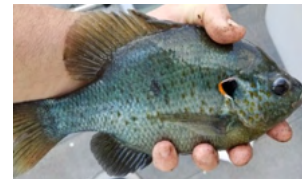
## BREAM SPECIES DETAILS

**BREAM** Fish with crickets along the banks and fishing with Red wigglers (worms) on the bottom has proven to work well for Shell Crackers. They have run small the last few years and we would like to see them get big again. Therefore, for now, there is a recommended 10 bream per person limit. We have the following types of bream:

Blue Gills have a dark spot behind the rear of the dorsal. They are the most common bream on our lake. These feisty fighters are fun to catch and good to eat.



Redears or Shellcrackers have a red (M) or orange (F) crescent-shaped spot and pharyngeal teeth (crushers in their throat to grind snail shells and other mollusks). Biggest bream.



Long-eared Sunfish or Pumpkinseeds are one of the most vibrant freshwater fish. Blue, orange, yellow, green, with speckles over their sides, and back with a yellow-orange belly.



Warmouth's or Google Eye's most distinguishing features are the large red eyes and largemouth. Their mottled brown coloring can change to blend in with their surroundings.



# BACKYARD THREATS TO WILD BIRDS

All backyard birders want to believe that birds are perfectly safe in their yard, but there are many surprising threats that can be a problem even in the most bird-friendly spots. Fortunately, it is easy to spot these threats and take steps to minimize any risks to visiting birds. Here are some Threats to Birds in Your Backyard, please take the appropriate steps to fix them!

**Pets** Outdoor pets – both cats and dogs – can be a grave threat to backyard birds. Not only may pets hunt or stalk birds, but they can disrupt nests, dig up habitat, damage feeders and generally make birds feel unwelcome.

- Keep Birds Safe – Supervise pets outdoors at all times to be sure they are not harassing birds, or use enclosed kennels, runs or catios to give pets time outdoors without providing access to birds.

**Windows** All backyard birders want great views of the birds, but wide, clean, unobstructed windows can be fatal to birds that collide with the glass. Even if the bird just seems dazed, it may succumb to internal injuries or be more vulnerable to predators.

- Keep Birds Safe – Position feeders either more than 10 feet away from windows or closer than 3 feet to windows to lessen collisions, and take steps to make the glass more visible to birds, such as applying decals or ribbons.

**Chemicals** Any significant concentration of chemicals, including pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other common lawn and garden additives, can be dangerous to birds. Even if the chemicals are not a direct threat, they may destroy plants or insects birds use as food.

- Keep Birds Safe – Minimize chemicals in the yard, provide natural weed, and insect control instead. If chemicals must be used, be sure they do not contaminate bird feeders or baths.

**Spoiled Food** Moldy seed, rancid suet, and fermenting nectar can all be dangerous to birds. Spoiled food harbors mold, fungus, and bacteria that can transmit diseases to an entire backyard flock. Contamination can also come from dirty feeders when a buildup of old seed hulls, feces, and other debris mixes with fresh food.

- Keep Birds Safe – Always discard bird food as soon as it begins to spoil, and never mix fresh food with old supplies. Store seed and other foods properly to stay fresh longer, and take steps to keep seed dry. Feeders should be thoroughly cleaned regularly.

**Dirty Bird Baths** Scummy water in the birdbath may not be appealing, but birds will visit it if they have no other choice. Water that is contaminated with feces, decaying plant material, algae, insects or yard chemicals can be highly toxic to birds and diseases can easily be transmitted through dirty water.

- Keep Birds Safe – Clean baths regularly and use a weak bleach solution to thoroughly decontaminate the basin with each cleaning. Also, clean the bath's rim and any popular perches nearby, but never add chemicals to the water to try and keep it clean.

**Unsafe Bird Houses** It can be exciting to see a bird family take up residence in a backyard house, but it is devastating when that house is raided by a predator, overrun with insects or the family dies for mysterious reasons. Drill ventilation and drainage holes in the house if necessary, and clean houses after each nesting season to eliminate insects and bacteria.

It is easy to take steps to lower the risks birds face and enjoy every feathered friend that visits.

John Lauzon

[bowensfarmssupplyinc.com](http://bowensfarmssupplyinc.com)

# Desoto

## FROM AROUND THE TOWN

### Household Hazardous Waste

#### What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Hazardous Household Waste is any unused or leftover portions of products containing toxic chemicals.

Any product which is labeled CAUTION, POISONOUS, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, or CORROSIVE should not be disposed of with regular household waste.

#### DeSoto County's Household Hazardous Waste Day

**DATE:** Saturday, May 14, 2022

**TIME:** 8:00am until 1:00pm

**LOCATION:** The Landers Center in Southaven in the southwest corner parking lot at Venture Drive and Turman Drive.

For additional questions please call 662-469-8152

For more information including what is allowed and what isn't visit the Desoto County MS government page.

<https://desotocountymms.gov/189/Household-Hazardous-Waste>

### Spring Cleanup Week 2022

Spring Cleanup Day kicks off a week of spring cleaning. It's the perfect time to clear the clutter from your home, yard, and community. The county will strategically place dumpsters in unincorporated areas of DeSoto County. They will be emptied throughout the week as needed.

Woodlands closest dumpster location is:

- **Eudora Park** - 9341 Highway 304 West

**All registered volunteers will receive a Cleanup Kit.**

#### Spring Cleanup Week

April 1, 2022 to April 10, 2022

#### Countywide Cleanup Day:

April 2 from 9am to 12pm

For more information including what is allowed and what isn't visit the Desoto County MS government page.

<https://desotocountymms.gov/FormCenter/Environmental-Services-18/2022-SPRING-CLEANUP-DAY-422>



### Copperhead

#### Agkistrodon Contortrix

The Copperhead is the second most likely venomous snake you may encounter here at the lake. Identifiers for the copperhead are the obvious coloration of its head, its shorter and thicker build, and its pattern design. The pattern will appear as an hourglass in shape from above and resemble a Hershey's Kiss from the side. Like the cottonmouth, the juvenile copperhead will bear a bright green tail.



**You should always admire the copperhead from a safe distance.**

You are most likely to encounter this snake in wooded areas, your yards, and around the shores. As with other snakes, it will not chase but it will strike to defend itself. Although this snake is more likely to bite than the Cottonmouth, most bite occurrences are from being picked up or stepped on. The copperhead venom is considered mild, but if bitten, you should always seek immediate medical attention.



Researched and written by M. Foshée  
Pictures by M. Foshée and Rusty Malone

