



# Newsletter

## Fall 2024

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### Events

The **4<sup>th</sup> of July potluck/boat parade** was a success. The following boats won prizes for their boat decorations:

1<sup>st</sup> prize – Denise Swindoll

2<sup>nd</sup> prize –Tim Cottam

3<sup>rd</sup> prize – Mallory Smith

*Thank you to all who donated prizes for the boat parade.*

*Thank you, Laura Sims for putting together the prizes.*

*Thank you, Roland and Shirley Harris for cleaning up and decorating the clubhouse.*

*Thanks to everyone who helped clean up and put up the chairs.*

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The **Labor Day fish fry** had delicious fish and dishes prepared by our neighbors. We enjoyed meeting the new members that attended.

*Thank you, Roland Harris, Dave Bowen and Kevin Parsons for cooking the fish, fries and hushpuppies.*

*Thanks to everyone who helped clean up and put up the chairs.*

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### **Lake Cleanup – Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. – noon**

We need volunteers to help pick up trash on the roads. There will be chili and hot dogs afterwards at the club house.

## SPILLWAY REPAIR UPDATE:

The Board of Directors is pleased to inform you that the chemical grout installation at the spillway several months ago was successful and stopped all water flow under the concrete spillway. Periodic monitoring has revealed no water flow from under the spillway in the areas previously observed. The chemical grout repairs were concentrated along the concrete headwall at the top of the spillway and continued down the spillway western edge of the concrete apron to approximately 70' from the lower toe wall, where the available materials and labor contract expired.

Several weeks ago, Board members and residents made a hand-dug survey at some areas observed to have earth separated along the lower spillway edge to gauge the possibility of filling the remaining voids with granular bentonite materials. It was immediately apparent the void areas were too large for this application. We then procured fill dirt and brought in an excavator and skid steer loader to address the voids. The first excavation just below the last grout injection location revealed a large void extending under the spillway further than we could feasibly place the dirt to fill the void completely. Fill dirt was placed to the extent possible to help support the outer edge of spillway concrete. Two additional excavations were performed, approximately halfway to the toe and at the lower toe wall. These excavations revealed the large void appears to extend in an apparent continuous manner from the last grout injection location all the way to the toe wall. I want to say thank you to members Page VanCleave and Nick Foster for providing their time and equipment to assist in this work.

The Board is actively exploring multiple methods to complete the spillway remedial repairs in the most cost-effective manner possible. We have engaged Mr. Rick Howe to provide technical and engineering services to assist in the completion of these repairs. Before any additional repair work is scheduled, the Board contracted with a local provider to perform a ground penetrating radar survey of the entire concrete spillway structure to assist in identifying known and/or unknown voids to help determine the scope of work and required volume of materials required to make the repairs. We will keep the membership informed as we move forward.



## 2024 – 2025 Board Meetings:

Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month. If the date changes you will be notified through an email from [info@woodland-lake.com](mailto:info@woodland-lake.com).

*Bringing an issue, suggestion, comment, complaint, or concern to the board:*

If any lot owner has an issue, suggestion, comment, complaint or concern to bring to the Board for consideration, they must first request these items be placed on the Agenda at least 3 days before the Board Meeting by sending an email to [info@woodland-lake.com](mailto:info@woodland-lake.com) or by delivering them to a member of the Board. It is helpful to not only provide the Item itself in written form but to also include a short narrative of “Why” you think it needs to be discussed. If a member has more than one item, they should be listed in priority order.

The member submitting the item must attend the meeting and be prepared to speak to the topic. The Board Officers will set the “Agenda” based on these timely submittals.

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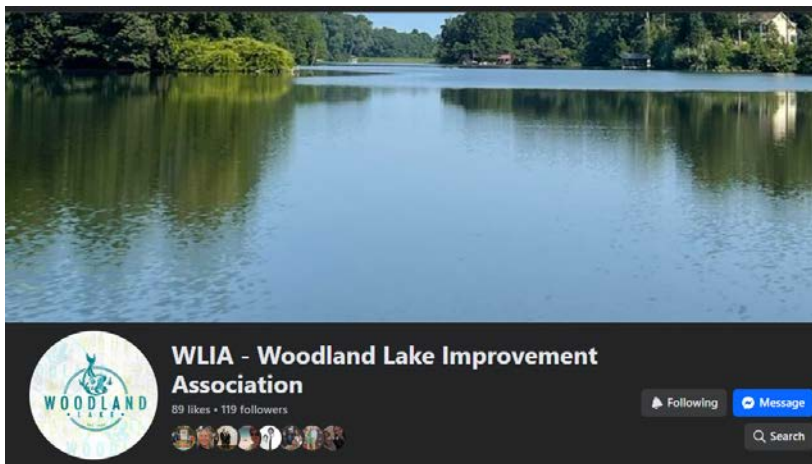
### Official Woodland Lake Association Facebook Page

There are 4 Woodland Lake Facebook sites. It may be confusing which is the “OFFICIAL” site. The official site is:

[Woodland Lake Improvement Association, Inc. \(woodland-lake.com\)](https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandLakeImprovementAssociation)

Contact Roland Harris [rmharris20@aol.com](mailto:rmharris20@aol.com) to get added to this Facebook page if you are not already part of this group.

This site is intended to inform our members about Woodland Lake matters, not to debate opinions. Questions or issues should be discussed in a board meeting. Please follow the process explained above. If you need immediate attention, please contact a board member (contact information is on the right side of this page).



## Board Members:

### **Roland Harris**

President  
Communications  
Phone: 601/527-5164  
Email: [rmharris20@aol.com](mailto:rmharris20@aol.com)

### **Lance Martin**

Vice-President  
Lake and Work Barge Management  
Phone: 870/335-8048  
Email: [lmartin.wlb@gmail.com](mailto:lmartin.wlb@gmail.com)

### **Terry Mark-Major**

Secretary/Treasurer  
Phone: 901/351-1288  
Email: [tmm4wlia@gmail.com](mailto:tmm4wlia@gmail.com)

### **Scott Blake**

Residential New Constructions and Additions Compliance  
Phone: 901/277-0223  
Email: [scott@design500.us](mailto:scott@design500.us)

### **Kevin Parsons**

Common Area Management (grass cutting, clubhouse, common area docks, pavilion, jon boat landing)  
Phone: 813/388-3097  
Email: [kevinparsons612@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinparsons612@yahoo.com)

### **Shad Sims**

Dam monitoring to include periodic walking inspections and recording piezometer readings  
Phone: 662/4041583  
Email: [William.sims@atmosentergy.com](mailto:William.sims@atmosentergy.com)

### **Ann Warman**

Events, Newsletter, and Communications  
Phone: 901/438-4824  
Email: [awarman63@gmail.com](mailto:awarman63@gmail.com)

### **Paid Contractor**

**Chris Christian - Lake Patrol**  
Phone: 901/461-7277

# Resources & Volunteer Opportunities

## Meals on Wheels

Meals and Wheels started meal deliveries to Woodland Lake members in August 2024. Meals are prepared by the Parish Restaurant in Hernando and delivered to participants on Tuesdays and Thursdays, between 11:15 am and noon.

If you know someone who may benefit from meal deliveries to their home, please send Ashok Kara an email ([ashok.kara1@gmail.com](mailto:ashok.kara1@gmail.com)) and he will coordinate the application process to see if the individual/s is/are eligible.

Also, if you wish to volunteer as driver to deliver the meals, please contact Ashok. Volunteers can pick up the food at the Eudora Methodist Church on the corner of highway 301 and Baldwin.

Finally, Meals on Wheels is a nonprofit and one of its major sources of income is donations. You may go on their website and donate electronically, or mail donation checks to Meals on Wheels, 1890 Mt. Pleasant, Hernando, MS 38632.

This wonderful program really benefits our community, and any donations or volunteering is appreciated!

*Submitted by Ashok Kara.*

## Club House Painting:

A special thanks to Gene Major and Terry Mark-Major for painting the exterior of the club house and to Ed and Pat Miller who contributed the paint.

We appreciate all the donations and time volunteered by our members!

## No Wake Lake

The entire lake is a no wake zone. That means you should **not** be traveling fast enough to cause waves to rock the boats around you. It is also a good idea to **not** travel along the banks because it sends waves to the banks which causes erosion.

## Work Barge Scheduling

Contact Lance Martin at 870/335-8048 or [lmartin.wlb@gmail.com](mailto:lmartin.wlb@gmail.com)

## Sunshine Committee

The Sunshine Committee has disbanded. They used the remaining balance (\$700) from their donations to purchase a new grill for the island. We hope that everyone will cook out on the island and enjoy this generous gift.

*Contact Scott Blake or Sheila Deese if you have any grill questions.*



## Fish Feeding Stations

Please do not fish next to the feeders. They are part of the plan to support the blue gill population in the lake.

Thanks to all who fill the fish feeders.

# Desoto County, MS Senior Resource Guide

We have uploaded a copy of the Resource Guide to the website.

The Guide has great information, such as:

- A description of the 5 districts supervisors for Desoto County.
- Free bus service for seniors (60+) and disabled adults.
- Homestead Exemption for seniors (65+) and disabled adults of taxes on the first \$75,000 of homes' value.
- Prescription Discount Card available to all DeSoto County Residents.
- Federal Benefit Service for veterans, service members, surviving spouses and veterans' families including compensation, death pension, housebound assistance.
- Voting Information – Absentee Ballots and Curbside Voting for seniors (65+) and disabled adults.
- Area Agency on Aging for seniors (65+) - Adult Day Care, Service Area Directory, Information and Referrals, Ombudsman Service, Caregivers Support, Transportation Services, Elder Rights Protection, Homemaker Services, Bridge to Independence, Senior Community Service Employment Program, State Health Insurance Program
- Hernando Meals on Wheels, Senior SNAP Benefits (Food Stamps) and Food Pantries
- Senior Scams & Fraud Prevention
- Protecting Vulnerable Adults
- Legal Services
- Lifeline Phone/Internet Assistance Program/Telephone Captioning Service
- Senior Community Service Employment Program
- Utility & Home Assistance
- Desoto County Parks and Greenways
- Library System
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Hospitals, Nursing & Rehab, Hospice Care Facilities, State Health Department, Sliding-Scale Community Healthcare, Medical Home Care, Non-Medical Home Care, Senior Adult Day Care
- Senior Living - Income-Based Rentals, Independent & Assisted Living
- Senior Discounts (Restaurants, Retail, Services)
- Phone Numbers (Important Associations, Desoto County Departments, Police Departments)

# 🐍🐍🐍 SNAKE PIT 🐍🐍🐍

## Diamondback Water Snake *Nerodia rhombifer*

I decided to focus this Snake Pit on the most seen, and misidentified snake on our lake.....the harmless Diamondback water snake.

Identifiers for this snake will be its brown to green coloring, maybe darker as it ages, and dark vertical bands, when viewing from the side. From the top, the dark markings will take on a chain-link appearance. These will also be harder to distinguish as they age.

Like all water snakes that we will discuss, there is one common identifier that should help you determine that it is in fact, a water snake. All our water snakes will have dark, vertical labial lines that cross their mouths. The Diamondback is also the largest water snake that you will encounter on the lake.

Should you see a large group of snakes mating on the banks, you are seeing a female and many male water snakes. Our venomous snakes do not mate in groups. That's right, venomous snake pits do not exist in our area.

You will most likely encounter this snake on the water's edge, whether it be lounging on a tree branch, hanging from a branch fishing, or resting on a dock or boat. Should you approach, they will normally flee quickly.

Diamondbacks are fishers and are catfish specialists.

In my experience, and my experience only, I have noticed that Diamondbacks seem to be a curious snake. Many times, I have had them swim toward me, when I expected them to flee. A simple wave of the arms usually convinces them to leave the area or go under water.

As with all other snakes, this snake is not aggressive and will only bite if it feels threatened.

*Submitted by Mike Foshee*



*Picture taken by Sammy Westcott*