

WATER QUALITY UPDATE 6-27-2022

Our Water Quality Manager, Dr. Mike Casteel reports the following:

- At present, the surface temperature of the lake is about 82°F. The *Hydrilla* has started to grow and has started to accumulate around the shoreline, and the larger (est. $\geq 3'$ length) grass carp are frequently seen in the shallower regions.
- The large, visible blooms and accumulations of algae and/or cyanobacteria aren't expected to occur until later in the summer.

Smaller numbers of free-floating algae distributed throughout the lake are presumed to be present year-round, and clumps of decaying *filamentous green algae* (which grow on the bottom of the lake and on submerged surfaces like logs and rocks) are currently floating around the lake.

While filamentous green algae are not considered harmful, we should remain at the **CAUTION** Level, and swimmers should always avoid any accumulated material in the water.

⚠ We should **NEVER** let down our guard and remain vigilant to any increases in visible algae!

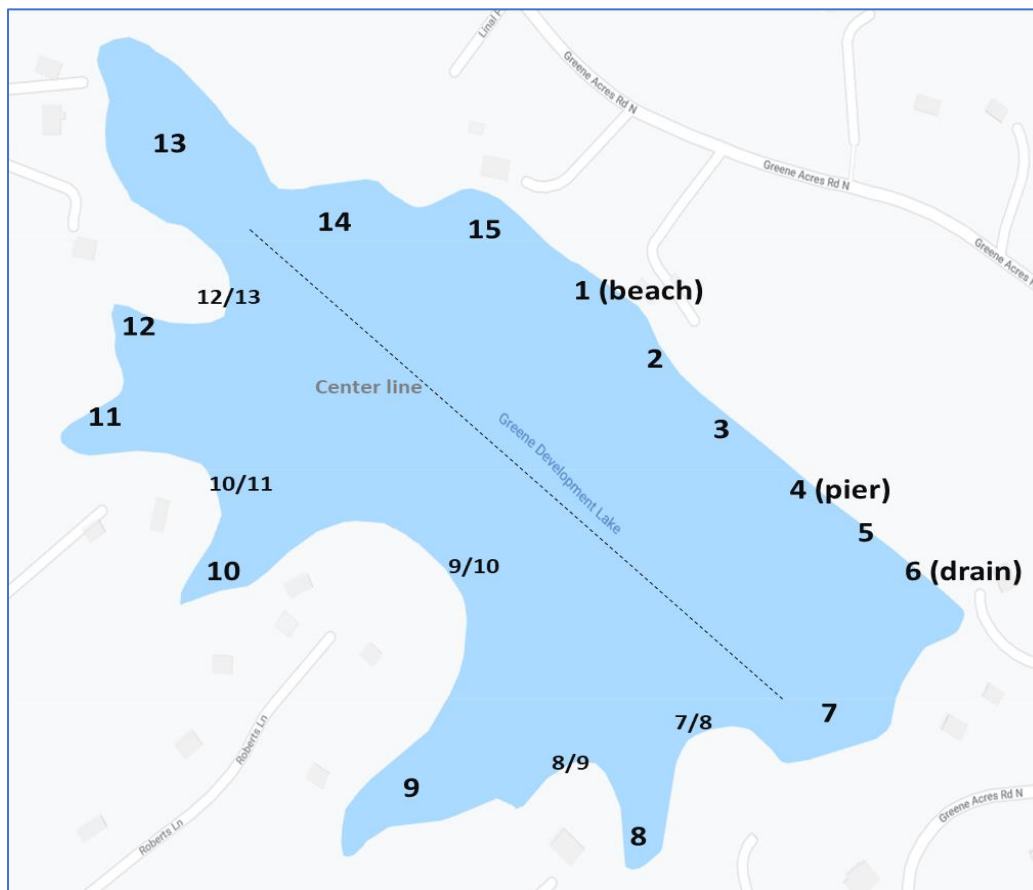
⚠ We should **ALWAYS** avoid accidental ingestion of lake water!

⚠ We should **ALWAYS** rinse or bathe with clean water and soap after using the lake!

UPDATED SIGNAGE WILL BE PLACED AROUND THE BEACH

Future water quality updates will refer to conditions at specific points (numbered 1 to 15) at the lake, shown on the map below.

Lake users who would like to report something are encouraged to refer to this map:



- **Like many other private and public swimming lakes**, we have started testing our beach water for levels of *E. coli*. Analysis of the preliminary results are underway, but at least 90 days' worth of results are needed for proper interpretation and before specific statements can be made. More information about *E. coli*, its significance and meaning in water, and the relationship of its levels with precipitation (storms) will be posted soon.

**GENERAL GUIDANCE INCLUDES STATES THAT LAKE USERS
SHOULD WAIT 24 TO 48 HOURS AFTER A HEAVY RAINFALL EVENT
TO GO SWIMMING.**

- **Shoreline owners** are reminded to please prevent grass and landscape trimmings from entering the lake – it's better to compost or dispose yard (and pet) waste properly. Allowing the growth of a "vegetated buffer" of native grasses, plants, trees, and shrubs to the water's edge (including the shallow water) is highly encouraged in all areas.

Detailed information on these and other lake-related subjects will be provided at the next GAPOA board meeting on July 16, 2022 10:00 AM at the lake pavilion.

