



# HOPPENINGS

FPPOA NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024



## November Elections for FPPOA



FPPOA Board members who are termed out this March.

Kate (President), Julie (Website/ Communications), and Loy (Maintenance Committee).

According to the bylaws each term of office will be two years with a two-term limit.

### Let's do the math:

- # of property owners = 67
- # of members who paid the 2024 \$25 dues = 28 (-39)
- # people currently on the lake who have taken a turn on the FPPOA board = 13 (-54)

### What we do:

- Communicate and inform lake happenings and issues.
- Monitor access to the lake.
- Keep Lake residents informed on the WCID projects.
- Try to solve problems that affect the entire lake.

### Please take your turn.

It is a total of 8 meetings for a 2-year term. Sarah (secretary) has done a fabulous job of getting us organized so it is quite quick and painless. Whether you have been on Frog Pond 1 month or 40 years, the lake will benefit from more representation and variety. Meetings may be attended virtually by phone.

- President: runs the meetings which are extremely casual and interactive.
- Maintenance: watches the member access lot and schedules work days when they are necessary.
- Website/Newsletter: Most think it would take 2 people to do what Julie does but she has it set up to hand the reins over to whoever is willing to give it a try. This includes updating the website after meetings and

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building the 4 season newsletter with the help of everyone on the board and around the lake.

*For a full list of job descriptions, see [bylaws](#) on our [website Welcome page](#).*



Visit [frogpondlake.com](https://frogpondlake.com) for important information:

# Why We Are Not Doing Grass Carp for Weed Management?

## Triploid Grass Carp

Benefits: Triploid grass carp is a sterile (non-reproducing) form of grass carp. This fish is primarily a plant-eater and is a relatively inexpensive and effective biological tool to control some, but not all, species of nuisance aquatic vegetation.

A permit is required to possess, transport, and stock triploid grass carp in public or private water per the regulations in the Texas Administrative Code.

This option has been considered by the FPPOA board but was not actioned because the gate/fence, required by the state, to keep them inside the lake would have to be constructed across the spillway as well as



across the highway between CR 3150 and CR 3160. Due to the water going over the road during high water events, this is cost prohibitive.

**Residents are reminded to not introduce new fish species to the lake, and to remove any Grass Carp if caught.**

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## WCID Updates

### The WCID welcomes Tony Armentor as their newest board member.

The WCID will not be lowering the lake this November. They are still working on the design needed to replace the 70 year old weir gate system. Taking all precautions to have a plan in place before they lower the lake, this will now have to wait until after the first of the year.

Everyone is encouraged to keep up with the WCID business with the meeting minutes on their website.



# Kayak Safety on the Lake

When heading out on the lake in a kayak, safety should be a top priority. Taking necessary precautions ensures an enjoyable and secure paddling experience. Here are some precautions to consider:

## 1. Wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD):

Always wear a properly fitted PFD (life jacket). It provides crucial safety, especially if you capsize.

## 2. Check Weather Conditions:

Monitor the weather forecast before heading out. Avoid paddling in adverse weather conditions such as high winds, thunderstorms, or heavy rain.

## 3. Inform Someone of Your Plans:

Let someone know you're going out, and any specific locations you intend to visit.

## 4. Kayak Inspection:

Inspect your kayak for any damage, ensure it's properly equipped with safety gear, and check that all hatches and compartments are securely closed.

## 5. Bring Essential Safety Gear:

Carry essential safety gear, including a whistle, signaling mirror, and a bucket or sponge for removing water from the kayak.

## 6. Dress for the Conditions:

Dress appropriately for the water and weather conditions. Wear moisture-wicking clothing, a hat, sunglasses, and apply sunscreen. In colder weather, wear a wetsuit or drysuit.

## 7. Carry Communication Devices:

Bring your phone, inside a waterproof pouch that will float, if possible.

## 8. Learn Self-Rescue Techniques:

Familiarize yourself with self-rescue techniques, including how to re-enter the kayak from the water.



## 9. Stay Hydrated:

Bring an adequate supply of water to stay hydrated, especially on longer paddling trips.

## 10. Know Your Limits:

Be aware of your skill level and physical limitations. Avoid pushing yourself into challenging conditions until you have gained sufficient experience.

## 11. Be Mindful of Wildlife:

Respect wildlife and observe them from a distance. Avoid disturbing nesting birds or approaching potentially dangerous animals.

## 12. Learn Basic First Aid:

Equip yourself with basic first aid knowledge and carry a small first aid kit in your kayak.

## 13. Paddle with a Companion:

Whenever possible, paddle with a companion. Having another person increases safety and provides assistance in case of an emergency.

By adhering to these precautions, you'll contribute to a safer and more enjoyable kayaking experience on the lake.

# Member Access Lot Cleanup

**Thank you Loy Owens, Paul Dans, Devan Tolar and Stan Evans!!**

As you all knew, there was a good bit of work needed on the Member's lot to make it usable again. The boat launch was completely blocked with weeds and downed trees, there was also a canoe sunk on the east side of the dock.

Devan and Stan towed the canoe over so we could get it out of the lake. We still need to do some weed spraying, but its all usable again now thanks to Loy's chainsaw, tractor with a bucket, a place to put the debris, a trailer and the help of great neighbors!



# Member Access Lot

The FPPOA is pleased to provide a Member Access area for those members that do not have water front property to access the lake. All Frog Pond property owners may use the lot to launch or remove their boats, but they must be docked at their private shoreline.

This lot is accessible to paying members ONLY. Use of Frog Pond Lake and the Member

Access lot is at your own risk. This includes immediate family and all guests of Members. Any and all guests must be accompanied by a FPPOA member when accessing the lot.

All board members now have a key to the Member Access Lot. If you need access, please give us 24 hour notice and send a request to [frogpondfppoa@gmail.com](mailto:frogpondfppoa@gmail.com).



# Favorite Woodpecker of the Piney Woods

## Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)

The Pileated Woodpecker is a fabulous gateway species into birding—especially for young kids. Large and easy to observe without binoculars.

A large (16 1/2"), noisy, crow-sized black woodpecker with white neck stripes on chin, a prominent red crest and white under-wing linings. It earns its name, *pileatus*, from the flashy red crest that covers the pileum, or top of the bird's head. Both males and females sport this distinctive red crest, but the male's extends further toward the bill.

They rarely nest in the same tree hollow twice. The strong bill of the Pileated Woodpecker chisels a hole in dead (and, occasionally, live) wood to create a home to raise young. Cavity-nesting ducks that can't excavate their own holes, such as Wood Ducks, rely on these abandoned Pileated Woodpecker cavities to breed. Consider leaving large, dead trees up to give Pileated Woodpeckers—and maybe even their successors—a chance to breed in your backyard.

Compared to other woodpecker species, Pileated Woodpeckers prefer to forage in dying and decaying dead trees, using their bills to chisel distinctive rectangular holes in search of prey. Though carpenter ants make up more than half of their diet, Pileated Woodpeckers also eat nuts and fruits. Their numbers increase in areas with widespread emerald ash borer, an invasive beetle that kills ash trees, suggesting that Pileated Woodpeckers could be one of the strongest lines of defense to control non-native forest pests.

Read more at [Audubon.org](https://www.audubon.org)



**Listen to 4 common sounds (including their drumming) in the video below.**



## How do pileated woodpeckers help the environment?

Conservation. Pileated woodpeckers play an important role within their ecosystems as a keystone species by excavating nesting and roosting cavities that are subsequently used by many other birds and by many small mammals -- including squirrels, as well as reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates.

# Local Beef and Dairy Farms



We are Chris and Haley Vincent, owners of CVH Farms, LLC in Woodville, Texas.

Our mission is to provide your family with great tasting, ethically raised, grass-fed, grass + grain-finished beef direct from our ranch to your family table! Please explore our website to shop for products and learn how we bring you great tasting beef in the best way we can! We currently serve the following Texas counties: Harris, Montgomery, Liberty, Chambers, Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Jasper, and Tyler counties.



[Shop Texas Beef at  
cvhfarmsllc.com](https://cvhfarmsllc.com)



We are family owned and operated in Southeast Texas. We raise grass fed beef cattle, Jersey dairy cows, and chickens.

At Plains to Platter Ranch, we strive to provide your family with great tasting, ethically raised, grass-fed, grain-finished beef, poultry and dairy.



1619 FM 420, KOUNTZE, TEXAS  
77625, UNITED STATES

**405-248-8527**



# Hunting Season Approaching

Hunting Regulations and new season dates for 2024-2025 can be found here:

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/hunting/>

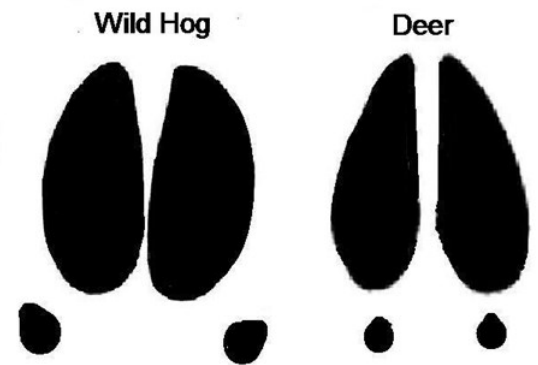
Please respect your neighbor's property and do not trespass! This includes hunting and dumping on any property that does not belong to you. Look for the purple paint.

TEXAS  
PARKS &  
WILDLIFE



## How to tell the difference between wild hog and deer tracks

Wild hog tracks appear more round in overall shape than deer tracks (more oval or heart shaped). The tips of the toes of hog tracks are more rounded than deer tracks, which come to an obvious point (shown above). The dew claws of wild hogs are also set wider than deer in proportion to overall track width.



# Welcome to the Frog Pond Lake Community

We are pleased to welcome many new neighbors to our private lake community this year! We hope you are enjoying your new home.

If you have not done so, please visit our website [frogpondlake.com/welcome](http://frogpondlake.com/welcome) to view and download very important information, including Lake Rules, Bylaws, information on Annual Dues and more.

If you need help or have any questions, please contact the FPPOA Executive Board at [frogpondfppoa@gmail.com](mailto:frogpondfppoa@gmail.com)



## Join Our Facebook Group

The FPPOA would like to say thank you to all the newbies for joining and to everyone who has been posting photos and neighborhood information to the group. This group was initiated to bring us closer to our neighbors and has proven to be a huge success! We LOVE IT! The more members in the group, the more interesting and fun the threads. Thank you for being an active member of our Facebook Community!



If you would like to join our Facebook group visit [facebook.com/groups/frogpondlake](https://facebook.com/groups/frogpondlake) and send invite.

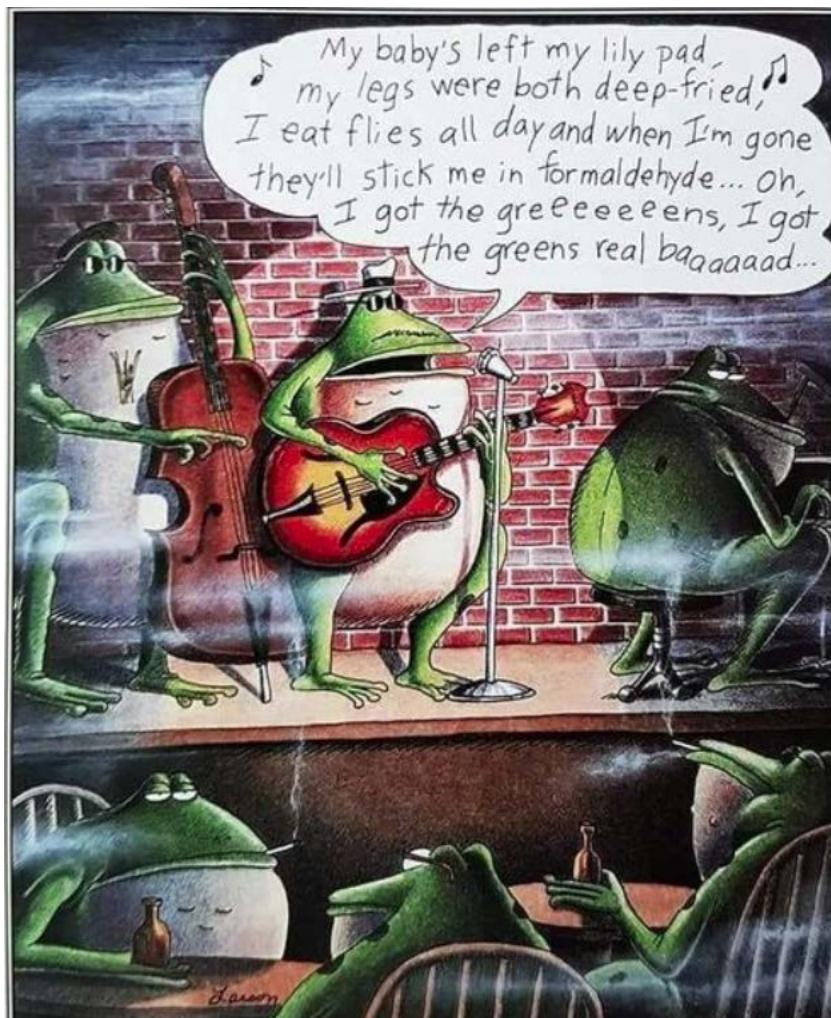
Please NOTE: This Facebook group page has been developed as a social page for members of Frog Pond Lake and their friends and family. The group is intended as a place to share fun times and experiences on the lake. Any and all inappropriate comments or photos will be deleted in accordance with Facebook Community Standards.

This group is NOT a forum for official Property Owners Association issues. These matters should be directed to the [Frog Pond website contact page](http://frogpondlake.com/contact-us) or by contacting a Board Member or officer directly. Any post regarding FPPOA business will be deleted and the posting member will be directed to the website contact page <https://frogpondlake.com/contact-us>.

# Frog Pond Lake

A Private Lake Community

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Distribution of this newsletter is intended to be sent digitally, however we have included a mail panel for those who would like to print and/or mail their own copies.