



Seed Lake Fall 2020 Newsletter

Greetings, Seed family.

As we were preparing this newsletter, the main issues were the drawdown schedule; the aquatic weed situation; the newly refurbished website, and more. Of course, those are still topics-but the flooding that many of us had hoped was more under control has returned with a vengeance.

There are several new families who have not experienced this flooding; for the rest of us it has become an all-too-often occurrence. The repair of the turbines on Seed Dam sparked hopes of reduced flooding, and indeed it seems to have some effect, but the fact remains that, as the smallest of the 3 main lakes, we'll continue to flood whenever Burton is at full pool and we get heavy rain in a short period. So the best we can offer is: be prepared. Always leave as if it'll flood before you return. Tie up your kayaks and floats. Raise your boats as high as possible. Tether them so they won't drift off the slip and get hung up when the water recedes. Do not go out on the lake in a boat unless absolutely necessary, and then no wake only. Even a small wake does devastating damage when the lake is flooded. Don't leave gas cans, wood, life jackets, etc. on the dock. The debris by the dam is always overwhelming after a flood.

On to other news!

Seed Lake Drawdown Schedule:

Approximately 3 years ago, Georgia Power moved to a drawdown schedule that is once every three years for Seed lake. We asked for a more regular drawdown but that request was denied a few years ago. The association board has had multiple conversations with Georgia Power to find a way to increase the length of the drawdown period and to see if we can get a lake drawdown on a more frequent basis. We were informed that a 3-year schedule is what is possible for the foreseeable future but that there was some flexibility on the length and timing of the drawdown for the year 2021. This resulted in the association sending out the email with a survey. Based on feedback from the association members, **the board unanimously decided to request that Georgia Power move forward with their planned 4-week drawdown in January of 2021 and we requested that Seed Lake be moved to an 8-week drawdown period at the soonest possible timeframe in the future.** For 2021, this allows for planned work to occur on boathouses, retaining walls and shorelines. It also allows for the upcoming colder weather to impact the aquatic weeds as soon as possible. The extended future drawdowns will allow for a longer timeframe (8 weeks) for repairs and potential weed exposure to the elements. We have requested that this 8-week drawdown be scheduled for as soon as possible, and at this time, it looks to be November of 2024.

Daily Lake Levels Online:

You can see the water levels at Seed Lake that are measured once a day by visiting <http://georgiapowerlakes.com/northgeorgialakes/lake-levels/>

Aquatic Weed Control:

You are allowed to individually work through the contractors that Georgia Power has approved to have up to ½ acre of water treated near your boathouse/shoreline in order to kill and mitigate the growing problem of aquatic weeds. This link takes you to how to start the process with Georgia Power and their contractor program. We would certainly support any homeowners that

want to work together to get better pricing to individually coordinate their group efforts when contacting Georgia Power about this. More frequent drawdowns would help, and please register your opinion with Georgia Power about it.

<http://georgiapowerlakes.com/northgeorgialakes/aquatic-vegetation-management/#Residential>

Georgia Power did have a contractor treat the weeds in the lake during 2020. We have asked what the plans are for future treatments because it is obvious that we still have a significant issue. Georgia Power responded that they are aware of the issue and that they are “monitoring the issue”. They believe that this is an issue that we will be dealing with for the foreseeable future.

Website

Barbara Brightwell has been working on the website, and we urge you to check it out. It’s got links to important sites, lake information, events, levels, and much more. The site is: seedlake.org so check it out.

Nextdoor Seed Lake

Open to residents of Seek Lake, this is also a good forum to post messages, lost and found, events and requests for recommendations, among other things. To be invited, you must request an invitation and have a Seed Lake property; email nancyhja@comcast.net for more information.

Upcoming events

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 issues, we are canceling the Holiday Party. We just feel that we can’t risk a crowd of 30 or so gathering to celebrate; but when things abate we’ll definitely have our usual lake events.

Be careful, and enjoy the beautiful fall season; and let’s keep our fingers crossed about the flooding!

The Board