



*Photo courtesy of @Germain Media.

ALPO Website / Contact Information

Our website is up and running. To date we have received over 4,600 visitors! This combined with our local phone number will make it easier to stay up to date with everything that is going on in your community.

www.myashelake.com

ashelakepoa@gmail.com

336-649-6226

Get the most up-to-date details and information thru our website.

We kindly ask that you refrain from calling / emailing individual board members. The use of a central phone number / email makes it easier for us to answer your questions / inquiries.

Association Dues

2024 Dues were sent out via email in early January. If you did not receive the invoice – reach out to us and we will re-send. Remember that your dues are what funds our community and pay for road maintenance, snow clearing,

tree removal, insurance, and community improvements. Without your cooperation and contributions none of these are possible. THANK YOU neighbor for supporting your neighborhood!

Road Improvements

Our third round of road repairs are scheduled for the last week of January 2024. As with previous work, the ALPO Board has surveyed the state of all platted roads within Ashe Lake, and have formulated a plan that considers road status as well as traffic volume. Wolverine Excavation will be working on these areas. Thru-traffic will be maintained, however delays may be unavoidable and will be minimized.

We realize that the roads are a priority for all homeowners. We believe that the current capital improvement plan will minimize requirements for ongoing road maintenance and will benefit all of Ashe Lake in the long run. Thank you for your patience with our progress.

Please contact ALPO at 336-649-6226, or ashelakepoa@gmail.com with your concerns, and to advise of any emergency road issues.

Ashe Lake Dam

In October 2023 we received an inspection from the NC Department of Environmental Quality regarding our dam. The inspection identified minor concerns, which were resolved. Unfortunately our good luck did not continue.

Due to the drought in North Carolina, lake water levels were substantially lower than usual, which prompted us to investigate if the dam was in good working order. ALPO hired Bander Smith, Inc, a specialty contractor who conducted an inspection of the lake dam, and all its components.

The dam IS NOT at an elevated risk of failure. The issues with the lake dam are numerous and varied; the intake pipe located approx. 100' into the lake has cracks along the length, the riser (chimney structure) has several areas of seepage at the bottom, and the gate valve is not operational, and frozen in place.

In order to thoroughly inspect the riser and its components, and to maintain Lake water levels, the intake pipe was capped and pipe leaks were minimized. This is only a temporary solution. All of the above items will need to be repaired / replaced. Unfortunately the costs of these repairs and/or replacement is in excess of \$ 100,000, funds that ALPO does not have.

We are currently looking into government grants to fund these much needed repairs, and possibly a low interest loan to fund these.

Ashe Lake is a fundamental part of our community and we are doing everything we can in order to ensure it remains so. The dam system that created Ashe Lake was put in place in 1955, and has exceeded its life expectancy.

Once we finalize a repair / replacement scope with our contractor, and receive State approval we will again reach out to all our members to fund these much needed repairs. If repairs are not completed in a timely manner the State may force the lake to be drained until such time as the repairs are completed. We would like to avoid that outcome.

If you have any historical information relating to our Lake dam, or have any contacts you think would be helpful in

obtaining funding for this much needed project, please reach out to us.



Bander Smith personnel suited up for intake pipe inspection / temporary repairs.



Bander Smith personnel suited up for intake pipe inspection / temporary repairs.



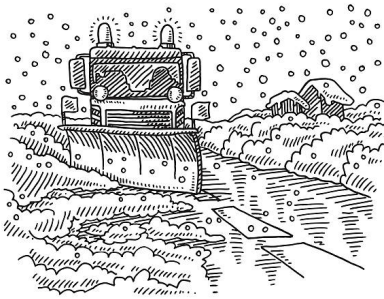
Dam riser as viewed from uplands.



Riser showing "capped" flow around stuck (closed) gate.



Outflow pipe at bottom of riser, note previous repairs to outflow pipe that resulted in reduced diameter.



Snow Removal

ALPD has contracted with Gamco for snow removal for the 2023/2024 winter season. They will be clearing the roads through the community during snow events as needed, however ALPD is not responsible for private roads or driveways. GAMCO will not be clearing any private drives, and all owners should make arrangements in the event of snow.



The Ashe Lake Community offers our heartfelt condolences to the family of James Snyder "Jim", long time Ashe Lake resident, neighbor and friend. James Lee Snyder, known affectionately as Jim, passed away on Saturday, December 30, 2023.

A devoted husband and father, Jim's family was at the heart of his world. Jim was a proud veteran who served his country honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. His dedication to service extended beyond his military duty as he remained an active member of the local VFW Post 7946, where his camaraderie and commitment shone brightly.

His community involvement extended to the West Jefferson Lion's Club, where he contributed his time and effort to various causes, embodying the spirit of generosity and compassion.

An avid runner, Jim took immense pride in being a part of the 50 States and D.C. Running Club, showcasing his determination and passion by participating in numerous marathons and other races, embodying the spirit of perseverance.

James Lee Snyder will be dearly missed by his family, friends, fellow veterans, running companions, and community members. His memory will live on in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing such a remarkable individual.

Getting Your Driveway Winter Ready

Many people believe that they need to salt their gravel driveway in the winter, but this is actually not the case. Salting a gravel driveway can actually do more harm than good and can cause long term damage to your driveway. One of the main reasons why you should not salt your gravel driveway is because it can cause the gravel to break down over time. The salt will act as an abrasive on the gravel and will cause it to slowly erode away.

Salt can cause the gravel to shift and move, leading to uneven patches in the driveway. In addition, salt can also cause the gravel to become brittle and break down over time. To prevent these negative effects, it's important to clear snow and ice from your driveway as soon as possible.

SHOVELING - The first option, and likely the most common, is to simply shovel the snow off of your gravel driveway.

SNOW BLOWER - A snow blower is another option for removing snow from your gravel driveway. This method is faster than shoveling but can be more expensive.

DE-ICING AGENTS - The final option is to use a de-icing agent on your gravel driveway before it snows. De-icing agents lower the freezing point of water, which means that any snow or ice that falls will immediately start melting.



Ashe County & Surrounds Events

Ski and Snowboarding Season - Check out our "local" ski resorts for some skiing, snowboarding, tubing, or a hot chocolate. Season runs Mid-November to March

Appalachian Ski Mountain

Wolf Ridge Ski Resort

Sugar Mountain Ski Resort

Beech Mountain Resort

Check out our webpage dedicated to High Country and Local Events for the most up-to-date listings:

<https://myashelake.com/high-country-events>



We try to keep up with local events and festivals but there may be something we have missed. If there is an upcoming event or festival you would like to see included, please reach out and let us know.

ashelakepoa@gmail.com



ALPD is operated by Ashe Lake owners for Ashe Lake owners. We welcome the opportunity to hear your feedback, concerns, and issues to improve our community.

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