

# LAKE FRANCES OWNERS, INC.

## SPECIAL SUMMER NEWSLETTER 06/21/2017

Good morning to all. The Lake Frances Owners Board (LFOB) would like to share with you a few recent events that have occurred during an active last few months affecting Lake Frances.

- 1) Replaced Weir Grate - On May 6<sup>th</sup>, a few of the LFOB members met at the causeway and replaced the dilapidated weir grate. The grate replacement was on the Lake France annual meeting agenda for 2 years. Nice we finally have it installed. Huge thanks to Paul Hinchcliff for managing this project. Not pictured are boat captains Mark deOgburn and Ernie Patterson. LFOB costs was \$998.20



- 2) Fish restocking - On May 9<sup>th</sup>, we met up with the Hickory Hill Aquaculture fish vendor at the causeway and put 120 nice-sized 12" plus Triploid Sterile Grass Carp into the lake.



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Grass carp “has been utilized in South Carolina's private and public waters for the control of noxious aquatic plant species since 1984.” These sterile grass carp are incapable of reproducing viable offspring and should be restocked every few years. For more information on these grass carp visit <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/fish/grasscarp.html>. LFOB costs was \$1620.00.

- 3) Duckweed – Yes, the duckweed is here; probably the most sensitive subject to LFOB and a number of residents who have recently emailed us. It is the worst we are seeing living on the lake for 27 years. Pond moss has been on the rise as well.

The Lake Frances Board is in continuous communication with Mollie LeMin, Charleston County Harbor View Road Project (HRP) manager, and Scott Lamprecht, Lake Frances biologist. It appears the main issue started when the HRP project engineers allowed water from the two finger-lakes on the other side Harbor View Rd to release into our lake. There was “new elevation of the culvert pipes. Previously, the pipes were submerged on both ends and did not allow floating plants to freely flow under the road, which the new pipes do.” Timeframe of full resolution? No clue. The County and HRP have worked on it. A recent event was that Chris Wood of Michael Baker International installed a turbidity barrier to prevent further duckweed from entering our lake from the finger-lakes. The SC Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has also been informed and is talking lake water samples. Restocking the lake with the grass carp should help over the year to come. A hard freeze may help this winter. For now, we have not considered herbicides such as Sonar As, Fluridone. Depending upon the herbicide selection and the weed species, duration of control can range from a few weeks to several months, and present the chance for a fish kill if not applied correctly.

- 4) Lake Report - [Scott Lamprecht](http://www.lakefrances.org/lake-reports.html) recently performed our lake analysis. Please visit <http://www.lakefrances.org/lake-reports.html> to view the lake report. Though the duckweed and pond moss is unsightly right now, it appears the lake remains in healthy condition. He addresses issue with the duckweed and reiterates “**that all residents should be discouraged from feeding ducks and geese...**”

As you can see, it has been an eventful 2017 so far. The LFOB continues to monitor lake health. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY VALUE. If you have not already paid your 2017 membership dues, it would be most welcomed. Also, encourage your neighbors to join the Lake France Home Owners Association. Annual association dues are essential to assisting Lake Frances Owners and play a large part in preserving Lake Frances as a healthy and stable ecosystem. Dues exclusively used for Lake Frances taxes, liability insurance, maintenance, and enhancement of the lake.

BE VIGILANT ON YOUR LAKE’S HEALTH, and let your board know about new issues.

Thank you again for your support!

Lake Frances Owners Board  
[lakefrances.org](http://lakefrances.org)