

Greetings Spring Lake Residents!

Please find the latest bioassessment of your lake below. Key highlights of this update include:

- Submersed Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) reduced amount found
- Native shoreline vegetation
- Invasive emergent vegetation
- Recommendations for you and your lake

**7/14/2016**

On **July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management staff, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Spring Lake**.

Five species of submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) were observed during the inspection, including: water hyssop, roadgrass to 3 feet, southern naiad to 3 feet, stonewort to 3 feet, and eelgrass to 3 feet. Eelgrass was the dominant species of SAV, though over the last year eelgrass abundance has diminished. The access corridors were open and in good shape. No hydrilla was seen during the inspection.

**Photo: Saltmarsh fleabane.**



Native shoreline vegetation is very low on Spring Lake. Many shorelines have very little to no emergent vegetation. Native emergent vegetation is beneficial to your lake by; filtering run off, reducing erosion and providing habitat for aquatic species. Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: flatsedge, rush fuirena, pennywort, spatterdock, fragrant water lily, pickerelweed, duck potato, carolina willow, bulrush, and cattail.

**Photo: Non-vegetated shoreline.**



Invasive emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: alligator weed, para-grass, wild taro, umbrella sedge, water primrose, torpedograss, brazilian pepper tree, and creeping oxeye.

**Photo: Duck potato.**



The water elevation during the time of the inspection was 63.70 feet above sea level. The secchi reading (measurement for water clarity) was 2.4 feet in a total depth of 11.0 feet. No grass triploid (sterile) carp fish were observed during this inspection.

**8/3/2016**

On **August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management staff, Gloria Eby, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Spring Lake**.

Four species of submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) were observed during the inspection, including: water hyssop to 1 foot, southern naiad to 3, feet baby's tears to 1 foot, and eelgrass to 4 feet. The access corridors were open and in good shape. One sprig of hydrilla was seen during the inspection.

**Photo: Eelgrass mixed with southern naiad.**



Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: maidencane, canna, flatsedge, rush fuirena, pennywort, spatterdock, fragrant water lily, pickerelweed, duck potato, carolina willow, bulrush, bur-marigold and cattail.

**Photo: Stand of native duck potato and pickerelweed.**



Invasive emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: alligator weed, para-grass, wild taro, umbrella sedge, water primrose, torpedograss, brazilian pepper tree, cogongrass and creeping oxeye.

**Photo: Brazilian Pepper tree invasive.**



The water elevation during the time of the inspection was 63.42 feet above sea level. The secchi reading (measurement for water clarity) was 2.2 feet in a total depth of 9.6 feet. No grass triploid (sterile) carp fish were observed during this inspection.

**11/8/2016**

On **November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management staff, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Spring Lake**.

Four species of submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) were observed during the inspection, including: stonewort to 4 feet, southern naiad to 4 feet baby's tears to 1 foot and eelgrass to 4 feet. The access corridors were open and in good shape. One sprig of hydrilla was found mixed in with eelgrass along the south eastern shore.

**Photo: Hydrilla found mixed in with eelgrass.**



Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: maidencane, canna, flatsedge, rush fuirena, pennywort, spatterdock, fragrant water lily, pickerelweed, duck potato, carolina willow, bulrush, bur-marigold, fire-flag and cattail.

**Photo: Stand of native bul-rush.**



Invasive emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: alligator weed, para-grass, wild taro, umbrella sedge, water primrose, torpedograss, brazilian pepper tree, and creeping oxeye.

**Photo: Alligator weed invasive.**



The water elevation during the time of the inspection was 63.27 feet above sea level. No secchi reading was taking during this inspection. No grass triploid (sterile) carp fish were observed during this inspection.

**Recommendations for your lake:**

1 Work together with other lakefront owners. Have *at least* one annual lake association meeting, invite guest speakers (such as county or state biologists) and discuss lake specific issues, especially nutrients/lake management recommendations. SCLMP staff would be glad to present our findings

from this and other surveys. Continue to increase native aquatic plantings along the shoreline (such as pickerelweed, duck potato, and canna).

2 Consider increasing street sweeping services during times of peak leaf fall to ensure that this debris does not enter your waterways. Leaf debris contains phosphorous that can negatively impact your lakes.

3 Increase educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN), Lake Management Video mail-outs. Spread the word about reducing personal pollution through reducing total fertilizer use, using only phosphorous-free and slow release nitrogen fertilizers, keeping a functional shoreline with beneficial native aquatic plants, and keeping grass clippings out of your storm drains leading to the lake. All of these activities aid in protecting your waterbody! Contact Seminole County Lake Management Program (407) 665-2439 to find out about the free educational programs available to you.

4 Help spread the word! Obtain email addresses from neighbors not currently on the distribution list so that these reports can be shared with everyone. Valuable information is contained within these assessments.