Greetings Lake Amory Residents!

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

- Bladderwort update
- Hydrilla status
- Herbicide treatment status for each section of the lake
- Continued encouragement to plant native aquatic plants along your shoreline
- Recommendations for you and your lake

Observations:

5/17/2016

On **May 17th, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program biologist, Thomas Calhoun surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lake Amory**.

The water elevation was very low during the inspection. The bladderwort that was restricting access was targeted during this herbicide treatment. In areas where bladderwort was found topping out (reaching the surface), algae was growing on the decaying plant material.

Photo: Bladderwort found topping out in the Bird Island area.

In the **Cactus Canal** and **Outfall Canal**, bladderwort was found topped out in areas less than 2 feet of water. Invasive emergent vegetation included: alligator weed, elephant ear, salvinia and torpedo grass. A small amount of algae was found in this area.

Photo: Outfall and carp barrier in the Outfall Canal.

The **Bird Island** area was found to be in good condition. Native emergent vegetation, spike rush and duck potato, were doing very well. Many of the invasive species, such as barnyard grass and primrose willow, had died from previous herbicide treatments. Bladderwort was reaching the surface with an algae on top and will be treated during this month's herbicide treatment.

Photo: Algae present in Bird Island area.

The Cove was found to be in great condition. Native emergent vegetation was in good condition with canna doing particularly well. Submersed aquatic vegetation in this area included roadgrass and bladderwort. A small amount of surface algae was present along the shoreline. Bladderwort treatment was not needed in The Cove at this time.

Photo: Native emergent vegetation, duck potato and canna.

The **Lake Proper** area was found to be in good condition as well. Emergent vegetation included: canna, buttonbush, rush fuirena, pennywort, yellow cow lily, fragrant water lily, pickerelweed, duck potato, Carolina willow, and bulrush. Invasive species in this area included: alligator weed, elephant ear, torpedo grass and salvinia. Lily pads will be treated by the herbicide contractor to keep access areas open.

Photo: Lake Proper.

The grass carp barrier was found to be in good condition. No triploid (sterile) grass carp fish were observed during the inspection. The water elevation at the time of inspection was 39.40 feet above sea level.

6/21/2016

On **June 21st, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program biologist, Thomas Calhoun surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lake Amory**.

Bladderwort was targeted during the previous herbicide treatment around Bird Island and the access corridors. These areas are once again open for access. Hydrilla was not found during this inspection.

Cactus Canal and **Outfall Canal** were found to be in good condition. Invasive emergent vegetation included: alligator weed, elephant ear, salvinia and torpedo grass. Bladderwort was targeted in this area during the last herbicide treatment. Alligator weed and a sedge were noted as increasing in this area, and will be targeted during the next herbicide treatment.

Photo: Bladderwort "topped out" along the shoreline of Cactus Cove.

The **Bird Island** area was found to be in good condition. Spike rush and duck potato, native emergent vegetation, were doing very well. Invasive vegetation was minimal. Spike rush continues to expand in this area. Bladderwort was not reaching the surface and not blocking access during the inspection.

Photo: Spike rush expanding around Bird Island.

An algae bloom was present in **the Cove** during the inspection. Native emergent vegetation was doing well and minimal invasive vegetation was found. Submersed aquatic vegetation in the area included roadgrass and bladderwort. Invasive emergent species found in the Cove included: wild taro, alligator weed (alligator weed was noted as increasing). Topped out bladderwort was stimulating the growth of surface algae.

Photo: Algae found in the Cove area.

The **Lake Proper** area was found to be in good condition as well. The access corridors were open and accessible. Emergent vegetation included: canna, buttonbush, rush fuirena, pennywort, yellow cow lily, fragrant water lily, pickerelweed, duck potato, carolina willow, and bulrush. Invasive species found in this area included: alligator weed, elephant ear, torpedo grass and salvinia.

Photo: Lake Proper.

The grass carp barrier was found to be in good condition. No triploid (sterile) grass carp fish were observed during the inspection. The water elevation at the time of inspection was 40.20 feet above sea level.

Lake Recommendations:

1- Work together to establish a lake association 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 lake management recommendations. Seminole County Lake Management staff would be glad to present our findings from this and other surveys to the community. Contact Seminole County Lake Management Program at (407) 665-2439 with questions or to schedule a meeting.

2- Increase native aquatic plantings along the shoreline (such as pickerelweed, duck potato, and canna). Native shoreline plants help absorb nutrients from rainfall/run-off, thereby improving habitat and water quality, and reducing shoreline erosion of sediments/organic matter into the lake. Without management, this erosion and sedimentation will fill the lake over time, creating a wetland-type of environment. Planting native species now can assist in slowing this process (formally known as eutrophication). In addition, native plantings can reduce your herbicide costs/needs, thereby providing a savings to you!

3- Utilize the valuable educational outreach programs that are available, such as Shoreline Restoration Workshops, Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) interactive presentations, and Lake Management Video mail-outs. Implement a media campaign within the community about reducing personal pollution by: decreasing overall fertilizer usage, **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 lake and the stormdrains that lead to the lakes. All of these activities aid in protecting your lake! Contact Seminole County Lake Management Program (407) 665-2439 for more information regarding the free educational programs available.

4- Help spread the word! Obtain email addresses from neighbors not currently on the distribution list in order to share this information with others. Valuable information is contained within these reports.