

Please find the latest bioassessment report for your lake below. The next lake inspection is scheduled to resume June 2016 (weather permitting). Key highlights of this update include:

- Restoration event update
- Herbicide treatment update
- Native emergent vegetation
- Exotic emergent vegetation
- Updates for Crowder Canal
- Recommendations for you and your waterbody

Bioassessment

3/16/2016

On **March 16th, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program staff, Thomas Calhoun, surveyed **Myrtle Lake's** south pool.

High water elevation during the inspection made for clean conditions around the lake. Overall invasive species were found in less amounts than in previous inspections. Access corridors in the canal are open and in good shape. Crowder canal was found in similar shape as the south lobe.

Invasive species present during the inspection included alligator weed, primrose willow, barnyard grass, and torpedo grass.

Photo: Alligator weed.



No submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) was observed during the inspection.

Native species present included: canna, pennywort, yellow cow lily, fragrant water lily, pickerel weed, duck potato, fire flag and cordgrass. Plantings from the 2015 restoration event have established very nicely along the eastern shoreline of the lake. This continues to be one of our most successful restorations!

Photo: Cordgrass.



Monthly herbicide treatments will resume this month focusing on alligator weed, torpedo grass and opening up the access corridors.

Water quality samples are collected quarterly by Seminole County Water Quality section staff. The results of these collections and much more information can be found on the Seminole County Watershed

Atlas: <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/waterquality.asp?wbodyid=7624&wbodyatlas=lake>

During the survey the water level was 45.95 feet above sea level. A Secchi disk (water clarity) reading was not taken during this inspection. No triploid grass carp were observed during this inspection.

4/19/2016

On **April 19th, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program staff, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell surveyed **Lake Myrtle's** south pool.

Water elevation was slightly lower than the previous inspection but is still considered to be high. Last month's herbicide treatment was very successful. There has been a big reduction in invasive species lake wide. Access corridors in the canal are open and in good shape.

Invasive species present during the inspection included alligator weed, primrose willow, barnyard grass, and torpedo grass.

Photo: Barnyard grass.



No submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) was observed during the inspection.

Native species are doing exceptionally well and are beginning to expand into areas where torpedo grass used to be present. Native species present included: canna, pennywort, knotgrass, yellow cow lily, fragrant water lily, pickerel weed, duck potato, flat sedge, fire flag, smart weed and cordgrass.

Photo: Wildlife spoil island.



The monthly herbicide treatment will again focus on alligator weed, torpedo grass and opening up the access corridors.

The Crowder canal area was also in good shape. Plantings from the 2015 restoration event have established very nicely. The submersed aquatic vegetation southern naiad was found in a water depth of less than 2ft. Invasive vegetation found in this area included; torpedo grass, alligator weed and dog fennel.

Photo: Duck potato and pickerel weed establishing along the shoreline.



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Atlas: <http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/waterquality.asp?wbodyid=7624&wbodyatlas=lake>

During the survey the water level was 45.39 feet above sea level. A Secchi disk (water clarity) reading was not taken during this inspection. No triploid grass carp were observed during this inspection.

Lake Recommendations:

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 will be glad to present our findings from this and other surveys. Continue to increase native aquatic plantings along shorelines (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 waterways. Leaf debris contains high levels of phosphorous that can negatively impact your lakes.
3. Utilize the valuable educational outreach programs that are available to you: Shoreline Restoration Workshops, Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) interactive presentations, and Lake Management Video mail-outs. Implement a media campaign within the community to promote the reduction of personal pollution; encourage residents to decrease their overall fertilizer usage, **use only phosphorous-free and slow-release nitrogen fertilizers**, keep a functional shoreline with beneficial native aquatic plants, and keep grass clippings out of your lake and the storm drains that lead to the lake. 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 so that these reports can be shared with everyone. Valuable information is contained within these assessments.