

2020

**SYLVAN LAKE
LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Annual Meeting

- Agenda

Lake Management Plan

- General Provisions & Scope of Services
- Community-Based Activities & Events
- Current Fiscal Year
 - Planned Treatments & Funding
 - Recommendations
- Next Fiscal Year
 - Projected Treatments & Funding
- Exhibits
 - Agenda & Notes Prior Year
 - Financial Summary
 - Historic Reports/Data
 - Roles & Responsibilities

SYLVAN LAKE: ANNUAL MEETING

Date // Location	Thursday, March 5, 2020 /2:30pm – 3:45pm / 200 W. County Home Rd – LMP office
Community Liaisons	John Robertson, Jim Shoukas, Chad Ibbitson, Lee Metchick, Chris Pearson, Tyler O'Donnell
Liaisons Present	Jim Shoukas, Chad Ibbitson, Lee Metchick, Chris Pearson, Tyler O'Donnell
Seminole County	Thomas Calhoun, Tony Cintron, Joey Cordell, Kathy Moore

General Topics & Updates

Lake Management Program

- Welcome

MSBU Program & Resource Management Department

- Financial Summary [Refer to Exhibit B]
- BCC Resolution - MSBU Program Administrative Fee – 7% of Budgeted Assessment Revenue
- County Service Cost (WMDiv) allocation for “enhanced” service level cost
- Status Update - Administrative Code [22.10] and Consolidated Ordinance development

Lake Management Program

- Shoreline Protection Ordinance Status
 - FWC Rule change removes permit requirements on lakes smaller than 160 acres
 - Sylvan Lake is 188 acres so still protected by FWC permitting
 - Currently drafting County Shoreline Ordinance
 - 90% of Seminole County lakes are under 160 acres
- Lake Status Nutrients/Habitat Scores [Bioassessment Indices - Refer to Exhibit C]
 - Water quality improvements
 - Trending in the right direction, less nutrients and better water clarity
 - LVI score increased into Healthy category
 - Impaired to Healthy scores after hydrilla treatment; this allowed beneficial native vegetation to expand and increase score
 - LVI/BioBase data on Watershed Atlas website:
<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/shared/ecology.asp?wbodyid=7579&wbodyatlas=lake>
- Treatment Plans - Current & Proposed [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Monitor hydrilla and treat accordingly
 - Rapid response / spot treatments as needed
 - Monitor bacopa and ludwigia
 - Contact herbicide (on a small scale) is used if access to boat is blocked; these are native beneficial species regulated by FWC
 - Reduce cattails in strategic areas
 - We have been treating cattails around docks, the park and ‘Alligator Island’ to manage them
 - Please let us know if there is anyone who does NOT want their cattails treated
 - Weir is treated by herbicide applicator
- General recommendations for lake-community consideration [Refer to Lake Management Plan]
 - Increase native aquatic plantings in areas devoid of vegetation
 - Helps reduce erosion and provides habitat.
 - Promote “welcome packages” to new lakefront homeowners
 - John would like some packages
- 2020 Shoreline Planting Event- dates available
 - To be coordinated via Thomas Calhoun
 - We provide SERV volunteers and plants, you provide the planting sites and boats, kickoff can be at Sylvan Lake Park
- Other
 - Email Address for routine communications and important announcements
 - 376 grass carp stocked September 2019

- Weir & lake elevation
 - Weir not adjusted since installed. Liaisons reported drainage pipes were full of sediment and then cleared which resulted in lake elevation decreasing. Engineering is looking into weir design and permitting capabilities.
- County park and boating responsibilities were discussed

SYLVAN LAKE LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Scope of Public Aquatic Weed/Plant Control [AWC] Services

The scope of public aquatic weed control [AWC] services funded by non-ad-valorem assessment includes those services associated with managing aquatic plant communities as deemed beneficial and/or critical to restoring, developing and/or maintaining conditions that enhance the water quality and over-all health of the waterbody; with emphasis on providing public services for public purposes which by definition of public are limited to the waterbody and respective shoreline when/where noxious and/or invasive exotic vegetation could/would threaten or impede the waterbody.

Governing documents

- Seminole County Ordinance 2019-16
- FWC Permit
- Roles and Responsibilities – Exhibit D

Methods for Aquatic Weed Control as authorized via County Ordinance/Resolution

- Chemical (herbicides)
- Biological (sterile triploid grass carp fish [TGC])
- Mechanical (harvesting, cutting, etc.)

Targeted Invasive/Exotic Aquatic Vegetation

- Hydrilla, torpedo grass, cattails, water hyacinth, salvinia, burhead sedge, lemon bacopa and ludwigia submersed in boat dock access corridors.

Frequency of AWC Treatment

AWC services are performed at the direction of the Seminole County LMP as per the Sylvan Lake Management Plan reviewed at the annual planning session with the expectation that the Seminole County LMP may alter anticipated treatments as merited per changing/evolving conditions noted during site inspections.

Herbicide Treatments - Service Provider

- As determined by Seminole County

Funding

Financial management of the MSBU fund is provided by the Seminole County MSBU Program. Financial plans developed by the MSBU Program include eligible expense funding requests submitted by the Lake Management Program and other cost and revenue components typical to MSBU funds. Financial information inclusive of prior year actual outcome, current year working budget and next year budget proposal data is reported annually. Assessment levy is subject to Board approval and the standard procedures associated with non-ad valorem assessment. The financial plans may be adjusted by the County as merited per changing/evolving essential services as directed by the County and per financial planning considerations. The governing ordinance does not include assessment restrictions specific to annual adjustment amounts and/or assessment cap.

Lake Liaisons

Designated property owners (or their designated representatives) provide community representation at annual planning sessions with the County and serve voluntarily as the key point of contact for community inquiries and concerns. The current liaisons for Sylvan Lake are: John Robertson [docrob610@yahoo.com], Jim Shoukas [jshoukas@live.com], Chad Ibbitson [chadcwexpress@att.net], Lee Metchick [Lmetchick@endocfl.com], Tyler O'Donnell [tyler@tylerod.com] and Chris Pearson [sabaleyedoc@gmail.com].

COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

LMP recommends/encourages homeowners to coordinate a resident-based volunteer event involving native plantings creating a beneficial shoreline for Sylvan Lake. The intention of such an event is to plant beneficial native aquatic plants in key areas along the bank. It is especially important that as the aquatic invasive plants (such as torpedo grass) are being treated, native aquatic plants should be established within these areas. The presence of the recommended native plant species along the shoreline provides habitat for fish and wildlife, helps impede invasive exotics from re-establishing, and reduces erosion of the shoreline. All of these best management practices are essential to providing the conditions that promote an environmentally stable habitat to be enjoyed by generations to come. The key to success is dependent on strong participation of the Lake Amory community.

Continued recommendations for community initiatives are as follows:

- 1) Shoreline re-vegetation with native emergent plants (by the lakefront community and potentially volunteers),
- 2) Establishing a formal Lake Association holding at least one annual meeting with topics relevant to Lake Amory,
- 3) Continue to increase educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN), Lake Management Video mail-outs, and reduction of residential pollution (use phosphorous free and slow-release nitrogen based fertilizers only). Contact Seminole County LMP, 665-2439, for more information and assistance,
- 4) Provide content for the Seminole County Water Atlas Lake Management Webpage for Lake Amory (such as newsletters and photos).

***Important to Note:** When herbicides are applied along the shoreline to invasive plants (such as torpedo grass), overspray onto adjacent desirable vegetation may occur. In order to avoid damage to desired vegetation, manual (by hand) removal (by property owner) of the undesirable species from among the desirable species along the shoreline is advised. If the invasive plants are removed by this method, spraying the area can be reduced, thereby offering greater protection to the desirable species. The physical removal of dead/decaying aquatic plant material will reduce the volume of decomposing vegetation on the lake bottom (muck layer) and will increase the success of the efforts to limit the re-growth of the invasive plants. The presence of submerged aquatic vegetation (“SAV” such as hydrilla) should be communicated to your lake liaison for their reporting to the County so appropriate treatment of SAV can be provided.*

COUNTY SERVICES – Lake Management & Supplemental Programs

While the MSBU assessment includes a nominal charge for administering the MSBU, the amount charged does not cover all the expenses incurred by the County on behalf of the waterfront property owners. Sylvan Lake is monitored by LMP to assess the aquatic plant growth. LMP provides continued evaluation of the aquatic plant species, such as hydrilla, and provides community updates on the status of all treatments and waterbody assessments. In addition, LMP offers free aquatic plant material (as available) for sponsored restoration events and local community volunteers coordinated through the county’s Seminole Education and Restoration Volunteer (SERV) Program. Many of the services provided by the LMP are made available to support community riparian stewardship without additional charges being assigned to the MSBU budget.

Current Fiscal Year – Planned Treatment & Funding

Primary Aquatic Plant Management Expectations

Hydrilla growth in Sylvan Lake has likelihood to continue, however, the timing and extent of hydrilla re-growth is affected by multiple natural and environmental factors that cannot be controlled or predicted with certainty. While extensive growth of hydrilla is possible at any point in time; it is anticipated that routine spot treatments of hydrilla with herbicide and continuous biological control pressures from the triploid grass carp fish will be sufficient to manage hydrilla re-growth during the current fiscal year. The anticipation of spot treatments for the current fiscal year takes into consideration the historic trend of hydrilla management required at Sylvan Lake, as well as current conditions observed at lake. As with any lake with a history of hydrilla infestation, long-term planning to include financial preparation for whole lake treatment is advised.

Funding Expectations

Refer to current fiscal year data provided in Exhibit B.

Next Fiscal Year – Projected Treatment & Funding

Primary Aquatic Plant Management Expectations

The projected treatment plans for the next fiscal year remain consistent with the plans and expectations noted for the current fiscal year. Primary expectations are as follows:

- 1) Continued aquatic herbicide maintenance for non-native vegetation, access corridor maintenance, and coordinate hydrilla/other submersed treatments (as needed),
- 2) Future grass carp stockings if deemed necessary, pending permit amendment,
- 3) Continued monitoring of hydrilla and other submersed aquatic plants, and grass carp fish,
- 4) Maintain contingency reserve funds for extended herbicide management of hydrilla and/or other issues that may develop and require immediate treatment.

Funding Expectations

Refer to next fiscal year data provided in Exhibit B.

Exhibits

A - Agenda & Notes from Prior Year Meeting

B - Financial Summary

C - Historic Reports/Data

D - Roles & Responsibilities

Exhibit A – Agenda & Notes from Prior Year Meeting

No Prior Year Notes – MSBU Created 2019

MSBU FUND: SYLVAN (LAKE)

Tax Year	2018	2019	2020
Assessment	MATRIX Aver ~\$123 per parcel by count		
Fiscal Year	FY18-19	FY19-20	FY20-21
Revenue			
	Actual	Working	Proposed
Beginning Fund Balance		\$ -	\$ 33,684
Assessment Revenue		\$ 41,800	\$ 41,800
Other (Interest)		\$ 100	\$ 100
Other - Per Ordinance Cost Share		\$ 1,184	\$ 2,932
MSBU Program Fund Advance			
TOTAL Revenue		\$ 43,084	\$ 78,516
Expenditure & Reserves			
	Actual	Working	Proposed
Application Fee Recoupment		\$ -	\$ -
MSBU Program Administrative Fee [7% Rev FY20-21]		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,926
Other County Services (Service Entity)		\$ -	\$ -
Fund Advance Repayment			
Contracted Services		\$ 7,400	\$ 15,400
AWC Services (via AAM)		\$ 5,600	\$ 3,600
Chemicals (Non-AAM)		\$ -	\$ 10,000
FAS/GEN Testing		\$ -	\$ -
Shipping (Test Samples)		\$ -	\$ -
TGC Fish		\$ -	\$ -
Fish Barrier Inspection/Minor Repair		\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Fish Barrier Replace/Major Repair		\$ -	\$ -
Harvesting (and/or Cattails/Eelgrass)		\$ -	\$ -
Reserve/Contingency ¹	\$ -	\$ 33,684	\$ 60,190
Operating Contingency		\$ (51,324)	\$ (24,818)
Reserve: Hydrilla (Whole Lake)		\$ 84,000	\$ 84,000
Reserve: Barrier Replace/Repair		\$ 1,008	\$ 1,008
Reserve: Other		\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL Expenditures & Reserves	\$ -	\$ 43,084	\$ 78,516
LM Program Enhanced Services Cost	Pending development & confirmation		

¹ Note: These funds are secured (1) for maintaining rate stability as annual cost are known to fluctuate, (2) in preparation of planned or anticipated future expenses, (3) to provide response to emergency and/or urgent needs for which planning was not feasible. These funds are not intended for expenditures that could be planned and included in annual budget planning processes.

Reserve/Contingency Funds

The financial summary [Exhibit B] of the Annual Report was updated in 2019 to include additional information about contingency fund status. The MSBU Program has provided this additional information to improve transparency respective to the reason and intended purpose for these funds.

The primary purpose for establishing operating contingency funding is twofold – (1) To have funding on hand to accommodate unexpected essential aquatic weed control emergencies that cannot be reasonably foreseen, planned or identified in routine budget planning & forecasting and (2) To provide rate stability as costs for ongoing services often vary from year to year. By establishing contingency and reserve funds, such funding may be allocated temporarily from these funds to operating expenditures to avoid periodic spikes in assessment.

Contingency funds are developed by financial management planning decisions and by default when actual expenditures are less than budgeted expenses. Although reserve/contingency funds are not expected to be expended in any given year, these values are included under expenditures because they are “on hold” for future needs and are classified by accounting practices as expenditures.

In the financial summary (Exhibit B) the total dollars in reserve/contingency are identified in the expenditure section on a single line (darker shading). The total dollars in contingency are calculated by subtracting the other expenditures (typically “contracted services” and “administrative fee”) from the total revenue. Contingency funds may be used as deemed essential to meeting emergency needs of the waterbody; however, the overall intention of use is as per the noted sub-categories.

When a negative value is displayed in the sub-category labeled “operating contingency”, it is an indication that the other subcategories reflect targeted sub-category values that have not been fully developed. For the other sub-categories to be fully developed, the “operating contingency” sub-category must be zero or a positive value.

The sub-category labeled “Reserve: Other” is included for improved transparency as use of these funds is on hold for purposes that are subject to Board confirmation and subsequent evaluation of ordinance provisions (potentially ordinance amendment) before these funds can be budgeted and utilized for the proposed purposes.

Exhibit C - Historic Reports/Data

Additional information for Spring Lake can be found on the County's Water Atlas website at:

<https://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/?wbodyid=7663&wbodyatlas=lake>
<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/resourceprogram.aspx?aid=15&wbodyid=7663>

Lake Sylvan Water Quality Report: How Does My Lake Rank? **37 GOOD**

The Trophic State Index (TSI) is a classification system designed to "rate" individual lakes, ponds and reservoirs based on the amount of biological productivity occurring in the water. Using the index, one can gain a quick idea about how productive a lake is by its assigned TSI number. A "Good" quality lake is one that meets all lake use criteria (swimmable, fishable, and supports healthy habitat).

The two graphs below indicate nutrient levels (measured by TSI and/or Total Phosphorous [TP]) for your lake. A TSI score of 60 or above is considered impaired (or polluted) lake. Continued reduction of TP sources (personal pollution, run-off, landscaping practices, shoreline erosion) can help reduce phosphorous in your lake that is abundantly available, potentially creating algae blooms.

Lake Vegetation Index Bioassessment (LVI): How Does My Lake Rank? **58 Healthy**

The Lake Vegetation Index is a rapid bioassessment tool created by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to assess the biological condition of aquatic plant communities in Florida lakes. The most recent assessment for Sylvan Lake (sampled on October 28, 2019) scored a **58, Healthy**, which is an increase from the previous score (2018) of **41, Impaired**. This change in score is largely attributed to the shift of dominance from hydrilla to native species.

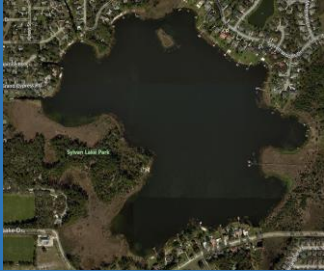
Aquatic life use category	LVI Range	Description
Category 1 "exceptional"	78–100	Nearly every macrophyte present is a species native to Florida, invasive taxa typically not found. About 30% of taxa present are identified as sensitive to disturbance and most taxa have C of C values >5.
Category 2 "healthy"	43–77	About 85% of macrophyte taxa are native to Florida; invasive taxa present. Sensitive taxa have declined to about 15% and C of C values average about 5.
Category 3 "impaired"	0–42	About 70% of macrophyte taxa are native to Florida. Invasive taxa may represent up to 1/3 of total taxa. Less than 10% of the taxa are sensitive and C of C values of most taxa are <4.



Lake Sylvan

Trend Report

2019



NNC

(Numeric Nutrient Criteria)

Pass

GeoMean Color: 38.92

GeoMean Alkalinity: 3.73

TSI Score: 37

(Trophic State Index)

Good

LVI Score: 58

(Lake Vegetation Index)

Healthy

LCI Total Score: 63

(Lake Condition Index)

Metric: Very Good

MSBU:

(Municipal Service Benefit Unit)

Yes

Watershed

188 acres

Lat 28° 48' 16"

Lon 81° 22' 50"

WBID 2961

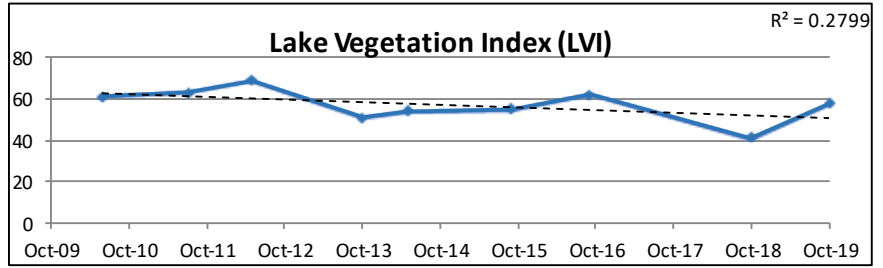
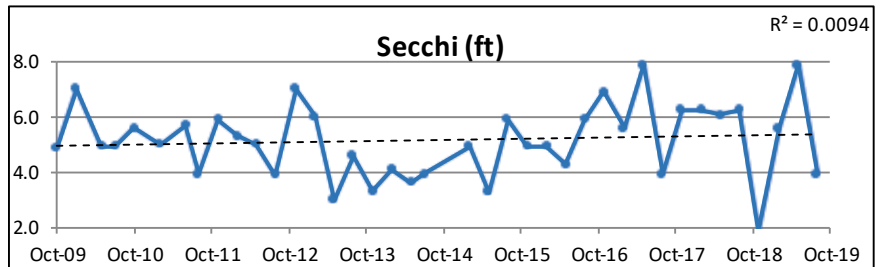
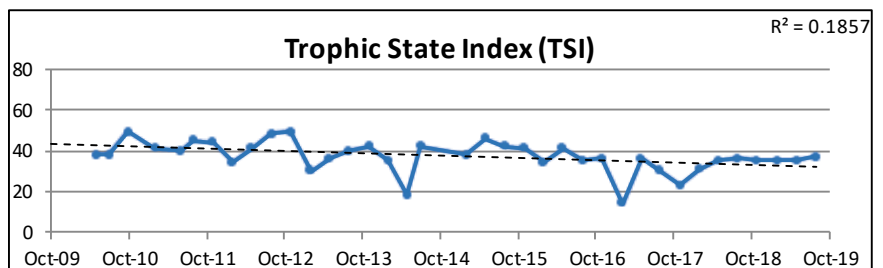
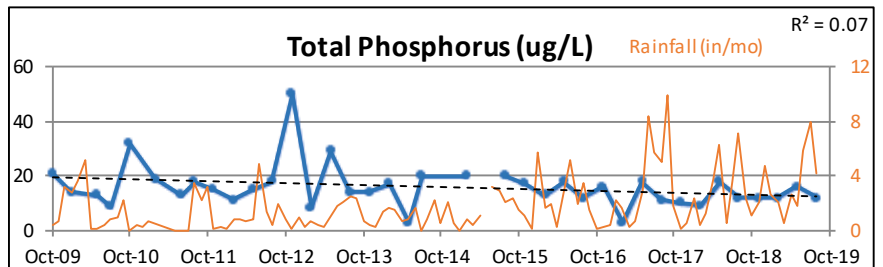
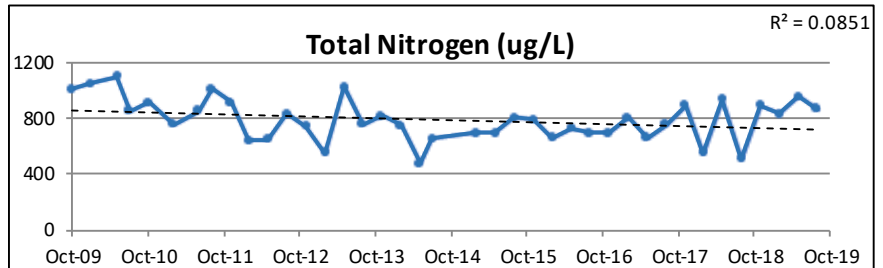
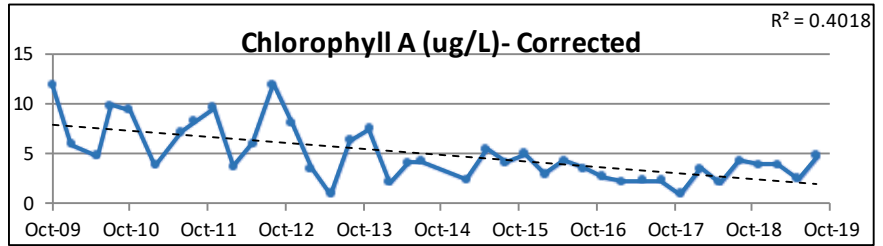


Exhibit D
ROLES & RESPONSIBILITY
General Outline

COUNTY

Seminole County will

- ✓ Govern the MSBU
- ✓ Provide financial management of MSBU fund and assessment levy
- ✓ Ensure activities conducted with assessment funding align with the scope of services documented in the governing ordinance
- ✓ Ensure the lake is monitored and services are appropriately rendered
- ✓ Maintain decision-making authority relative to public services and will defer to best lake management practices when making such decisions
- ✓ Provide an ongoing lake management plan based on the defined service scope, permitting, conditions at the lake, funding parameters, and best lake management practices. The Lake Management Plan will be developed and maintained by the Lake Management Program with liaison participation
- ✓ Initiate and manage service contracts, monitor results, and communicate updates on a routine basis
- ✓ Conduct annual meetings that offer opportunity for liaison discussion as to prior, current, and future action plans
- ✓ Encourage liaisons and assist with educational outreach efforts to protect the health and water quality of the waterbody

LIAISONS

Liaisons will

- ✓ Encourage communitywide awareness and participation relative to environmental stewardship recommendations and opportunities
- ✓ Provide communitywide communication and assist the County in the distribution of relevant lake information
- ✓ Attend annual lake management and budget planning sessions conducted by the County
- ✓ Serve as representatives of the community on lake issues; representing the respective lake community as a whole
- ✓ Monitor lake conditions and provide feedback to the County as to observations