

**February 3, 2016**

**SPRING LAKE  
LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Annual Meeting – 2016

- Agenda

Lake Management Plan

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

# SPRING LAKE ANNUAL MEETING

Date, Time & Location	: February 3, 2016, 1:00 p.m., 200 W. County Home Rd – LMP office
Community Liaisons	: John Bandy, Dan Copeland, Jay & Rhonda Fraxedas, Bill & Bobbi Vogel, Brian Pelski
Liaisons Present	: John Bandy, Dan Copeland, Bill Vogel
Seminole County	: Thomas Calhoun, Joey Cordell, Gloria Eby, and Kathy Moore

## Topics carried forward from prior fiscal year activity [Meeting Notes]

- Nutrient Study
  - Final report should be ready in Summer 2016; frustration with delay noted
  - Plan is to provide informative presentation at community meeting in conjunction with release of report; followed by scheduling and conducting Alum treatment per recommendation of Dr. H. Harper
- Baffle box and alum treatment recommendations
  - To be included in Report/Presentation
- Biobase information- reduction in eelgrass coverage
  - [Handout] To be repeated this summer
  - Targeted percentage of SAV by FWC is ~30%; actual as of 2014 evaluation Spring Lake had ~42.5%
- Fertilizer Ordinance & Shoreline Protection Ordinance
  - Documents developed and undergoing preliminary review and consideration prior to presentation to Board of County Commissioners. Targeting to present to BCC within next several months.

## General Topics & Updates [Meeting Notes]

- Potential planting events
  - Insufficient new interest to schedule event; will highlight planting recommendation at referenced community meeting this summer
- Plans for current fiscal year
  - Refer to Page 5
  - Spring Lake Watershed – Proposing installation of a baffle box at Live Oak pipe using 1 cent sales tax funding; located on County property
  - Springwood Waterway – Analysis \$30-40K to address wetland diversion of waterway (private property) - unfunded
  - Refer to Budget Exhibit B
- Projections for next fiscal year
  - Refer to Page 5
  - Refer to Budget Exhibit B – Liaison consensus (after discussing alum treatment scheduling and whole lake hydrilla reserve) is to hold at current assessment and re-evaluate after alum treatment is concluded
- General recommendations for community consideration
  - Refer to Nutrient Study recommendation
  - Refer to Page 4

# SPRING 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 07-9
- Interlocal Agreement with Altamonte Springs – Authorizing Assessment Levy [01-27-2007]
- FWC Permit

### **Methods for Aquatic Weed Control as authorized via County Ordinance**

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

### **Targeted Invasive/Exotic Aquatic Vegetation**

- Cattails, pennywort, wild taro, filamentous algae, eelgrass, primrose willow, torpedo grass, and hydrilla

### **Frequency of AWC Treatment**

AWC services are performed at the direction of the Seminole County LMP as per the Spring 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. Eelgrass corridor treatments are scheduled for the spring and fall of each year and are based upon merited conditions and favorable water elevation conditions.

### **Herbicide Treatments - Service Provider**

- As determined by Seminole County

### **Funding**

Assessment rate may vary annually based on financial demands of changing conditions, such as cost of herbicide treatments, frequency of treatments, and other factors impacting assessment calculations. The governing ordinance does not include assessment restrictions specific to annual adjustment amounts and/or assessment cap.

### **Lake Liaisons**

Designated property owners 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 liaisons for Spring Lake are: John Bandy ([jibjr@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jibjr@cfl.rr.com)), Dan Copeland ([dcopeland@ribelin.com](mailto:dcopeland@ribelin.com)), Jay and Rhonda Fraxedas ([jifraxedas@gmail.com](mailto:jifraxedas@gmail.com)), Brian Pelski ([bpelski89@gmail.com](mailto:bpelski89@gmail.com)), and Bill and Bobbi Vogel ([b2vogel@gmail.com](mailto:b2vogel@gmail.com)).

## **COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

LMP continues to recommend/encourage future resident-based volunteers involving native plantings along the shoreline. The intention of such an event is to transplant existing in-lake plants to various key areas in need along the shoreline. It is especially important that as aquatic invasive plants (such as torpedo grass) are being treated, native aquatic plants should be established within these areas. This also provides habitat for fish and wildlife, helps impede invasive exotics from re-establishing and reduces sedimentation into the lake due to erosion of the shoreline. All of these best lake management practices are essential to providing a more environmentally stable lake for generations to come. The key to success in lake management projects is dependent on strong participation of the Spring Lake community. Continued recommendations for community initiatives are as follows:

- 1) Continue to increase shoreline re-vegetation with beneficial native aquatic plants such as duck potato and pickerelweed; hand removal of torpedo grass from around native plants,
- 2) Consider increasing street sweeping services during times of peak leaf fall to ensure this debris does not wind up in your waterways. Leaf debris contains phosphorous and nitrogen that can impact your lakes,
- 3) Establishing a Lake Association and having at least one annual meeting with topics relevant to Spring Lake and its watershed,
- 4) Implement educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) presentations, Lake Management Video mail-outs, and reduction of residential pollution by using low fertilizer use; phosphorous free and slow release nitrogen based fertilizers; keeping a functional shoreline with beneficial native aquatic plants; keeping grass clippings out of your storm drains leading to the lake. All these activities aid in protecting your lake! Contact Gloria Eby (407) 665-2439 or Marie Lackey (407) 665-2424 for more information and assistance, and
- 5) Provide content for the Seminole County Water Atlas Lake Management webpage for Spring Lake (such as newsletters and community updates).

*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 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.

## **COUNTY SERVICES – Lake Management & Supplemental Programs**

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. 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. Spring Lake is monitored by LMP to assess the aquatic plant growth. 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 Spring Lake has likelihood to increase, 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 herbicides and continuous biological control pressures from the triploid grass carp fish will be sufficient to manage hydrilla re-growth during the current FY. The anticipation of spot treatments for the current fiscal year takes into consideration the historic trend of hydrilla management required at Spring Lake, as well as current conditions observed at lake and dominant presence of eelgrass providing competition. As with any lake with a history of hydrilla infestation, long-term planning to include financial preparation for whole lake treatment is advised.

Primary expectations are as follows:

- 1) Monitor hydrilla (re-growth from tuber production\*)
- 2) Conduct spot treatments of hydrilla if required
- 3) Treat other invasive aquatic plants – herbicides
- 4) Schedule and conduct Alum treatment following receipt of analysis report and community meeting

\*LMP will continue to closely monitor and gauge hydrilla in Spring Lake. This invasive exotic's re-growth is sparsely present in both shallow and deep water, mostly on the western side of the lake. Even though this re-growth is minimal, it is LMP's objective to keep the re-growth in check.

### **Funding Expectations**

*Refer to current fiscal year budget data provided in Exhibit B.*

## **NEXT FISCAL YEAR [FY14/15] – 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 monitoring of hydrilla (re-growth from tuber production)
- 2) Conduct spot treatments of hydrilla if required
- 3) Continued treatment of other invasive aquatic plants
- 4) Future grass carp stockings as needed
- 5) Continue Alum treatment per recommendations and prior year activities

### **Funding Expectations**

*Refer to next fiscal year budget data provided in Exhibit B*

## **Exhibits**

- A** – Agenda & Notes from Prior Year Planning Session
- B** – Budget/Financial Overview
- C** – Historic Reports/Data
- D** – Roles & Responsibilities

## Exhibit A – Agenda & Notes (Prior Year Planning Session)

### ANNUAL MEETING

Date, Time & Location	: January 23, 2015, 2:30 p.m., 200 W. County Home Rd – LMP office
Community Liaisons	: John Bandy, Dan Copeland, Jay & Rhonda Fraxedas, Bill & Bobbi Vogel, Brian Pelski
Liaisons Present	: John Bandy, Jay & Rhonda Fraxedas, Bill & Bobbi Vogel
Seminole County	: Thomas Calhoun and Carol Watral
Guests	: Shirley Bandy

#### Topics carried forward from prior fiscal year activity

- Contracted aquatic plant control services are scheduled monthly.
- Treatments specific for eelgrass are authorized by Seminole County as needed for control and per State regulations and will target keeping the recreational corridor open and in good condition.
- The lake will be closely monitored by the County as hydrilla has been found sparsely in depths of three feet.
- As torpedo grass is treated and dies, properties are encouraged to remove the vegetation.
- County recommends continuing to increase native aquatic plantings along shoreline (such as pickerelweed, duck potato, and canna).
- Submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) benchmark map was created.
- An alligator was captured in September 2014 from within Spring Lake. Information on alligators can be found at the FWC website <http://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/managed/alligator/nuisance/> or call 866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286).
- Property owners should be encouraged to communicate comments/concerns through the liaison group, who will provide consolidated request/comments to the MSBU Project Manager (Carol Watral).

#### General Topics & Updates

- Nutrient Study and Alum Cost Projections
- Community meeting
- Native plantings for nutrient filtering and reducing shoreline erosion
- Continued pricing available via state contract established with herbicide service provider
- Plans for current fiscal year
- Projections for next fiscal year
- General recommendations for community consideration

#### Meeting Notes:

- Liaisons report the weir near the park is blocked; MSBU will enter County work order to clear debris
- The nutrient study was discussed; a final report should be ready in late May to early June. An informative community meeting could possibly be held [Spring Lake Pavilion] to review the results
- Liaisons asked who pays for baffle installation in the Spring Lake area; LMP will follow up; baffles will be discussed at the informative community meeting for the nutrient study
- LMP reminded liaisons that plants can be ordered to be installed by property owners along the shoreline without a planting event

- LMP displayed a SAV map which depicts the submersed aquatic vegetation presence and depths; updates to the map will be ongoing and used for comparison purposes
- Liaisons asked about browning of natives; LMP said the browning is from winter and the natives will come back again
- Jay Fraxedas asked about his corridor and LMP will be checking access at their next bioassessment inspection visit
- An alum treatment could occur as soon as early summer and is estimated at a minimum of \$35,000.00 per year
- We have a new FWC regional biologist: Kris Campbell, at 6830 Shadowridge Dr., Suite 201, Orlando, FL 32812, 407-858-6170
- Progress of the County fertilizer ordinance was discussed
- Liaison consensus was to maintain the non-ad valorem assessment rate at \$375.00 going forward

## Exhibit B - Budget/Financial Overview

MSBU: SPRING LAKE

Date: January 1, 2016

Tax Year	2013	2014	2015	2016
Assessment	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00
Fiscal Year	FY13-14	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17
REVENUE	Actual	Actual	Working Budget	Proposed Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 84,703	\$ 109,028	\$ 130,912	\$ 116,422
Assessment	\$ 27,646	\$ 27,371	\$ 27,360	\$ 25,200
Other	\$ 252	\$ 385	\$ 150	\$ 25
MSBU Program Fund Advance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 112,601</b>	<b>\$ 136,784</b>	<b>\$ 158,422</b>	<b>\$ 143,447</b>
Cost Sharing				
Lake Management Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 112,601</b>	<b>\$ 136,784</b>	<b>\$ 158,422</b>	<b>\$ 144,447</b>
EXPENDITURE	Actual	Actual	Working Budget	Proposed Budget
County Administrative Fee	\$ 1,075	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Fund Advance Repayment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contracted Services	\$ 2,498	\$ 4,372	\$ 40,500	\$ 45,000
<i>Routine Services</i>	\$ 1,577	\$ 4,372	\$ 4,000	\$ 8,000
<i>Carp</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Cattails</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Eelgrass</i>	\$ 921	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000
<i>Exavation</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Hydrilla</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Labor</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Large Lake Tx (Alum)</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
<i>Other</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contingency Reserve	\$ 109,028	\$ 130,912	\$ 116,422	\$ 95,122
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 112,601</b>	<b>\$ 136,784</b>	<b>\$ 158,422</b>	<b>\$ 144,447</b>
Cost Sharing				
Lake Management Program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Fund Advance BB Payment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fund Advance EB	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

## Exhibit C - Historic Reports/Data

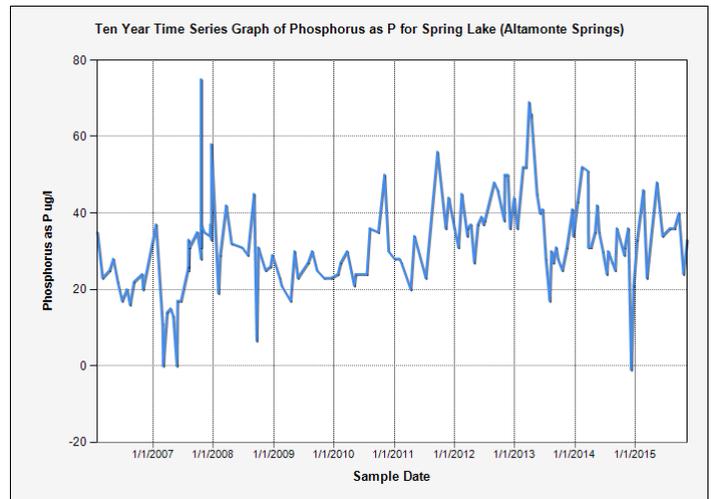
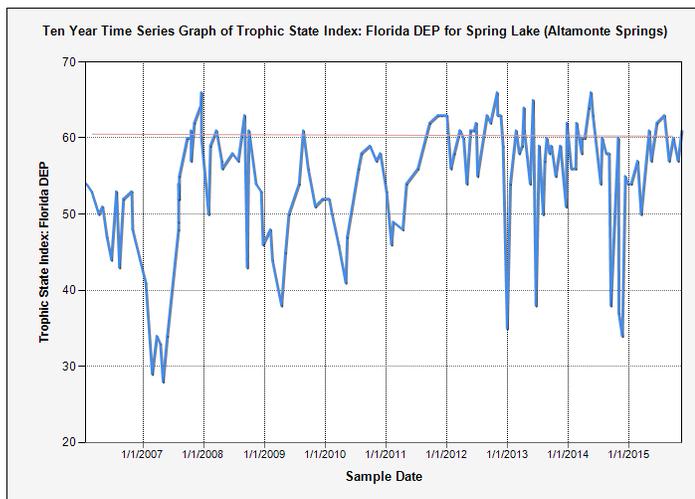
Additional information for Spring Lake can be found on the County's Water Atlas website at:

<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/waterquality.asp?wbodyid=7659&wbodyatlas=lake>  
<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/resourceprogram.aspx?aid=15&wbodyid=7659>

### **Spring Lake Water Quality Report: How Does My Lake Rank? 61 FAIR**

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? 54 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 recent assessment for Spring Lake (sampled on August 5, 2015) scored a 54 Category 2- Healthy, which is a significant **increase** from 32 Category 3- Impaired since inception of our lake management efforts in 2007.

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.

## Exhibit D – Roles & Responsibilities

### ROLES & RESPONSIBILITY

#### General Outline

#### COUNTY

##### *Seminole County will*

- ✓ Govern the MSBU
- ✓ Provide financial management of MSBU fund
- ✓ 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 lake management activities and aquatic vegetation management 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