

## LAKE BURKETT AND LAKE MARTHA LAKE INSPECTIONS

MAY 14, 2014

Greetings Lakes Martha and Burkett Residents!

Please find the latest bioassessment of your lake below. Our next survey is scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. Key highlights of this update include:

- Hydrilla observations
- Increase in native Submersed Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)
- Recommendations for you and your lake

On **May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**, Seminole County Lake Management Program (SCLMP) staff Thomas Calhoun, Gloria Eby and Seminole County Water Quality intern Sophia Pengra surveyed the aquatic plants in **Lakes Martha and Burkett**.

In Lake Martha, small sprigs of hydrilla were found sporadically to a depth of 6 feet. Only one sprig of hydrilla was found in Lake Burkett. Hydrilla tubers can lay dormant for more than 4 years. Several species of native SAV were observed during the inspection, including: baby's tears to 1 foot, southern naiad to 5 feet, stonewort to 5 feet, bladderwort to 7 feet, and eelgrass to 5 feet. Overall, native SAV has increased in both lakes!

**Photos: Stonewort mixed with bladderwort.**



Exotic emergent vegetation observed during the inspection included: alligator weed, torpedo grass, and wild taro. Native emergent vegetation included: canna, rush fuirena, bul-rush pickerelweed, duck potato, and fire flag. Plantings from last year's lake restoration event were expanding well.

**Photo: Planted pickerelweed, duck potato and canna growing along the bank of Trinity Preparatory School.**



The secchi reading (measurement for water clarity) was 3.1 feet in a depth of 20.1 feet; this was similar but slightly less than in the March 2014 survey (4.7 feet). No grass carp fish were observed during the inspection. All of this information can be found online at either County's Water Atlas website:

<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/waterquality.asp?wbodyid=7521&wbodyatlas=lake>  
<http://www.orange.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/?wbodyatlas=lake&wbodyid=7521>

### **Lake Recommendations:**

- 1 Work together or establish a lake association with other lakefront owners to control invasive plants and increase native aquatic plantings along shoreline (such as pickerelweed and duck

potato). Have at least one annual lake association meeting, invite guest speakers (such as county or state biologists) and discuss lake specific issues.

2 Take advantage of free educational outreach programs i.e. Shoreline Restoration Workshops (planting days), Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN), Lake Management Video mail-outs, and presentations on decreasing “pointless personal pollution” by reducing overall fertilizer use and only using phosphorous-free fertilizers. You can also visit the Water Atlas (<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/>) to read interesting information about your specific waterbody, and our website ([http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/pw/roadstorm/wq\\_lakemgt.aspx](http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/pw/roadstorm/wq_lakemgt.aspx)) to watch educational videos and download lake management pamphlets. Please contact Seminole County Lake Management Program, at (407) 665-2439 or Orange County Lake Management Program at (407) 836-1409 for further assistance.

**Thomas Calhoun**  
**Lake Management Coordinator**  
**Public Works Department**  
**Watershed Management Division**  
**200 W. County Home Rd.**  
**Sanford Fl. 32773**

**407-665-2459 (Office)**  
**407-665-5600 (Fax)**

**[www.seminole.wateratlas.org](http://www.seminole.wateratlas.org)**