

January 15, 2015

**SWEETWATER COVE LAKE
ANNUAL MEETING & LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Annual Meeting – 2015

- 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, Budget & Financial Summary, Historic Reports/Data

SWEETWATER COVE LAKE ANNUAL MEETING

Date, Time & Location	:	January 15, 2015, 1:00 p.m., 200 W. County Home Rd – LMP office
Community Liaisons	:	Clark Gwinn, Dennis Marra, Michael Richards, Chuck Scales, Roslyn Smith, and Thomas Stahl
Liaisons Present	:	Clark Gwinn, Dennis Marra, Michael Richards, Chuck Scales, and Thomas Stahl
Seminole County	:	Gloria Eby and Carol Watral
Other Guests	:	Patrick Flynn and Bryan Gongre for Sanlando Utilities Corporation

Topics carried forward from prior fiscal year activity

- Sweetwater Cove Lake Aquatic Weed Control MSBU was established on March 11, 2014. As of October 1, 2014, funding for the aquatic weed control services will be through the established MSBU. Prior to October 1, 2014, Seminole County funded contracted services.
- SC SERV and LMP Sweetwater Lakes Restoration event held April 26, 2014, with 8,400 free plants installed at 20 sites by 83 volunteers.
- Three sonic devices are in place as part of a pilot study on algae control. LMP is monitoring several
- Algae herbicide treatments conducted every 14 days or as determined by Seminole County.
- Invasive vegetation being treated includes lilies (hydrilla NOT included).
- 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

- Potential community meeting (educational ways to reduce pollution such as grass clippings).
- FWC permit status for additional Lyngbya control methods.
- ERD lyngbya study.
- Sonic devices and algae update.
- Diffuser options.
- Upcoming April 18, 2015 Restoration Event and impact of wildlife (deer) upon plants.
- Hunt Club Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Plans for current fiscal year/Projections for next fiscal year.
- General recommendations for community consideration.

Meeting Notes:

- Sweetwater Oaks Board advised that AAM is now treating non-MSBU waterbodies with treatment funded by the HOA
- FWC is working towards permitting chelated copper which will be targeted to the lower lake and maybe others
- April 18, 2015, restoration event was discussed:
 - Deer impacted sites can be targeted
 - Sanlando is coordinating volunteers from Sanlando
 - ~20 sites should be provided by Liaisons to LMP as soon as possible
- Sonic units: Vendor has expressed disappointment in results; continued monitoring will determine if the units will maintain current vegetation level through to mid-summer; vendor offered to remove sonic units and install a diffusion/aeration system (at vendor's cost), but liaisons' consensus was to continue with the sonic units through the remainder of the one year trial period

- Sanlando Utilities discussed the release from the Hunt Club wastewater treatment plant, restorative actions, and future preventative measures

SWEETWATER COVE 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 2014-15
- Agreement with Sweetwater Oaks Homeowners Association, Inc.
- FWC Permit

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

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

Targeted Invasive/Exotic Aquatic Vegetation

- Water hyacinth, torpedo grass, paragrass, cattail, primrose willow, alligator weed, Cuban bulrush, exotic water lily, wild taro, water fern, algae, spatterdock, southern naiad, coontail, and willow (hydrilla is excluded).

Frequency of AWC Treatment

AWC services are performed at the direction of the Seminole County LMP as per the Sweetwater Cove 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

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 (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 Sweetwater Cove Lake are: Clark Gwinn (wclarkgwinn@cfl.rr.com), Dennis Marra (dpm901@aol.com), Michael Richards (michael@michaelerichards.com), Roslyn Smith (rmsangels@gmail.com), and Tom Stahl (traystahl@gmail.com).

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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 plant beneficial native aquatic plants in key areas 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 Sweetwater Cove Lake community.

Continued recommendations for community initiatives are as follows:

- 1) Consider review of street sweeping program,
- 2) 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-releasing 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
- 3) Provide content for the Seminole County Water Atlas Lake Management webpage for Sweetwater Cove Lake (such as newsletters, photos, 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.

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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. Sweetwater Cove 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

Invasive aquatic growth in Sweetwater Cove Lake has likelihood to continue, however, the timing and re-growth is affected by multiple natural and environmental factors that cannot be controlled or predicted with certainty. While extensive growth is possible at any point in time, it is anticipated that routine spot treatments with herbicides will be sufficient to manage re-growth during the current fiscal year. The anticipation of spot treatments for the current fiscal year takes into consideration the historic trend of management required at Sweetwater Cove Lake, as well as current conditions observed at the lake. As with any lake with a history of invasive aquatic growth, long-term planning to include financial preparation for whole lake treatment is advised. LMP will continue to closely monitor Sweetwater Cove Lake.

Sonic Solutions algae control devices are in place in strategic locations through the waterbody and are being closely monitored by LMP to determine effectiveness.

Funding Expectations

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

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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 close monitoring of aquatic growth,
- 2) Conduct spot treatments as required,
- 3) Continued treatment of the invasive aquatic plants – herbicides,
- 4) Monitor/control/replant managed areas,
- 5) Monitoring of sonic devices, and
- 6) Continue to increase number of shoreline re-vegetation sites (lakefront community).

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 Summaries

C - Historic Reports/Data

Exhibit A - Notes from Prior Year Planning Session

PRIOR YEAR NOTES NOT APPLICABLE....FIRST YEAR OF THIS MSBU

Exhibit B - Budget/Financial Overview

MSBU: **Sweetwater Cove Lake**

Date: January 15, 2015

FIRST YEAR

Tax Year	2014	2015
Assessment	\$145.00	\$145.00
Fiscal Year	FY1415	FY1516
REVENUE		
	Working Budget	Projected Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 718
Assessments - Residential & Common Land	\$ 15,625	\$ 15,625
Assessments - Sanlando	\$ 17,818	\$ 17,818
MSBU Program Fund Advance	\$ -	
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 34,161
Cost Sharing	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 34,161
Lake Management Program		
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 34,161
EXPENDITURE		
	Working Budget	Projected Budget
County Administrative Fee	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Application Fee	\$ 550	\$ -
Fund Advance Repayment	\$ -	\$ -
Contracted Services	\$ 30,675	\$ 20,075
<i>Routine Services</i>	\$ 21,600	\$ 20,000
<i>Others</i>	\$ 5,000	\$ -
<i>Sonic Units Usage Reimbursement</i>	\$ 75	\$ 75
<i>Harvesting</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ -
5	\$ -	\$ -
Contingency Reserve	\$ 718	\$ 8,086
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 29,661
Cost Sharing	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 29,661
Lake Management Program	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 33,443	\$ 29,661
		\$ -
		\$ -
Fund Advance BB	\$ -	\$ -
Payment		\$ -
Fund Advance EB	\$ -	

Exhibit C - Historic Reports/Data

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

<http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/resourceprogram.aspx?aid=15&wbodyid=7713>