



# The Lake View

The Lakefront POA Newsletter

Jan 31, 2020

Welcome to our first edition of the Lakefront POA newsletter. This newsletter will be published monthly to keep our members abreast of our activities, items of concern regarding our lakes, as well as important dates such as meeting times for the County Council, the City Council, and Spartanburg Water System meetings.

We've had a whirlwind 2019 and much has been achieved with more to follow. Thanks to so many of you who assisted us in our quest to achieve fair rules by attending meetings, overturn the SWS Access agreement, writing to various leaders, investing in our cause, and more.

partnership as existed in earlier years. We all want clean water. As lakefront homeowners, we are a natural line of defense for water quality and any other issues facing our reservoirs.

## 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- SWS finally took us seriously and came to the negotiating table after hiring Trey Gowdy and his firm.
- SWS dropped the much maligned access agreement
- We were able to get them to sit down and come up with a set of rules for Lake Bowen we can live with.
- SWS is continuing to meet with representatives from Reservoir 1 and Lake Blalock to revise the rules and regulations that apply to those bodies of water.
- We were able to get SWS to stock the lake with sterile carp after landowners made the suggestion to SWS at their monthly meetings. The sterile carp are naturally helping to control the algae blooms, as they eat the plants that cause the algae.
- The POA was able to educate Spartanburg residents about SWS and issues regarding their management of our reservoirs.
- Recently, SWS asked for representatives to serve on their new Environmental Committee

## Future Meeting Dates

SWS Commission: Tuesday 2/25, probably around 3 pm.

City Council: Mondays on 2/10, and 2/24 @ 5:30pm, City Hall

County Council: Thursday 2/27 @ 5:30- County Admin Bldg, 366 N. Church St

Legislative Delegation: Monday 2/3 @ 5:30 – County Admin Bldg, 366 N Church St

Although things have been quieter with the holidays, the POA is continuing to work on behalf of all our members. We still have much to accomplish including review of the documents for Reservoir 1 and Lake Blalock. One of our long term goals is to move from an adversarial position with SWS to a

## RESERVOIR 1 AND LAKE BLALOCK UPDATE

Three homeowners from each lake are continuing to meet with SWS and County Council representatives to discuss rules and regulations. The holidays

slowed this down but they are now moving forward. Each homeowner, on these two lakes is encouraged to contact David Britt or Jack Mabry, thanking them for their help in getting SWS to the table. Now we need their help to negotiate plans for Reservoir 1 and Lake Blalock that is fair for everyone. **Your continued involvement is essential to affecting positive change with SWS. Please attend and speak SWS meetings, write emails to various key players, and keep the pressure on.**

### COMMITTEES

**Communications and PR** - We now have 3 people in charge of communications, along with a PR person

**Environmental** - SWS has requested three homeowners--Dean Anderson, Steve Hammett, Bill McDaniel--to join an environmental team in order to exchange ideas on how to help our lakes.

Our lakes are in trouble with silt filling in Bowen as well as pollutants running into our watershed almost daily, but especially during heavy rains. This team had their first meeting on 1/23/2020. Many of our water quality issues will be addressed at this time. This is just for environmental issues, not property issues. Any personal property issues you might have (that do not affect all lakefront owners) can't be handled by this environmental group. You must deal with those on your own.

### GOING FORWARD

- 1. SWS, and City/County Council need to continually be reminded about our concern for our lakes and clean water. Stay aware and stay vigilant, and stay vocal.**

2. Speak at SWS meetings. You can bring concerns as well as thank SWS for some of the improvements or good things you've noticed.
3. Speak at County Council and City Council meetings - they too need to be reminded that we will continue to be concerned and aware of lake and watershed issues.
4. Report Watershed issues: If anyone witnesses things like mud running over roads and into one of the reservoirs you are encouraged to contact Roads and Bridges to make a complaint. There is a lot of new construction around the lakes, so if you see muddy runoff spilling mud into reservoirs, it is a problem that should be reported. Contact info: Manager, Johnny Ravan  
Phone: 864-595-5320
5. Know about Environmental Issues? Let the Lakefront POA Board know: If anyone knows of any environmental issue that affects our water, and you think SWS should know, please contact the board by going to the website <https://lakefrontpoa.com/> and sending us details. This way it can be brought to the attention of the executive staff in these committee meetings.
6. Are you concerned about the DHEC Report? The report is available on our Lakefront POA website: <https://lakefrontpoa.com/resources/> you are encouraged to read it, and help us all understand it. If you or someone you know has the expertise to assist us with our understanding of this document, please let us know. You can reach us via our website's comments area: <https://lakefrontpoa.com/#contactUs>