

SAVE OUR LAKES



JUNE 2018/Volume 18, Issue 6

SAVE OUR LAKES ORGANIZATION STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE BLACK CREEK PROJECT!

On August 28, 2017, SOLO outlined its position with respect to the Black Creek Project. Since that day, our elected officials have provided the funding and the SJRWMD has worked toward moving this important project from concept to reality. We believe it is time to, once again, state our position to ensure our community and government officials understand our strong support for the Black Creek Project. Vivian Katz, President

The Black Creek Water Resource Development Project (BCP) is an example of how Florida's water resources can be managed for the benefit of its citizens.

The Floridan Aquifer (our drinking water supply) cannot sustain the region's future water use demands at the present rates of withdrawal and recharge. A "Water Supply Plan" (unanimously approved by both St. Johns and Suwannee Water Management District Governing Boards) was developed to determine both the demand and recharge projects needed to provide for the future. The Plan focuses on ways to conserve, reuse and store or redirect excess water. All types of projects will be needed to meet regional water demands.

Many of these projects will mean Florida's companies and citizens will use less water through conservation and reuse techniques. However, the amount of water needed to meet current and future demands will require continued withdrawals from the Floridan Aquifer. Thus, the Floridan Aquifer MUST receive recharge at least equal to withdrawals in order to sustain itself. Rainfall is nature's way of recharging but, sometimes, the rain simply goes to tide or evaporates with no benefits to the Aquifer. Other times, excess rain and flooding can do harm to lands, property and people. In these situations, WE can do our part to promote recharging of the Floridan Aquifer. Projects such as storm water harvesting and management of excess water can play a significant role.

WHY is it important to bring water to Keystone Heights lakes?

There are TWO MAJOR recharge areas for the Floridan Aquifer; one is located in the Valdosta, GA area, the other is through Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva in Keystone Heights, Florida. The low water levels of both Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva reflect the fact that the Aquifer is being drawn down at a greater rate than rainfall can resupply the recharge areas. These lakes are like the proverbial "canary in the coal mine". They **ARE** the early warning signal that withdrawals are outstripping replenishment.

SOLO WEBSITE

You can get information as well as communicate with us through our website: www.saveourlakes.org or our email: save-our-lakes@comcast.net
Our newsletter comes out once a month by email and US Mail (usually the first week of the month). *Please feel free to check us out!*

SAVE OUR LAKES ORGANIZATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 185, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL 32656

EMAIL: save-our-lakes@comcast.net - **WEBPAGE:** www.saveourlakes.org

President: Vivian Katz – **Vice President:** Chandler Rozear – **Secretary:** Carolyn Moody – **Treasurer:** Carol Rozear
Board Members: Webb Farber, Glenda Harper, Sue Plaster, Robert Thomas, Dr. Pat Welsh

HOW will the Black Creek Project help/work?

The Black Creek Project can contribute to the recharge of the Floridan Aquifer and help ensure its viability. Rain falls where it will. However, recharge projects can direct excess water resources to those areas where the best recharge will take place. The Black Creek Project (BCP) will bring excess water to a major Floridan Aquifer recharge area--Keystone Heights Lakes Brooklyn and Geneva. The BCP will take the excess water flowing into Black Creek at Highway 16 and move that water, via pipeline, to an area just north of Lake Brooklyn. That water will be distributed in an area that will flow into Alligator Creek, which feeds into Lake Brooklyn then, eventually, on to Lake Geneva. As the lake levels increase, it benefits the recharge to the Floridan Aquifer.

Using *only the excess* water flowing into Black Creek for Floridan Aquifer recharge has been a consideration for some time. Engineering and hydro geologic studies have been done by SJRWMD to determine the feasibility (benefits/impact) of such a project. Study results indicate the BCP is a win-win for managing Florida's water:

- Aquifer Recharge (a win for all of Northeast Florida and beyond)
- Lake Recovery/Community Recovery (a win for Keystone Heights, Clay County & Northeast Florida)
- Black Creek Flood Impact Reduction (a win for Middleburg and the Black Creek community, Clay County, northeast Florida and FEMA)
- Middleburg Recreation Improvement (a win for Middleburg, Clay County and northeast Florida)

As with many issues that face us in today's world, the longer we put off managing our diminishing water supply, the harder the choices will be. The Black Creek Project is a necessary, but not sufficient, effort to meet the recharge needs of the Floridan Aquifer; other projects will be needed.

The Save Our Lakes Organization (SOLO) applauds the efforts of the SJRWMD and the commitment of Senator Bradley, Representatives Payne and Cummings and our other elected officials for bringing the Black Creek Project to reality. **We support their efforts in every way.**

IT'S SOLO MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

SOLO's fiscal year begins July 1st. That means it's time to renew your membership. Our annual dues (\$25.00) have remained the same for many years now. Our members will be receiving a 2018 Membership renewal letter in June.

It is extremely important that SOLO remain a strong organization; that means a big membership base...that means "WE NEED YOU"! We appreciate your continued support of our efforts and ask that you renew your SOLO Membership for 2018 to keep the SOLO organization strong!

NOT A MEMBER? – There is a Membership Application on Page 3 of this newsletter, just fill in the information needed, let us know if you want your newsletter via email or US Mail, make your \$25 check payable to Save Our Lakes Organization and drop it in the mail...that simple. We hope you will not only join, but become an active member!

Thanks to each of you, we are making a difference in our community!

Vivian



GET INVOLVED IN 2018!!

JUNE 2018 - Calendar

Please join us in our efforts to Save Our Lakes - Save The Aquifer!

*SJRWMD BOARD MEETING-JUNE 12, 11am - District Headquarter, Palatka

*CLAY COUNTY COM. MTG-JUNE 12thth - 4pm (time change) - Green Cove Springs

*S.O.L.O. MEETING- JUNE 12th, 7pm- 1st Baptist Church of K.H

*******IF YOU'RE NOT A SOLO MEMBER, JOIN TODAY!*******

SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TODAY!!



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER? (Circle One)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER(S) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR ANNUAL DUES CHECK FOR \$25.00
PAYABLE TO: SAVE OUR LAKES ORG., P.O. BOX 185, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL32656. WE LOOK
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF K.H. (Hwy. 100, just east of Hwy. 21),
7PM, ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH!

PLEASE SELECT ONE: SEND MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY (US MAIL OR EMAIL)?

2018
MEMBERSHIP
JOIN
TODAY!

Save Our Lakes Organization, Inc.
P.O. Box 185
Keystone Heights, FL 32656



Logo by: Graham E. Kestner

NEXT SOLO MEETING: JUNE 12TH -7p.m. -FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF K.H.

S.O.L.O. NEWSLETTER PRINTING BY FABCO-AIR. THANK YOU FABCO-AIR!



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2018

SOLO MEMBERSHIP

RENEWAL TIME!

RENEW OR JOIN NOW!

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ON THE MOVE

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