

# SAVE OUR LAKES



*NOVEMBER 2021 Volume 21, Issue 11*

## LAKE REGION DEVELOPMENT CORP. DONATES A NEW RAFT



**Step by step, project by project, Keystone Beach is being brought back to life.** The Lake Region Development Corporation (LRDC) has donated a new aluminum raft to the City of Keystone Heights to further enhance the attractiveness of the waterfront of what was once the recreational focal point of “The Home of Good Water.” Along with the renovation of the pavilion and enhancements to the park, the City has continued to make improvements to the sandy beach and has removed even more of the aquatic vegetation from the lake from beyond the designated swimming area to make it more attractive and safer for swimmers. Posted signage reminds all that caution is appropriate as alligators and snakes find the remaining aquatic weeds to be an attractive home themselves and have been reported to be in the area.



Photo by Greg Dumas

## SOLO AWARDED \$ 25,000 GRANT

**With the Clay County Fire Rescue Station No. 11 now in full operation,** the Keystone Heights Volunteer Fire Department (KHVFD) has ceased to exist. Many non-profit organizations, like the KHVFD, have considerable assets which must be disposed of or distributed properly. Vivian learned of the opportunity and filed the needed grant application resulting in the award. These funds will be used by Save Our Lakes to both initiate and provide “seed money” for cost sharing projects which, teaming with various private and public entities, can potentially make available significant sums for the benefit of our lakes.

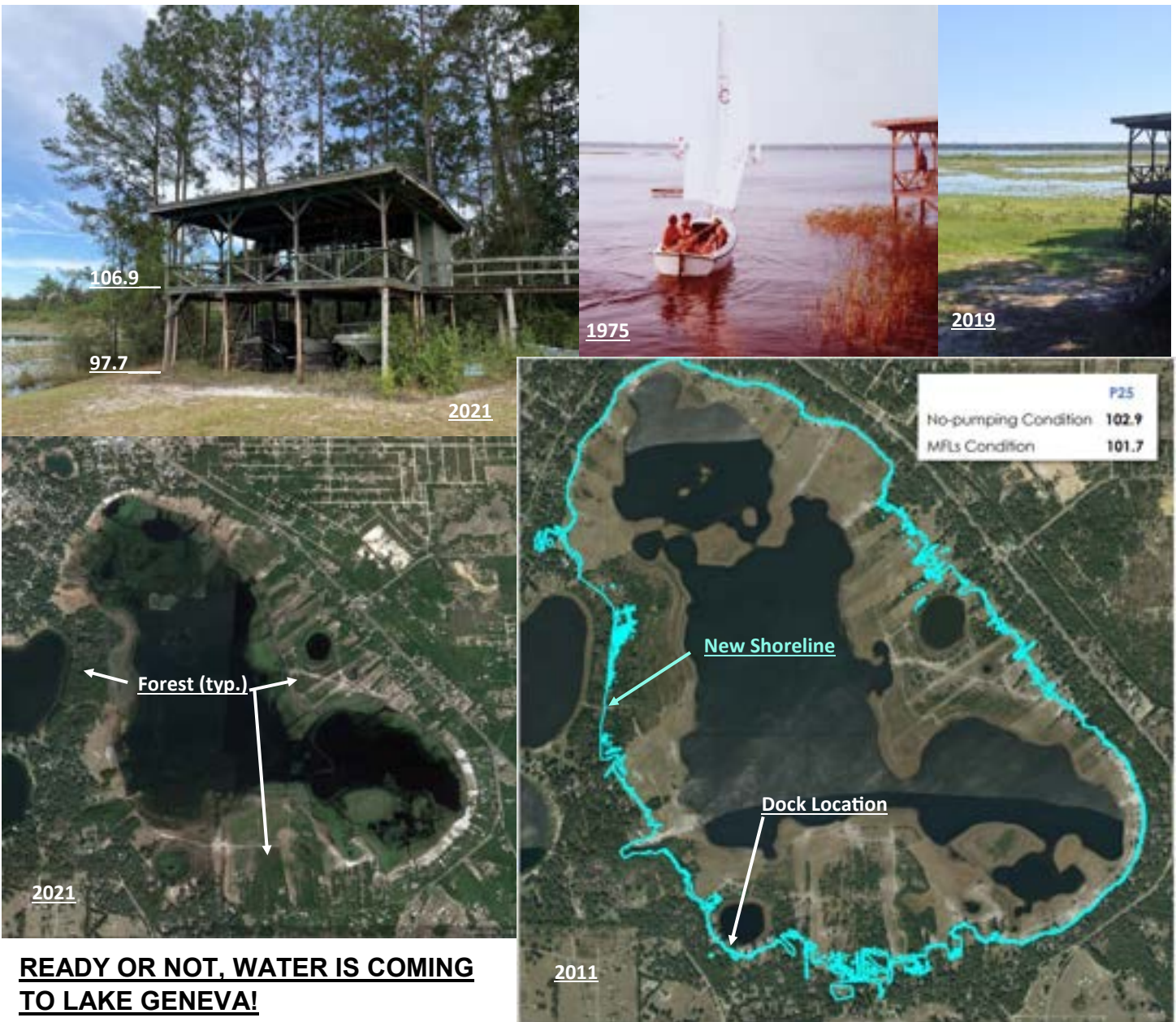
**SAVE OUR LAKES ORGANIZATION, INC.**

**P.O. BOX 185, KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL 32656**

**EMAIL:** [save-our-lakes@comcast.net](mailto:save-our-lakes@comcast.net) - **WEBPAGE:** [www.saveourlakes.org](http://www.saveourlakes.org)

**President:** Vivian James — **Vice President:** Chandler Rozear — **Secretary/Treasurer:** Susan Welsh

**Board Members:** Webb Farber, Glenda Harper, Scott Slater, Dr. Pat Welsh



**READY OR NOT, WATER IS COMING TO LAKE GENEVA!**

When Lake Geneva is back at optimum Aquifer Recharge levels +/- 102 ft NAVD, as it was in 1975, what will have happened to all of the trees that have grown up in the lake bowl during the years that the lake was so low? Look carefully at the Google Earth photos and notice the forested areas in the majority of the exposed lake bottom. If you have the opportunity to do so, a visit to the lake is informative. Note that the pine trees between the pond where the pictured dock is located and the main body of the lake have already been harvested. Since water is now in our future, we should be planning and acting on that knowledge.

**Vincent Seibold, P.E., MBA, Bureau Chief, Bureau of District Projects and Construction, St. Johns River Water Management District & Project Manager for the Black Creek Water Resource Project will be giving us a project update at the SOLO Membership Meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall at the First Baptist Church in Keystone Heights. It will be the last meeting of what has been a very strange and eventful year. We look forward to seeing you there!**

# BLACK CREEK WATER RESOURCE PROJECT SCHEDULE \*

July 2021 – Draft NPDES Permit issued by FDEP.  
 July 2021 – Submit Draft ERP application to FDEP.  
 October 2021 – EPA Comments on Draft NPDES Permit.  
 October 2021 – Submit ERP application to FDEP.  
**November 2021 – Pilot Study report.**  
**November 2021 – District sends response to EPA**  
 December 2021 – FDEP issue Notice of Intent (NOI) for NPDES Permit to District.  
 December 2021 – District publish NOI for NPDES Permit (14-day petition period).  
 January 2021 – NPDES Permit Issuance.  
 January 2021 – ERP Permit Issuance.

February 2022 – USACE 404 Permit issuance.  
 March 2022 – Construction Bid (Phase 1 – Pipe line).  
 April 2022 – Award Construction Contract Phase 1 (GB).  
 June 2022 – Begin Phase 1 Construction.  
 June 2022 – Construction Bid (Phase 2 – Intake/ Pump Station/Treatment/Recharge).  
 July 2022 – Award Construction Contract Phase 2 (GB).  
 July 2022 – Begin Phase 2 Construction.  
 July 2024 – Completion of Construction.

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
 FDEP = Fla. Dept. of Environmental Protection  
 ERP = Environmental Resource Permit  
 EPA = Environmental Protection Agency (Federal)

NOI = Notice of Intent  
 USACE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 GB = Governing Board (SJRWMD)

**\* Come to the members meeting 11/9 for the very latest update**

**SJRWMD GOVERNING BOARD Mtg. 9:00 AM Tues., 11/09/2021 at the Palatka Office**  
**\*Verify\* on website: [www.sjrwmd.com/governingboard/](http://www.sjrwmd.com/governingboard/) (Live Streaming is available)**

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM

Cut, copy or send the whole page!

**(Please Circle One) RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER?**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE CIRCLE ONE:**  
**SEND MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**  
**BY**

**US MAIL OR EMAIL ?**

**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.**

SOLO WEBSITE [www.saveourlakes.org](http://www.saveourlakes.org)

You can get information as well as communicate with us through our website: [www.saveourlakes.org](http://www.saveourlakes.org) or our email: [save-our-lakes@comcast.net](mailto: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



Logo by: *Graham E. Kestner*

***Our next meeting: 7PM, November 9 at the First Baptist Church. Updates on the Black Creek Project and More! Look for meeting signs around Keystone Heights. Get your shot. Live to see the lakes full again!***

NEWSLETTER PRINTING BY FABCO-AIR. THANK YOU, FABCO-AIR!



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**By getting vaccinated you protect yourself and those who may not be able to be vaccinated. We are meeting again in November. With the Delta Variant now dominating our state, vaccinated or not we all need to wear a mask to protect ourselves, our friends and families. We look forward to seeing your smiling eyes again!**

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