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# Florida Lake Management Society

May 2009

## 20th Annual FLMS Conference June 8-11, 2009 Key Largo Grande, Key Largo, FL



The Florida Lake Management Society will host the 2009 20th Annual FLMS Conference and Meeting (FLMS 2009) at the beautiful Key Largo Grande in Key Largo, Florida from June 8-11, 2009. The 2009 Conference will include a full day of workshops on Monday, June 8, covering a wide variety of lake management topics. Conference sessions begin on Tuesday, June 9 and run through the morning of Thursday, June 11. We have an exciting and informative agenda, with technical sessions held on a wide variety of topics related to water resources and lake management issues. We have received over 40 abstracts so far as well as over 10 posters which will provide a full program during the conference. The Conference will offer CEUs for the NALMS CLM/CLP certifications. Program and workshop agendas and individual conference registrations are posted on the FLMS website conference page. It's not too late to register for the conference!

There are a number of new workshops offered this year. Dr. Harvey Harper will be providing a new workshop on compiling and evaluating data, a must for all of us who have a mountain of accumulated environmental data. Andrew Chapman will be sharing his expertise of nuisance algae identification and management. John Walkinshaw and Scott Dietche will be explaining TMDL's to all of us and Shailesh Patel will be hosting his dredging workshop again this year. Please check out the great line up of workshops this year at the conference website.

The conference program is filled with informative presentations including groundwater and water quality evaluations, vegetation management, water quality modeling, best management practices, watershed and lake management and of course critters and other aquatic interactions.

FLMS is offering hotel reservations at exceptional prices below federal rates at \$129+tax during the conference (June 8-11) and \$129+tax two days before and after the Conference. Reservations can be made online through the [www.flms.net](http://www.flms.net) website conference page by clicking on the Hotel Reservations button. FLMS has received a brief extension for reserving rooms at the FLMS rate. Reservations must be made no later than May 12, 2009 to get these favorable rates. Please call Joan Kelly at (305) 852-5553, (800) 850-5099 or [joakelly@luxuryresorts.com](mailto:joakelly@luxuryresorts.com) if you wish to procure an upgraded room or suite.

Come relax and enjoy the Florida Keys while networking with lake management colleagues and listening to the latest research!



*This year's conference location: Key Largo Grande*



*2008 FLMS conference attendees*

## Revitalizing a Centerpiece: Lake Jackson

### A Love Your Lake Grant Project

Submitted by Erin McCarta, Highlands County Natural Resources & Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District



Funding partners, left to right: John Scherlacher (Tourist Development Council), Mike Martino (Recreation and Parks Advisory Council), Clell Ford (FLMS), Ida Jackson (Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District), Don Bates (Highlands County Commissioner), Rob Miller (City of Sebring, Public Works Director)

Lake Jackson is a 3400 acre lake in Sebring which is highly visible and is the centerpiece for Highlands County. Of more than 10 miles of shoreline, only 2 miles are uninhabited. This area of the shoreline had been relatively unmanaged for many years, and at the mercy of a widely fluctuating lake level. The result had become an extremely thick monoculture of Primrose and Willow, causing decreased bird activity, suppression of the native seed bank, and reduced aesthetics.

In an effort to revitalize the shoreline, the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District and county lake management staff designed a plan in 2007 to restore native vegetation and littoral zone function to a 1.2 mile

stretch of the lake's shoreline. This plan included removing approximately 50 percent of the overgrown vegetation, leaving more than 15 Willow preservation areas, which provide food, protection, and bird roosting habitat. A 4-inch scrape of the soil on the high water terrace removed the majority of the willow and primrose seed bank, exposing the underlying native seed bank of rushes, cordgrass, buttonbush, pickerelweed, sagittaria, and other beneficial species.

The revegetation phase of the project began early in 2009 with installation of native wildflower plots. By the end of April, over 800 Sand Cordgrass stems and 400 stems of Golden Canna had been planted on the restoration site. A 'working' Earth Day event on April 22<sup>nd</sup> encouraged more than 20 volunteers to help the replanting effort. Among those volunteers were representatives of each of the funding entities which contributed to the project.

Since the initial earthwork was completed, there has been a noticeable increase in user activity by anglers and nature enthusiasts, as well as a major spike in wading bird activity. Two years since inception of the idea, this project has already improved habitat, aesthetics, and passive recreation access to Lake Jackson. The revegetation effort was designed to require minimal maintenance, increase filtration for improved water quality in the lake and provide more aquatic habitat as the water level rises to normal

pool. The project's five funding entities included the Tourist Development Council: Lakes Fund, the Recreation and Parks Advisory Council, the City of Sebring, the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Florida Lake Management Society: Love Your Lake Program. The Highlands County Natural Resources Department and the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District would like to thank these partners for their contribution to the Lake Jackson Shoreline project.

Before and After Pictures of Lake Jackson Shoreline



## Central Chapter Update

The Central Chapter of FLMS held its quarterly meeting on the shores of Lake Harris. The meeting was hosted by the Lake County Water Authority (LCWA) which included a trip to the newly operational nutrient reduction facility located on approximately 50 acres along the Apopka-Beaclair canal just south of County Road 48 in Lake County, FL. Lunch was sponsored by General Chemical. Attendees included public and private entities as well as non-profit groups. A round table dis-

cussion of various lake management issues was held followed by an overview of the nutrient reduction facility by Mr. Lance Lumbard, the water resources project manager at the LCWA. The facility began operation in March 2009 and is considered the world's largest alum treatment facility designed specifically for total phosphorus removal. The facility is capable of treating discharges up to 300 cfs. LCWA officials expect the facility to cost up to \$1.2 million a year to operate as it treats more than 90 percent of the water flowing through the canal. Achieving the total P goals for the receiving lakes of Beaclair, Dora, Eustis and Griffin is also expected to improve

other water quality parameters such as transparency. Lance will be presenting some of the preliminary results from the facility's operation at next month's FLMS conference. Thanks go out again to the LCWA and General Chemical for making this an exciting and informative Central Chapter meeting.

The next Central Chapter meeting is scheduled for August 6 in Osceola County. Meeting details will be provided at a later date.

Remember...You don't have to live or work in Central FL to attend, if you're interested in Chapter information, please contact [flms@aol.com](mailto:flms@aol.com)





## Love Your Lake Cost Share Program

FLMS has created a cost-share program that funds lake, pond and shoreline projects demonstrating management techniques that help protect, preserve and restore Florida's aquatic resources. Each year FLMS solicits grant proposals describing successful management projects. FLMS will provide matching funds for expenses incurred by the selected applicant. Expenditures may be in the form of labor or monetary contributions utilized in the program. Proposals are reviewed by a selection committee based on the following criteria:

Monetary or labor match—programs encouraging community involvement are strongly recommended.

Location—project must be accessible to the public (may include large communities or neighborhoods—dependent on accessibility).

Signage—educational component explaining project.

Water quality enhancements—examples include xeriscaping, environmental berm and swale, and other innovative erosion control techniques.

“Love Your Lake” project proposals must be submitted by March 1, 2010. Projects must be

completed by May 1, 2010. If you have any questions, please e-mail Ann Shortelle at [abshortelle@mactec.com](mailto:abshortelle@mactec.com).

For more details about the “Love Your Lake” cost-share program, please visit [www.flms.net](http://www.flms.net).



Central Florida Zoo LYL Project

*Love Your Lake  
Deadline  
March 1, 2010*



## Editor's Corner

There are all kinds of exciting things happening with FLMS! These include the 2009 FLMS conference in Key Largo and the many new “Love Your Lakes” projects occurring throughout the state.

I encourage each of you to get involved with your local chapter. Don't forget to spread the word about our new free student membership to all of the future limnologists out there.

The goal of the FLMS newsletter is to provide a method to inform all FLMS members of the activities and efforts throughout all of Florida. Please let me know of any other upcoming events, conferences or articles that you would like included in the newsletter.

Please send comments and information to:

Shannon Carter Wetzel

[swetzel@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:swetzel@seminolecountyfl.gov)



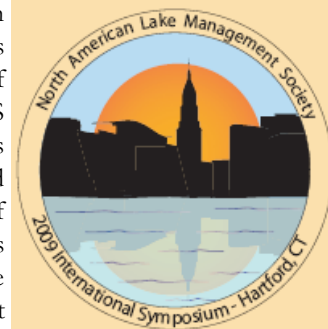
NALMS



## Updates

The New England Chapter of the North American Lake Management Society invites you to “come home” to the birthplace of NALMS-New England. The 2009 NALMS Symposium will provide ample opportunities for both lake management professionals and lake and watershed stewards. The theme of this year's conference draws upon Hartford's reputation as the insurance capitol of the world, so what better venue to talk about how to successfully manage threats to the viability of our lakes? Workshops, concurrent sessions, and educational programming will provide us with the latest information on lake management issues so that we can ensure the future of our lake resources for generations to come. Abstracts are due by May 15, 2009. Please visit the NALMS website for more symposium details.

### Ensuring Our Lakes' Future



29th International Symposium  
of the  
North American  
Lake Management Society

October 27-31, 2009

Connecticut Convention Center  
Hartford, Connecticut

NALMS has launched their new website at

[www.nalms.org](http://www.nalms.org)

If you haven't already taken a little time to look at the new website features, find a few minutes to check it out!



## *22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Lakes Conference*

### *Enhancing the States' Lake Management Programs*

### *On the Edge: Enhancing Ecological Integrity of Shorelines*

As President of the Florida Lake Management Society, I had the opportunity to attend the Annual National Lakes Conference in Chicago in April 2009. For over two decades, various state lake managers have gathered annually to discuss successes, obstacles and examine new approaches for improving the States' lake management programs. The 2009 program focused on creative ways to protect and restore fragile lakeshore ecosystems. Needless to say, the presentations were very interesting and evaluated impacts of shoreline vegetation or

the lack of vegetation on various aspects of the health of the lake, including impacts to habitat, fish and water quality. Public involvement was also emphasized with examples of successes, stumbling blocks and how to overcome these issues to attain the desired goals.

However, the presentations this year also included the preliminary results of the U.S. EPA's National Lakes Assessment. It is anticipated that the National Lake Assessment report will be finalized by December of 2009. The data is available for individual States, including Florida. Please access the

FLMS website at [www.flms.net](http://www.flms.net) to review the agenda and the brief summary of the various presentations made at this years conference, including the presenter's contact information.

The Florida Lake Management Society will attempt to secure information on status of our Lakes and provide that information once it has been finalized and released for distribution.

*Shailesh Patel.*

*FLMS President*



## *Shoreline Development Funding Program*



### **Did you know?**

The Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) sponsors an annual Shoreline Development Funding Program. The FLMS will provide specific grants through local sponsors such as governments and environmental organizations to distribute to shoreline homeowners for enhancement projects that combine a beneficial, native, aquatic plant habitat with some simple stormwater treatment techniques. Each homeowner may receive up to \$200 for projects approved by the local sponsor and FLMS.

### **Local Sponsors**

FLMS offers this program to local governments and environmental organizations for distribution to selected shoreline homeowners. Each organization can apply for up to \$1,000 to distribute. This program can be integrated into an existing water quality effort such as Adopt-A-Shore, Adopt-A-Pond, or other volunteer-oriented efforts. The sponsoring agency will administer the grants through selection of participants and verification of project completion. FLMS will approve each grant.

#### Grant selection process

Each homeowner must submit an application that includes:

- name, address, and contact number or email address
- picture(s) of the shoreline before any work is done. (if available)
- explanation on one sheet of paper of the proposed improvements to the shoreline area and why this will be beneficial to the surrounding environment.

#### Upon completion of the project

Each homeowner or local entity must submit:

- a brief description of the completed projected
- receipts for any purchases
- picture(s) of the completed project

### **Not sure where to start?**

The FLMS Shoreline Funding Program is administered by a local entity. The sponsoring agency can help you decide which aquatic plants are beneficial to the environment, what permits may be needed and who to contact, and how to construct simple stormwater treatment areas, such as a berm and swale system.

Please contact [Ann Shortelle](#), at (352) 333-2623.

Send individual proposals to:

FLMS  
PO Box 950701  
Lake Mary, FL 32795-0701



# Florida Lake Management Society



P.O. Box 950701  
Lake Mary, FL 32795-0701

E-mail: [flmshome@aol.com](mailto:flmshome@aol.com)

Check out the FLMS website  
for Society updates!  
[www.flms.net](http://www.flms.net)

*Join  
FLMS Now!*

Annual Dues (Includes Newsletter)

Student / Volunteer FREE

Individual \$25

Non-Profit Organization \$35

Business/Corporate \$65

Contributor \$100

## Upcoming Conferences And Workshops

FSA 2009 Annual Conference

*Stormwater as a Resource—Strategies and Opportunities*

June 17-19, 2009

Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa

FLERA 2009 Annual Conference

*Climate Change & Local Government—Roles, Responsibilities & Opportunities*

July 29-31, 2009

Sarasota Bay Hyatt, Sarasota

FAPMS 33rd Annual Training Conference

October 12-15, 2009

Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort

NALMS 29th Annual International Symposium

*Insuring our Lakes' Future*

October 28-30, 2009

Hartford, Connecticut



*Florida Lake Management Society  
2009 Annual Conference  
Key Largo Grande Resort and Beach Club  
Key Largo, FL  
June 8-11, 2009*

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The Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State, 1-800-435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. FLMS receives 100% of each charitable contribution. CH 3578.