It’s about time to renew your boat permits!

THAT TIME OF YEAR IS ALMOST HERE AGAIN! YOU’RE PROBABLY DREAMING OF WARMER, SUNNIER DAYS AHEAD — BUT BEFORE YOU GEAR UP FOR BOATING SEASON, YOU’LL HAVE TO RENEW YOUR PERMIT.

Be sure to keep an eye out in the mail. The week of March 16, letters will be sent to owners who previously permitted a boat or watercraft. Review the form and make any necessary corrections. Then send back the signed letter, along with a check or money order for the permit fee.

You can also renew your permit in person. Starting April 2, the Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock Wardens’ Offices will be open from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Sunday, to accommodate permit sales.

Permits can be bought for seasonal or daily use — and are fee-based on horsepower and residence. A full breakdown of pricing is available at www.spartanburgwater.org.

Spartanburg Water’s official start to boating season begins each year on April 1. Your permit is good from April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021.

DON’T FORGET...

You not only need a boat permit from Spartanburg Water; you also need a state permit from SCDNR. As of this year, SCDNR announced a change to the boat registration process. Rather than renewing your permit every three years, as of 2020 boat owners are required to renew their registration annually. The cost of the new registration is $10, a third of the current three-year fee of $30.

For more information, please visit www.dnr.sc.gov/boating/2020RegistrationRenewalChanges.

“Press Pause”: What’s Next?

NOW THAT THE DECEMBER 1, 2019, “PRESS PAUSE” DEADLINE IS OVER, MANY OF YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHAT HAPPENS NOW. OUR LAKE WARDENS AND WATERSHED SPECIALISTS ARE HARD AT WORK INVENTORYING LOTS AND PREPARING PACKETS FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Our staff is currently reviewing each “Press Pause” request submitted before the December 1 deadline, and personally reaching out to each of the 681 Lake Bowen residents who signed up during the 14-month window.

As you can imagine, this process takes time, but our staff hopes to have all inspections and proper permitting completed by spring!

We again want to thank everyone who took advantage of this opportunity and enrolled in the “Press Pause” program. We appreciate you working with us to reach a resolution that allows you to ensure all required permits and authorizations are current for improvements on Spartanburg Water System property, while helping us care for our drinking water reservoirs.

QUESTIONS: (864) 592-2240 / spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes / USE HASHTAG: #healthylakes
Meet the Team

AS WE KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR, SPARTANBURG WATER IS WELCOMING SOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR LAKE WARDEN AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT TEAMS. THESE MEN AND WOMEN WORK HARD TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES SAFE ON THE WATER. WE SAT DOWN WITH EACH OF THEM SO YOU CAN GET TO KNOW THE FRIENDLY FACES AT THE LAKE A LITTLE BETTER.

JON MORGAN
Watershed Coordinator/
Chief Lake Warden

Jon Morgan graduated from Clemson University in December 1998 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Aquaculture Fisheries and Wildlife Biology. He worked as a Professional Hunting Guide in Jackson, Wyoming, and a Park Ranger at Croft State Park, before becoming a Lake Warden with Spartanburg Water in 2003. In 2017, Jon was named Watershed Management Coordinator and in 2018, took on the additional responsibilities and duties of Chief Lake Warden.

ADAM COYLE
Lake Warden

Adam Coyle received a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminology from Coker University in Hartsville, S.C. After moving to Spartanburg in 2017, Adam began his law enforcement career with the South Carolina Highway Patrol. His Patrol areas included Cherokee and Union Counties. Adam left the Highway Patrol in late 2019 to begin his career at Spartanburg Water. He says he’s excited for this new journey, and feels at home with Spartanburg Water. Coyle and his wife, who’s a high school teacher, have a dog. Adam loves animals, music, and the outdoors.

CHRIS HORRELL
Lake Warden

Chris Horrell joined the Spartanburg Water team as a Lake Warden in early 2018. Born and raised in neighboring Greenville County, his love of the outdoors began with Boy Scouts, rising to the rank of Eagle Scout. Chris started his law enforcement career with the Greenville County Sheriff’s Office in 2004, where he worked in Uniform Patrol for 11 years, was an investigator in CID, became a Master Deputy and was responsible for training 50 new deputies. Chris was awarded letters of commendation, two Distinguished Service medals, and a Medal of Valor. Horrell was also an operator on the SWAT team for many years and has a long list of training and certifications — most of which focus on emergency response, WMD, and anti-terrorism training. Chris’ appreciation for the outdoors is what brought him to Spartanburg Water.

JAKE LANCASTER
Lake Warden

Jake Lancaster is a Travelers Rest native. He attended Blue Ridge High School, where he played football and baseball, before moving to Charleston to attend The Citadel Military Academy. At The Citadel, he had the honor of working as his battalion’s Executive Officer. After graduation with a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice, Jake began his career as a deputy with the Greenville County Sheriff’s Office from 2016 – 2019. He was also named “Rookie of the Year” during his second year there. In May 2019, Jake joined the Spartanburg Water team as a Lake Warden. He says he’s loved learning more about the watershed in Spartanburg, as well as spending time outdoors on Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock. Lancaster married his wife, Carly, in December 2018. The two are members of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church in Greer and enjoy traveling. Also in his free time, Jake enjoys golfing and hitting the gym at Orange Theory.

JONATHAN PARRIS
Lake Warden

Jonathan Parris (J.T.), was born and raised in Spartanburg County. He is a husband to his wife Caroline and father to son Rhett. Jonathan Parris (J.T.), was born and raised in Spartanburg County. He is a husband to his wife Caroline and father to son Rhett. After high school, J.T. joined the United States Marine Corps, where he was part of an anti-terrorism unit, before being selected to join the Marine Corps Special Operations Command. While deployed with Special Operations, J.T. was utilized as a multi-purpose K9 handler. His main assignment was to clear roadways and houses along patrol routes, looking for explosives. Parris completed multiple deployments, which included time in Afghanistan. After his time in the Marine Corps, J.T. moved back to the Upstate and began working for the Greenville County Sheriff’s Office. He was assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division and was quickly promoted to the rank of Master Deputy. In 2018, J.T. began his career as a Lake Warden with the Spartanburg Water team.
New Safety Feature at Public Landings

Next time you hit the water, you may notice some additions to the docks at our public landings on Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock.

These marine boarding rails are designed to keep you safe — which is always our top priority — and to provide access for those with mobility concerns.

Dock Boss safety handrails improve balance and provide steady support. They are designed to not only reduce the risk of slips and spills, they also minimize the strain on your back and knees as you get in and out of the boat.

We’re excited about this added feature, which is great for the elderly, pregnant, disabled, small children, or anyone else who could just use a helping hand!
Selling Your Home?
TRANSFER OF PERMITS FOR LAKE BOWEN.

With the new Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures document taking effect on October 31, 2019, permits can now be transferred along with the transfer of property. Existing authorizations (permits/licenses) are transferrable to new Contiguous Landowners 1) if the previous holder was in compliance with the permit requirements immediately prior to transferring the property, 2) and the application for transfer is received with all necessary fees paid 3) within 90 days of the transfer of ownership.

Please be sure to alert your realtor of this opportunity prior to the sale of your home. For more information and permit questions, please contact the Lake Bowen Wardens’ Office at 864-592-2240.