

Healthy Lakes

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

News and information
brought to you by Spartanburg Water.

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Lake Bowen Park Improvement Project

You may begin to notice some changes taking place around Lake Bowen Park. Spartanburg Water is currently working on some important projects to help provide a safer and more accessible experience for visitors to the park and boat ramps, as well as, provide much needed improvements to reduce the impacts of stormwater run-off from the park.

The projects planned fall into the following categories:

> SAFETY

- Enhanced traffic flow around the park to better separate those visiting the park for boating, and those walking, picnicking, fishing and enjoying the playground. This includes the addition of parking spaces around the upper loop of the park for vehicles without boat trailers.
- Designation of an existing boat ramp in the upper loop for non-motorized watercraft.

> IMPROVEMENTS

- Construction of a dedicated parking area for vehicles with boat trailers.
- Construction of an additional boat ramp, and relocation of an existing dock to locate all launching and retrieval of motorized watercraft within a centralized area.

> ENVIRONMENT

- Installation of a curb-gutter system and stormwater outlet improvements to reduce the environmental impacts of stormwater run-off.
- Landscaping improvements to enhance shoreline stabilization.



The project timeline is seven months, but the park will remain open throughout its completion, and every effort will be made to keep at least one boat ramp open for use at all times.

We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we work to make the Lake Bowen Park and boat ramps even safer and more enjoyable to relax, play and recreate – while making important changes to protect the environment of our largest drinking water reservoir.

For continued updates on the project progress, please call our pre-recorded message line: (864) 580-2055, or visit our website:

www.spartanburgwater.org/bowen-project-info

For questions or concerns, please contact our Chief Lake Warden and Project Manager, Jon Morgan: (864) 580-2518.





Taking Aim Against Algae

With the help of some new technology, Spartanburg Water is now even more

prepared to identify algae growth in our drinking water reservoirs, which – if left untreated – could otherwise lead to taste-and-odor issues.

Our lab recently invested in a new instrument called the GC Mass Spec, which gives our technicians the in-house capability to test for byproducts of Blue-Green Algae – the kind that can cause unpleasant aesthetics. Because the collection and processing of these water samples is time-sensitive, in the past, our lab had to contract services with an outside laboratory.

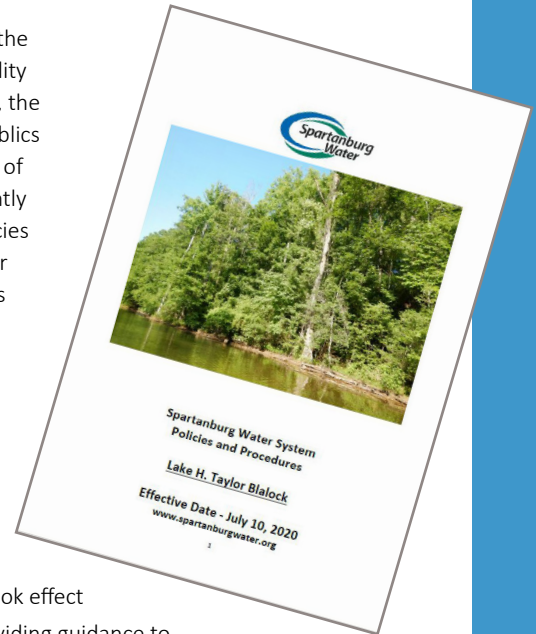
The GC Mass Spec is not the only tool in our algae-identification toolkit. Since early spring, our Watershed Specialists have implemented the use of a PAR, or Photosynthetic Active Radiation device. This instrument accurately measures the depth where sunlight is fueling the greatest algae growth – and helps to more efficiently target algaecide applications.

Our Watershed Specialists comb Lake Bowen and Municipal Reservoir #1 weekly, dropping the PAR into the water to pinpoint where photosynthesis is taking place. By doing so, it gives us a better idea of what's occurring in the water column in order to determine the best time and places to treat algae. By allowing us to address algae growth in its early stages – preventing it from reaching its peak – the PAR helps us more strategically plan for treatment.

Our goal at Spartanburg Water is to provide our customers with drinking water of the highest quality and standards, and we are confident these newly-implemented technological advances will allow for continued success by helping us identify, and in turn manage, algae growth in our reservoirs.

Lake Blalock Policies and Procedures

With maintaining the highest water quality standards in mind, the Commission of Publics Works for the City of Spartanburg recently adopted new Policies and Procedures for the use and access to Lake Blalock and SWS buffer property that surrounds the reservoir.



The Lake Blalock Policies and Procedures took effect July 10, 2020, providing guidance to property owners with land adjoining to Spartanburg Water System's property below the 720' elevation contour line. The new Policies and Procedures take the place of the former Lake Blalock Buffer Management Plan.

The guidance provided by these Policies and Procedures not only offers a number of benefits to adjoining property owners – but also to our nearly 200,000 customers.

The Policies and Procedures document is available for you to view in an e-reader format and printable version:

<https://www.spartanburgwater.org/Blalock-policies-guidance>

Should you have any further questions or need additional guidance, please contact the **Lake Blalock Wardens' Office at (864) 578-5442.**

We thank you for doing your part to help keep our drinking water reservoirs healthy!

Did you know . . .



1,350 miles of water line make up the Spartanburg Water system?

