

# Healthy Lakes

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

News and information  
brought to you by Spartanburg Water.

QUESTIONS: (864) 592-2240  
[spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes](http://spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes)  
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## Plans for Annual Drawdown of Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock

**Spartanburg Water's commitment to watershed maintenance is a critical component of our mission to preserve and maintain the reservoirs and rivers that supply our drinking water.**

Our watershed management strategy includes a wide variety of routine maintenance and monitoring activities, and beginning this year we hope to include the annual lowering of Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock as part of this strategy.

With the current low levels of precipitation, however, the drawdown of the reservoirs has begun naturally, and at this time, Municipal Reservoir #1 requires an additional flow of water in order to achieve optimum levels for drinking water operations and treatment.

For this reason, we are focusing on allowing more water from Lake Bowen to flow into Reservoir #1 as soon as possible, since this process does take time. With this movement of water, you will begin to see lower lake levels, with an attempted overall drawdown of Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock of approximately 2.5 – 3 ft. through the end of February 2023.

While we are currently experiencing a very dry weather pattern, wetter weather (especially heavy rainfall) may cause the lake level to fluctuate during the drawdown period. Rainfall levels may also affect our ability to reach and maintain these lower levels.

For our lake residents, the lowering of the reservoirs will provide the opportunity to perform permitted maintenance to marine structures and seawalls, as well as work on shoreline stabilization projects.

Continued on Page 2

### Lake Alerts:

Important Information  
Delivered Digitally!

#### Stay Informed with Lake Alerts

Spartanburg Water Lake Alerts provide important news and information for our lake residents and boat permit holders through e-mail – and now through text messages!

Whether safety information, weather and boating updates or anything else pertaining to our three reservoirs, join your neighbors by staying informed.

To sign-up, visit [www.spartanburgwater.org/lakealerts](http://www.spartanburgwater.org/lakealerts). After sign-up, you will receive a separate e-mail asking if you would like to opt-in to receiving messages via text as well. If you are already subscribed with your e-mail address, be on the lookout for an e-mail that will offer you the opportunity to also opt-in to receiving text messages.

For questions regarding your subscription, please contact our Communications Manager, Jennifer Candler, at (864) 580-5693 or by e-mail – [jcandler@spartanburgwater.org](mailto:jcandler@spartanburgwater.org).



## Plans for Annual Drawdown

Continued from Page 1

If you are considering a shoreline management or other project during this drawdown period that may require a permit, please contact our Lake Wardens' Offices to start the permitting process. For more information about permits, please visit [www.spartanburgwater.org/policies-and-guidance](http://www.spartanburgwater.org/policies-and-guidance) or call the Lake Bowen Wardens' Office at (864) 592-2240, or the Lake Blalock Wardens' Office at (864) 578-5442.

Though the water levels will be lower, we still plan to keep our boat landings at Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock Parks open and available for use. In order to ensure safety, we will place bright yellow warning buoys at certain intervals from shore to note potential shallow water hazards. If you are a lake resident with a boat lift, plan on removing your boat from the lift during the drawdown process. It is also important to properly secure your boat during the eventual raising of the lakes.

If you would like to view additional FAQs related to our planned drawdown, please visit [www.spartanburgwater.org/lake-drawdown](http://www.spartanburgwater.org/lake-drawdown)

## Irrigation Permit Renewals Coming in December



As the holiday season approaches, your mailbox will start to fill up with cards, catalogs and gifts – so be sure to be on the lookout for your yearly irrigation permit renewal letter that will arrive in December.

Irrigation permits are required for those properties adjacent to Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock, and should be renewed each year – or removed for non-renewal.

## Interested In Installing Irrigation For The First Time?

For those who are interested in installing irrigation on their property at Lake Bowen or Lake Blalock, a Land Permit Application can be completed and submitted with appropriate fees to either the Lake Bowen or Lake Blalock Wardens' Office. For questions, please call the watershed staff at Lake Bowen (864) 592-2240, or Lake Blalock (864) 578-5442.

To access the application, as well as pricing information and all Rules and Regulations governing our three reservoirs, please visit: [www.spartanburgwater.org/our-lakes](http://www.spartanburgwater.org/our-lakes).



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