

**Gaston County Commissioners Briefing
September 10, 2019**

Safety

Life jackets – equipping law enforcement for them to provide to those lacking

Safety spots on local FOX News WJZY during National Safe Boating Week May 18-24
Safety tips to be aired before major holidays

Buoys – Ensured all No-Wake buoys in place prior to the Memorial Day weekend
Repeated that effort after the massive rainfall in June

Purchased 20 new No-Wake buoys to replace those missing / damaged

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission approved LWMC
recommendation for No-wake Buoys at the Yachtsman Marina in Charlotte
Issued a Notice to Boaters

Environment

Water samples

From: Mecklenburg County Land Use Environmental Service

Belmont City

South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control,

New: LWMC has partnered with the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation's
Swim Guide - an app-driven, water quality testing network that is
comprised of weekly water samples taken at swimming sites around
Lake Wylie with data published each summer week through the
Swim Guide app.

Clean Marinas

In conjunction with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, LWMC
cancelled our program in NC and advised marinas to join the NRWRC program;
the LWMC program is still active in SC

Sterile Grass Carp

In February, LWMC was briefed by Dr. Brett Harris, Aquatic Weed Control
Program Manager at Duke Energy. He explained why no carp were needed last
year or this year. Checked again after the recent torrents flowing over the
Mountain Island Dam, samples being taken now. Report due in October

Lake Research program - “Shorescaping”

Completed last summer – results shared with Lake Norman Marine Commission and City of Belmont for possible implementation at their new waterfront park

Complete report on our web site – Lakewyliemarinecommission.com

Riversweep 17th annual on Saturday October 5, 2019

Supreme Court 1st Mon; Riversweep 1st Saturday in October

Radio /TV spots in September: local FOX TV to ride-along during the event

Registration open now at lakewylieriversweep.com

Law enforcement

Second set of dive equipment for Mecklenburg County police

Training aids for York County Boating Safety courses

Image Stabilizing Binoculars for Gaston County police

Law enforcement center – LWMC is partnering with the Belmont Rowing Club, the City of Belmont, and the Gaston County police to construct a much needed boat house for the Gaston County Police Boat and the Belmont Fire Department Rescue Boat.

Gaston Police – no boat house

Fire department - new truck with boat trailer too big for fire house.

Northern end of the lake ~1.5 mile from the Belmont fire department
FERC permit through the City of Belmont

Increases law enforcement /safety presence at the north end of the lake

Pollution / Sedimentation

York County has approved changes to their storm water ordinances to strengthen water quality protection of Lake Wylie and area creeks and streams.

The county’s Environmental Compliance officers, can issue on-the-spot Stop Work Orders to contractors found in violation.

Stop Work authority - strong incentive for contractors to prevent runoff

LWMC maintains that increased fines for would enhance that incentive and emphasize the storm water pollution issue.

Gaston has similar Stop Work initiatives: Mecklenburg must get a court order.

Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation – LWMC will sponsor symposium in the fall

Education and Public Relations

LWMC booth at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show pamphlets

Carbon monoxide and electrical shock issues; Shorescaping, Riversweep
Presentations to Rotary club and other organizations

LWMC commissioners are members of Lake Wylie and Montcross Area
Chambers of Commerce members

LWMC visits to Allen Steam Plant and the Catawba Nuclear Station so we can
better respond to queries about the two power plants on Lake Wylie.

Provide citizens with liaison to appropriate organizations re lake issues.

Press releases

- Flooding- northern end – Riverside Dr., Riverhaven Dr., Foggy Bank

Next big issue – Damage caused by wake surfing

Water Sports Industry Association Industry (WSIA) recommends

Stay 200 feet from docks / shoreline

NC law – stay 150 feet from docks

SC law – stay 50 feet from docks

Over 100 attendees at our June meeting – both sides – n most from SC

Owners - Thousands spent resorting SC docks and shore stabilization
in some instances

Wake surfers - like the wake surfing in the coves – near shore

Some state have passed laws restricting wake surfing specifically

Oregon, Vermont, Missouri

LWMC does not impose rules or regulations

Self-policing the only solution at present