

Changes in the LAKEWATCH Laboratory

By Mark Hoyer, LAKEWATCH Director



Robert Gallagher, one of the laboratory technicians has found another job opportunity in Atlanta Georgia and we thank him for his years of service to the LAKEWATCH laboratory and wish him well at his new position.

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The LAKEWATCH laboratory is heart of the LAKEWATCH program analyzing all samples after our army of Citizen Scientists collect them from around the state (active in 57 of Florida's 67 Counties) and producing the final data used by stakeholders in Florida and around the world. Each year the laboratory staff analyses and computerize approximately 10,000 total phosphorus, total nitrogen, chlorophyll (corrected and uncorrected for pheophyton), water true color and conductivity. These data are used by many agencies throughout the state and are needed to assess the State of Florida's Numeric Nutrient Criteria. These data are available through many sources includ-

ing the LAKEWATCH web site (<http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/>), Florida Atlas of Lakes (<http://www.wateratlas.usf.edu/atlasoflakes/florida/>) or by simply calling LAKEWATCH staff. Additionally, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) maintains a data Storage and Retrieval system called STORET in which LAKEWATCH is currently loading all historical data. The old STORET system is being upgraded by (FDEP) to a new system called Watershed Information Network (WIN) that will start in January 2018. Because of this change the LAKEWATCH laboratory is in the process of changing all data management activities so LAKEWATCH data can be loaded into the WIN system.

Along with the changes in data management activities, there have been some changes in the LAKEWATCH laboratory staff. Robert Gallagher, one of the laboratory technicians has found another job opportunity in Atlanta Georgia and we thank him for his years of service to the LAKEWATCH laboratory and wish him well at his new position. Additionally, Christy Horsburgh who has worked with the LAKEWATCH program since it began in 1986 will now be the new Laboratory Manager. Christy will do an excellent job for the laboratory and is now the person to contact if you have questions concerning the LAKEWATCH Laboratory.



Christy Horsburgh who has worked with the LAKEWATCH program since it began in 1986 will now be the new Laboratory Manager.

Help Keep Nesting Waterbirds Safe: Give Them Space

By The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Audubon Florida are reminding beachgoers and boaters to give nesting waterbirds and their young space to help keep them safe this nesting season.

Shorebirds build shallow nests out of sand and shells on beaches in spring and summer, and eggs and hatching chicks are difficult to see. Wading birds, such as herons and egrets, as well as pelicans are also nesting now on islands around the state. Both types of birds can be easily disturbed if people approach too closely. Such disturbance can cause birds to abandon their nesting sites, exposing eggs and chicks to predators, sun exposure and other harm.

Shorebird nests, eggs and chicks are well-camouflaged and can easily be missed and even stepped on unless people know to look out for them. The snowy plover, least tern, black skimmer, American oystercatcher and Wilson's plover are several of Florida's beach-nesting shorebird species facing conservation challenges. Vulnerable tree-nesting waterbirds, such as brown pelicans, reddish egrets, tricolored herons and roseate spoonbills, have also experienced declines. These coastal waterbirds can benefit from increased awareness by the public.

"Florida is renowned for its diverse and spectacular bird life,"

said FWC Chairman Brian Yablonski. "We want to ensure these birds are here for future generations to enjoy."

People can help keep nesting waterbirds safe by keeping their distance from them and Critical Wildlife Areas.

CWAs are established by the FWC to protect congregations of one or more species of wildlife from human disturbance during critical life stages such as breeding, feeding or migration. Last November, FWC commissioners approved an unprecedented effort to create 13 new CWAs and improve five existing CWAs.

"Some of the CWAs are so new that they have not yet been marked-off as CWAs. In these areas, we are asking people to be extra vigilant in their efforts to avoid disturbing the birds," said FWC CWA coordinator Michelle van Deventer.

In northwest Florida, there are

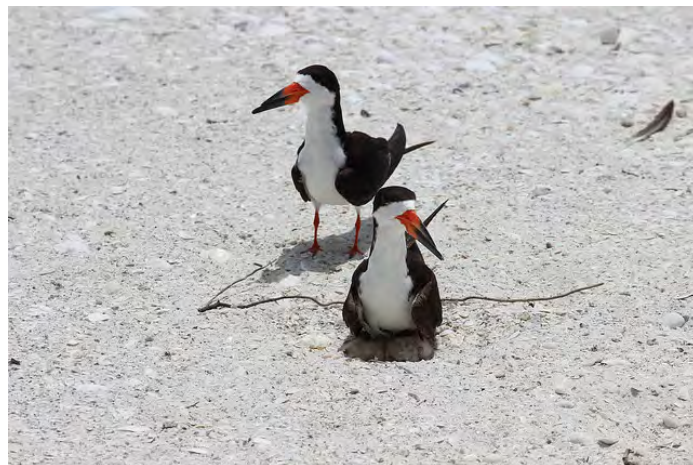
three CWAs posted for nesting birds: [Alligator Point](#) and [St. George Causeway](#) in Franklin County, and [Tyndall](#) in Bay County. The FWC is working to create two new CWAs in Franklin County: Flagg Island and Lanark Reef.

In northeast Florida, there are four CWAs posted for waterbird nesting: [Fort George](#) in Duval County, [Matanzas Inlet](#) in St. Johns County, [Nassau Sound Islands](#) in Nassau and Duval counties, and [Amelia Island](#) in Nassau County.

The central east coast of Florida area has one CWA posted for waterbird nesting: [Stick Marsh](#) in Brevard County.

The FWC is working to create a new CWA in this area: BC49 in Brevard County. This CWA has not yet been posted.

In the Tampa Bay area, there are two sites currently posted with CWA signs: [Myakka River](#) in Sarasota County and [Alafia Banks](#) in



[Black skimmer](#) on nest.

Carol Rizkalla of FWC.

Hillsborough County. The FWC is working to create two new CWAs in this area: Dot-Dash and [Alafia Banks](#) in Hillsborough County. The FWC is working to create two new CWAs in this area: Dot-Dash-Dit Islands in Manatee County and Roberts Bay Islands in Sarasota County. These CWAs have not yet been posted.

There are several CWAs posted for waterbird nesting in Lee and Collier counties. These include [ABC Islands](#), [Big Marco Pass](#), [Little Estero Island](#) and [Second Chance](#). Also in Lee and Collier counties, the FWC is working to create or update several new CWAs, including Rookery Island, Matanzas Pass Island, Big Carlos Pass-M52, Coconut Point East, Broken Islands, Useppa Oyster Bar and Hemp Key. These CWAs have not yet been posted.

In southeast Florida, there are two CWAs marked off for waterbird nesting or foraging: [Bill Sadowski](#) in Miami-Dade County and [Bird Island](#) in Martin County.

In addition to observing the marked-off areas around CWAs, people can also help by following a few simple steps while enjoying the beach this season:

Keep your distance from birds, on the beach or on the water. If birds become agitated or leave their nests, you are too close. A general rule is to stay at least 300 feet from a nest. Birds calling out loudly and dive-bombing are signals for you to back off.

Respect posted areas. Avoid posted nesting sites and use



[Black skimmer adult on Chicks.](#)

Carol Rizkalla of FWC

designated walkways when possible.

Never intentionally force birds to fly or run. This causes them to use energy needed for nesting, and eggs and chicks may be left vulnerable to the sun's heat or predators. Teach children not to chase shorebirds and kindly ask fellow beachgoers to do the same. Shorebirds outside of posted areas may be feeding or resting and need to do so without disturbance.

It is best to not take pets to the beach, but if you do, keep them leashed and avoid shorebird nesting areas. (State parks, national parks and CWAs do not allow pets.)

Keep the beach clean and do not feed wildlife. Food scraps attract predators, such as raccoons and crows, which can prey on shorebird eggs and chicks. Litter on beaches can entangle birds and other wildlife.

Spread the word. If you see people disturbing nesting birds, gently let them know how their actions may hurt the birds' survival. If they continue to disturb nesting birds, report it to the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-FWCC (3922), #FWC or

*FWC on a cellphone or by texting Tip@MyFWC.com. You may also report nests that are not posted to our Wildlife Alert Program.

"These charismatic birds make Florida the special place that it is," said Julie Wraithmell, Deputy Executive Director for Audubon Florida. "Giving these parents and their babies a little space will ensure they're here for generations to come."

For more information, go to MyFWC.com/Shorebirds and download the "[Share the Beach with Beach-Nesting Birds](#)" brochure. Or go to the Florida Shorebird Alliance website at FLShorebirdAlliance.org to learn more about how to participate in shorebird conservation efforts.

For more information about Florida's CWAs, visit MyFWC.com/CWA.

To learn how you can [volunteer your time](#) to protect nesting coastal birds, visit FLAudubon.org and scroll over the "Conservation" tab at the top, then click on "Coastal Conservation" and "Coastal Bird Stewardship," or you can email FLConservation@Audubon.org.

Secchi Dip-In 2017

Celebrate Lake Appreciation Month with us! July 1st - 31st

THANK YOU for your interest and participation in past Secchi Dip-In activities!

Your participation gathering water transparency measurements is an invaluable part of the effort to monitor lakes around the world.

YOU'RE INVITED to celebrate Lake Appreciation Month by participating in the July 2017 Secchi Dip-In! 2017 marks the 24th anniversary of the Dip-In and the 152nd anniversary of the first use of the secchi disk by Father Pietro Angelo Secchi.

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

We'd love your help to make Secchi Dip-In 2017 a success!

ORGANIZE – Use [SciStarter](#) to plan a [Secchi Dip-In](#) social event. Create and distribute advertisements locally.

- [Secchi Dip-In 2017 Flyer, Version #1](#) (full page)
- [Secchi Dip-In 2017 Flyer, Version #2](#) (quarter-page)
- [Lakes Appreciation Month 2017 Flyer](#)

PREPARE to take measurements by watching NALM's student-produced ["How to Take a Secchi Depth" video](#).

SHARE your activities on social media!

- Twitter – [@SecchiDipIn](#), #SDI2017, #NALMS
- Facebook – [Secchi Dip-In](#)
- LinkedIn – [The North American Lake Management Society \(NALMS\)](#)

SUBMIT your data to the [Secchi Dip-In Online Database](#).

- Having trouble submitting data? Review our [step-by-step guide](#) (on the [Participate](#) page) or e-mail us at secchidipin@nalms.org.
- You can also support lake-monitoring efforts by submitting your data through the Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network's (GLEON) [Lake Observer App](#). Please, submit via the app **or** the Secchi Dip-In website, not both!

FEEDBACK – Share your thoughts! E-mail secchidipin@nalms.org.



Photograph Credit: Holden Sparacino, 2016.

DIP-IN SAMPLING BASICS

A simple outline for training and assisting new samplers!

- Take a Secchi measurement during the month of July.
- **Sample as close to mid-day as possible**, while not wearing a hat or sunglasses.
- **Record all information in the field.**
- After sampling, please **enter the data** [here](#).
- **Share photos!** Great ways to share include e-mail, Twitter, and Facebook.

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Drought in Florida and Impacts to Florida Lakes

By Mark Hoyer, LAKEWATCH Director



Lake Mize in Alachua County. Photo credit Mark Hoyer.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor over 66% of Florida is currently in a significant drought condition. What happens to lakes during a drought? The attached picture of Lake Mize located on University of Florida's Austin Cary Forest is an example of one major impact that many people have seen during ex-

treme drought situations, lakes can disappear. "No Water, No Lake".

Obviously, with less rainfall water inputs to a lake decrease causing a concurrent decrease to the lake's water level. How can these impact our lakes? Recently, I have had two telephone calls re-

porting unusual happening in two LAKEWATCH lakes that I believe are related to Florida's current drought situation. The two calls reported impacts that are very different but both related to the drought.

One lake had tremendous algal blooms taking chlorophyll

values as high as 100 $\mu\text{g/L}$ when the long-term average for the lake is around 30 $\mu\text{g/L}$. Along with the drought came extremely warm and calm spring weather making it ideal for algal growth. The decrease in water inputs also lowered the color (stained tea color) of the lake, which was usually sufficient to moderate algal growth by decreasing light available for photosynthesis. Thus, with sufficient nutrients and perfect growing conditions an algal bloom occurred. One month later after a rain event of 2+ inches of rain the bloom declined.

Another telephone call was complaining about increase growth of submersed aquatic vegetation in a lake that had not had a plant problem before. Like the first situation the decrease water input lowered lake level and the color of the lake allowing sufficient light to reach the substrate of this shallow lake where aquatic macrophyte are now able to grow to problem levels. The stakeholders using the lakes are currently considering aquatic macrophyte control options, which are needed to allow the use of the lake. I suspect that as Florida moves to a wetter period in the future the aquatic plants will no longer be a problem.

Florida lakes are extremely dynamic and drought and/or

floods can change the appearance and ecological functions of these lakes in many ways. Right now, the Florida drought is having major impacts on Florida lakes but the

wet season is almost upon us so pray for rain but be careful how much you pray for because things can change in a big hurry as you can see in the picture of Newnan Lake.



Photo of Lake Newnan taken during drought condition (A, May 31, 2012) and after 6+ inches of rainfall (B, August 22, 2012). Photo credit Mark Hoyer

Breaking Boundaries to Improve Landscaping

By Rose Godfrey

Do you have invasive species on your property? More and more often, landowners and land managers are discovering new, unwanted species on their properties. One explanation for this is Florida's propensity to support non-native invasive species. A non-native invasive species is a species outside of its natural range or natural zone of dispersal that forms self-sustaining and expanding populations within a natural community in its new range. Additionally, its introduction will cause or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species can be very troublesome and costly. Nationally, invasive species can cost approximately \$200 billion to manage their spread and to repair the ecological damage they do. These costs can be reduced by using partnerships, such as Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP) and the Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs), which are alliances of stakeholders addressing management of invasive species in various defined geographic regions within Florida.

Partnerships like FISP and the CISMAs leverage resources to reduce costs and maximize efforts. UF/IFAS Extension has partnered with FISP to help address the growing threat of invasive species in Florida. FISP is dedicated to conserving Florida's natural landscape. Their mission is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of partnership approaches to preventing and controlling invasive species through increased communication, coordination and shared resources in order to protect wildlife habitat, working lands, natural communities and biodiversity in Florida. To put it simply, FISP works across boundaries and seeks to connect multiple stakeholders who are dealing with common invasive species problems.

A common—and valid—question is “Why should I care about invasive species?” The answer is simple: because non-native invasive species affect everyone. Invasive species crowd out native species, creating monocultures and reducing biodiversity. Invasive species can decrease the value of your property and impede your ability to enjoy it. Ever-

rising land management costs and the degradation of Florida's natural landscape are also a direct result of the damage non-native invasive species create. Boating, swimming and fishing become nearly impossible on a water body infested with hydrilla or water hyacinth. Consider farm lands for a moment: If crop yields decrease by 1%, then the cost of food for the average consumer increases by 4.5%. Non-native invasive species are everyone's problem.

Another frequently asked question is “What can UF/IFAS Extension, FISP and the CISMAs do for me?” Your local UF/IFAS Extension agents have a wealth of knowledge on a variety of subjects including non-native invasive species in your area. FISP offers tools for landowners and land managers, and the FISP website (www.floridainvasives.org) hosts resources to help with invasive species management. A favorite of these is the Florida Landowner Incentive Programs Database, a compilation of programs available to Florida landowners and land managers for financial and/or technical assistance. The da-

Pimentel, David et al. “Update on the environmental and economic costs associated with alien-invasive species in the United States.” *Ecological Economics*. Vol 52, Iss 3, 15 Feb. 2015, pp. 273-288

tabase can be searched by multiple fields to narrow down the options to fit your requirements. The database is updated quarterly. FISP updates the Landowner Incentive Programs Database listserv when there are upcoming deadlines for the programs in the database. Anyone can join the listserv on the database page.

The “How To” page of the FISP website has a dropdown list full of useful information. For example, categories include “How to find resources if you are a homeowner,” “How to identify invasive plants” and “How to find your local UF/IFAS Extension agent.” FISP also hosts a monthly webinar for the CISMAs that is open to all. The Cisma call, as it is commonly known, is held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm EST and only lasts one hour, guaranteed. Each call provides the opportunity to learn from a technical presenter and to hear a Cisma update along with “shout outs” for upcoming/recent events.

Currently 100% of Florida and 3 out of 67 counties in Alabama are covered by a Cisma. Cisma participation allows for species removal on private lands that otherwise might not be treated by various agencies. Public/private boundaries are blurred to al-

low Cisma partnerships to treat on many landscapes. CISMAs often host events for the Fall HalloWeed Count (HalloWeed). This year HalloWeed will be from October 21 through November 5, 2017. The goal of the event is to collect more credible invasive plant observation data in the Early Detection Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS) within the two weeks and three weekends of HalloWeed. Cisma events include educational workshops, workdays or fun, casual hikes or kayak trips to survey for a specific species. Cisma species surveys often focus on Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) species. EDRR species have a higher chance to be eradicated before they are well established on the landscape. The probability of eradication is increased with the use of Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS) and its complimentary App IvesGot1

(<http://www.eddmaps.org/florida/>). These reporting tools help land managers and landowners know of possible species encroaching on their properties. Reporting is easy, and each report is verified to ensure that the data is accurate. You can learn more about EDRR, EDDMapS or IvesGot1 on the FISP website: www.FloridalInvasives.org.

Invasive species may seem like they are taking over Florida, but Floridians are teaming up to fight back. Florida landowners and land managers, FISP, UF/IFAS and the CISMAs are combining efforts and working to protect and maintain our state’s fragile ecosystems. Visit FloridalInvasives.org, drop by your county’s Extension office, attend a Cisma call or check out one of the invasive species survey events to find allies, get support and advice, get involved and contribute to the cooperative effort.



Rose Godfrey is the Florida Invasive Species Partnership Outreach Coordinator at the UF/IFAS Invasive Species Extension Coordinator at the School of Forest Resources and Conservation.

Volunteer Bulletin Board

LAKEWATCH has a data sheet with a small check list for you to check off after you have completed your task. Please be sure to check off that you have collected the water sample for total nitrogen and total phosphorus (the small bottle), that you have collected the water sample and filtered it for chlorophyll and that you have taken a Secchi disk reading.

You may have already noticed that the LAKEWATCH field sheets have changed adding spaces where the time samples are collected can be recorded. It is very important that you remember to write the time for each station that you sample.

And, as always, we thank you for your dedication to the LAKEWATCH program and help in collecting the best data for management of Florida's valuable aquatic resource.

Thank you,
The LAKEWATCH Crew

Florida LAKEWATCH Freshwater Data Sheet

Lake Name: _____ County: _____

Sampler: _____

Phone: () _____ Date: _____

Yes ☒ No ☐ : Surface Water Collected for Total Phosphorus and Total Nitrogen.

Yes ☒ No ☐ : Surface Water Collected for Chlorophyll and Filtered Within 48 Hours.

Yes ☒ No ☐ : Secchi Depth Reading Taken

Secchi Disc Measurements:

• For **Secchi depth** and **water depth** measurements, please indicate the number of feet and then estimate and circle the appropriate fraction, if needed.

• If your **disc is visible on the bottom** write **B**. If your **disc disappears in the weeds** write **W**, in the **vanishing point** column and the **depth** at which your disc disappears.

Vanishing Point	Sun Code Number	Sun Code Key <small>Use the codes from below to fill in the Sun Code Number column.</small>	Water Depth	Time
Sta 1 ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4		1 = full sun	ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4	
Sta 2 ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4		2 = haze over sun	ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4	
Sta 3 ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4		3 = thin cloud	ft. 1/4 1/2 3/4	
		4 = medium cloud cover		
		5 = heavy cloud cover		

DESCRIBE the amount and duration of any unique occurrences that have occurred within two weeks or so before your sampling date either in the lake or on the local watershed:

Lake Level Measurements: Please circle or describe the type of gauge located in the lake and then record the lake level. **Type of Staff Gauge:** WMD / City / LCWA / USGS / Other (Please describe): _____

Lake level: _____ **Rain (in.) since last report:** _____

* If you wish to record lake levels of your lake, please fill in these last two blank. Call LAKEWATCH (1-800-LAKEWATCH) if you have any questions on how to get started.

Update Your Information

We are updating our records. If you are not a primary sampler but would like to remain on our mail list, please call 1-800-525-3928 so that we can update your information. We are purging our mail list and will remove any non-primary samplers from the mail list unless we hear from you.

Thank you,
The LAKEWATCH crew

Working in the Public Eye

by Stephen Montgomery, Aquatic Applicator, Allstate Resource Management

It's never easy to do a job with someone watching over your shoulder. Someone interrupting your train of thought, asking questions, and criticizing what you're doing. For an aquatic applicator, this is more a question of: How do I handle this when it happens? Rather than: What do I do if it happens? Part of this is because the waterways that are our workplace are such an integral part of everyday life in Florida. The focus on aquatic recreation, abundance of waterfront homes and the importance placed on our stormwater management needs, puts an applicator in the public eye on a daily basis.

One would think our industry would benefit from the increase in public concern for the environment. We are, after all, maintaining our aquatic resources to promote their function, sustainability, and aesthetics. Unfortunately, the "green movement" combined with a lack of public knowledge about aquatic weed management can mistakenly create an adversarial attitude toward applicators and the work we do. The issue is compounded by a steady flow of misrepresented information through the media and internet. Generalizations about the evils of chemicals in the environment has translated to mistrust of anyone using them, regardless of the situa-

tion.

It's not likely that a spontaneous, widespread change in people's understanding will happen any time soon. We need to be prepared to deal with individuals that may voice disapproval with our work, and take an active role in educating them. Over the years I've learned some basic guidelines and tactics to follow when speaking to the public while on the job.

Be polite – It should be common sense, but that's easier said than done half way through a long day in the middle of August. Before you get too involved in any conversation, take a second to compose yourself. Being argumentative will not help a situation and does not present you as an experienced professional. You should be confident in your answers but not condescending to the person your speaking with.

Understand their point of view – Sometimes people are just curious what you're doing. Most people don't have the familiarity with your job that others in our field do. You see PPE as an uncomfortable but necessary part

of your job. They see it and concerns about their safety arise. The average person's knowledge about aquatic herbicides is probably confined to something they read on Facebook last week. Remember you are working near where they and their families live and play. People tend to fear what they don't understand. Take that into consideration when approached by concerned residents.

Choose your words – Correct terminology can help to clear up public misconceptions about our job. Words like "chemical" and "killed" are ambiguous and create a sense of fear. Explaining that we only use herbicides approved for use in the water, and that the weeds have been specifically treated helps to convey a better image. It's important to show the public that aquatic vegetation management is very careful and deliberate, and not reckless use of random chemicals. Our choice of words when talking to people we come into contact with is a big part of that process.

Establish a connection – Most



Stephen "Monty" Montgomery during a FLMS Spring Workshop.

residents and homeowners don't realize how important aquatic vegetation management is here in Florida. Establishing a connection between what we do and the benefits to their lives demonstrates that applicators are working on their behalf. Explaining how successful vegetation management programs maintain flood control systems and recreational waters, while improving aesthetics of communities shows them they have a vested interest in what we do.

Make the weeds the bad guy – The years and years of hard work and environmental success go unnoticed, but the rare mistake gets instant attention. Applicators often get swept up in the public's fervor to "save the environment" and assign blame to careless offenders. In the rush to put a face to environmental damage, it's often overlooked



Educating residents can improve support for our work.

that: The weeds are the bad guys here. The amount of habitat and income lost due to exotic plant species rarely makes the headline news. Their invasive nature is not apparent to residents because our efforts keep the invasion at bay (usually without their knowledge). Educating residents on the plants we target and the damage they're capable of can improve public support for our work.

Know when to leave – Despite your best efforts, some people are just not interested in having their minds changed. Some folks are going to cling to their preconceived notions tighter than a drowning person clings to a life preserver. Being polite and professional doesn't mean you have to stand there being berated by a belligerent individual. If their mind is made up, then you trying to convince them otherwise will probably only aggravate them more. That's why it's important to realize when a situation won't be resolved in the moment and politely make your exit. Let them know that their concerns are understood and give them the

contact information for a supervisor or customer service department. Business cards and printed informational materials can often help make a transition to leaving. When you return to your office be sure to follow up with the appropriate people so that they know to expect a call and what the situation is so they aren't blindsided.

Sometimes, as aquatic resource managers in Florida, we have to be our own public relations department. Avoiding confrontation at any cost only perpetuates the misconception that we're doing something wrong. A little explanation can go a long way toward fostering a broader understanding of our job and its necessity. It's important that we don't take criticism of what we do personally, particularly since it is often misinformed. We make an effort to get licensed and stay trained. We work hard to ensure that the job gets done right and Florida's waterways are protected. Don't be afraid to let people know it.



This newsletter is generated by the Florida LAKEWATCH program, within UF/IFAS. Support for the LAKEWATCH program is provided by the Florida Legislature, grants and donations. For more information about LAKEWATCH, to inquire about volunteer training sessions, or to submit materials for inclusion in this publication, write to:

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School of Forest Resources and Conservation
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Gainesville FL 32611-0600
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(352) 392-4817,
E-mail: flakewatch@ufl.edu,
Website: <http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/>

All unsolicited articles, photographs, artwork or other written material must include contributor's name, address and phone number. Opinions expressed are solely those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the Florida LAKEWATCH program.