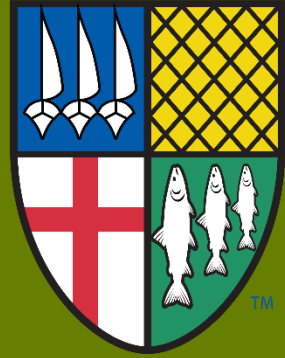


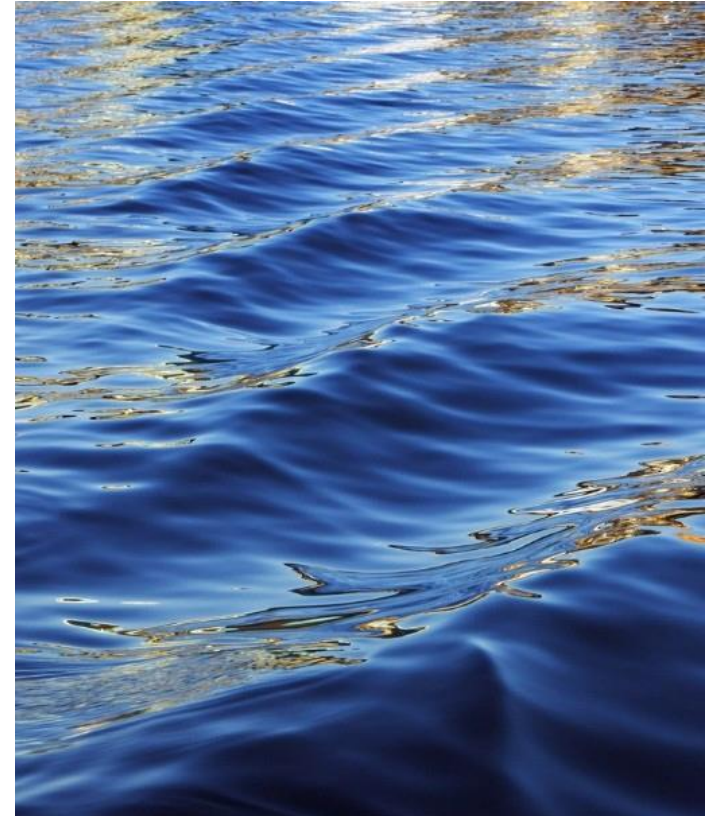
THE TOWN OF  
**Windermere**



State of the  
Lakes Update

**Town Council Meeting**

Amy Giannotti, Lakes Management Consultant  
**January 11, 2022**



# State of the Lakes Update

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- Introduction - New Lakes Management Consultant
- Overview & Status Report
- Areas Doing Well
- Targeted Areas for Improvement
- How Residents Can Help/Public Involvement





# New Lakes Management Consultant – Amy L. Giannotti, MS, CLM

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- Environmental Scientist & Certified Lake Manager
- 20 years of experience managing Florida's water resources for habitat & water quality
- Prior experience includes resource management & regulatory responsibilities for state & local government
- Founder/Owner of AquaSTEM Consulting
- Bachelor of Science – Biology – Marietta College
- Master of Science – Environmental Sciences – University of Virginia
- Provides technical consulting services for lake, shoreline, pond, & wetland management for municipalities, HOAs, waterfront residents, etc. as well as educational outreach & community engagement



# Overview of Lakes & Shorelines within Windermere:

## Lakes:

- Lake Butler & Wauseon Bay
- Lake Bessie
- Lake Down
- Lake Crescent



# What Has Happened Since October 2021

## Completed

- Surveyed Lakes Butler, Down, Wauseon Bay
- Inspected all sites under Town's management
- Reviewed invasive plant management permits from Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD) & Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
- Completed site visits with Town staff to address current scope of contracted work
- Requested proper documentation from aquatics contractor
- Responded to resident inquiries
- Provided monthly inspections, outreach articles, & social media content for October, November, December

## In Progress

- Applying for permit to re-grade Lake Bessie boat launch
- Planning community lake cleanup for Feb. 20, 2022
- Survey Lake Bessie & Lake Crescent
- Inventory of berm & swales
- Evaluating the management of retention ponds, swales, & stormwater conveyance structures under new contract
- Staff training for environmental compliance & reporting





# Things going well

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- Management of permitted invasive aquatic plants by Orange County Environmental Protection Division under the FWC Invasive Plant Management Workplan
- Public Works staff are observant, responsive, knowledgeable, & communicative
- Aquatics contractor (SOLitude) is responsive & receptive to requests for treatment, reporting details, & documentation
- Permits are up-to-date & required compliance inspections completed
- Habitat for fisheries & wildlife is excellent





# Room for Improvement

- Need to address pollution issues coming from construction sites (improper sediment controls on site, lack of silt fencing, etc.)
- Option to make some shoreline sites more aesthetically pleasing
- Stormwater pipes are clogged with sediment which impacts flow/drainage - should be addressed with new vector contractor
- Content on public signage can be improved to protect water quality & habitat



# Public Involvement – How Can Residents Help?

- Community Lake Cleanup – February 20, 2022
- Incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs):
  - Reduce nutrient pollution from fertilizers
  - Management of grass clippings, landscape debris, & pet waste
  - Secure sediment on site & reduce runoff
  - Household hazardous waste
  - Etc.
- Take note of the monthly educational articles
- Like, follow, & share environmental content shared on Windermere's social media platforms
- If you see something, say something...let's help each other!







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Thank you.

