



# SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE ASSOCIATION

400 Scruggs Road, Suite 2100, Moneta, VA 24121

[www.SMLAssociation.org](http://www.SMLAssociation.org)

*Protecting the Investment of SML Residents*

*Lake Matters: November 2018*

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It is hard to believe, but we find ourselves in our Fall season! It is my hope that everyone has enjoyed a fun and safe summer.

Past weeks have been marked by several high-water events. I would like to thank AEP for their proactive approaches to lowering the lake prior to the hurricane and subsequent heavy rain the following weekend. This could have been a catastrophic event. As we moved away from these events, debris became the focus. To report debris please contact AEP directly at [www.smithmountainproject.com](http://www.smithmountainproject.com) (the specific URL for debris reporting is <http://www.smithmountainproject.com/DebrisMgmtPlan/ReportDebrisForm.aspx>). By using the online portal you generate a work ticket. AEP's debris-removal staff is usually on the water, and not in the office near a phone, so this is the quickest way to get the problem addressed. You may also contact TLAC at 540-721-4400 to report debris and AEP directly if there is a navigational hazard at 800-956-4237. Unfortunately, debris removal is time-intensive, especially on such a large lake. SMLA and TLAC are here to help you with any inquiries or further direction.

SMLA had the opportunity to thank our volunteers for all of the wonderful work done throughout the year at our annual volunteer appreciation event. We had a wonderful meal, music and our annual water quality monitoring report. I cannot emphasize enough the value of our volunteers. We are so thankful for these commitments. SMLA could not exist and provide critical services without our volunteers. Thank you so much! If you wish to become involved, please let us know. We have numerous opportunities that will provide enriching experiences. The health of our lake and economy depend on all of us working together.

The Board of Directors is entering into its budget season. We are working to update the Strategic Plan to guide our budgeting processes. I would like to thank you for participating in our recent survey regarding SMLA programs. This information is very instructive to us as we seek to ensure your voices are being heard and are part of our deliberations. We are always open to hearing from our members; we are all a team working together to promote the health and safety of the lake.

In other business, we will be sending out ballots to our membership for the election/re-election of Directors for our Board. I ask that you participate in this process by voting and returning your ballot. Historically, we have not had great participation. This is your opportunity to have your voice heard. The ballots will not be in the newsletter this year but sent individually, either electronically or by US mail. I wish to thank all of those on the ballot this year for their willingness to serve!

SMLA will be 50 years old next year! What an accomplishment! I would like to ask for volunteers who would work on a small committee with the Board to plan activities during 2019. This will be a fun and engaging process. Please call me at 540-524-9220 or email me [loriesmith500@gmail.com](mailto:loriesmith500@gmail.com), if you can help us. Thank you very much!

As this is the last newsletter prior to the holidays, I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season. The holidays are right around the corner! *During Thanksgiving, please know we are very thankful for each of you, your families and the extraordinary gifts you offer SMLA!*

Kindest regards,  
*Lorie Smith*  
President, SMLA

***Not a Member? Go to [www.smlassociation.org](http://www.smlassociation.org) and click "Join Us."***  
***Membership Matters!***

***WANTED: Someone To Help With SMLA Public Relations***

We are looking for an individual that would be interested in helping with the following:

*Prepare press releases to local media*

*Work with committee chairmen to look for opportunities for publicity*

*Work with the President to develop brochures and marketing materials*

*Assist with preparation for local events*

This individual will be supported by the President and Board with a goal of promoting SMLA’s visibility and presence in the community. Computer skills required.

Interested individuals are asked to call Lorie Smith, President, at 540-524-9220.

***SMLA HOSTS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC***

On Sunday, September 23rd the SMLA Board of Directors invited our Ferrum College partners, TLAC , and the SMLA volunteers for an end of season picnic at Bedford Regional Water Authority.

SMLA Board Director, Brian Key, Executive Director of the BRWA, gave volunteers a guided tour of the facility, then volunteers and their spouses enjoyed a delicious meal from Farmhouse Catering and musical entertainment provided by the Rust Belt Jazz Trio.

Directors and Committees were recognized and the Ferrum Staff, who work with our largest group of volunteers, the Water Quality Monitors, presented discussions and summaries of the impact this group had on our lake community in 2018.

Our achievements could not be accomplished without the support of our loyal volunteers.

***THANK YOU EACH & EVERYONE!***



From left: Dr. Carolyn Thomas “holding court.” Larry Iceman and Ferrum student intern, Chantal Aaron. Music provided by the Rust Belt Trio. Board Member Bob Camicia discusses Water Quality results with Dr. Carolyn Thomas and Dr. Delia Heck of Ferrum college. Brian Key, explains how the filtering process works. 2018 Water Quality Monitoring results: the Lake is in great shape!

**SMLA Office Hours: The secretary is in the office on Tuesday and Friday from 9 to 5.  
We are open most Mondays and Thursdays from 9 to 1, staffed by volunteers.  
The office is closed on Wednesday.**

## SAVE OUR STREAMS

The 45 certified monitors and trainees of the SML Save our Streams (SOS) unit have good reason to feel stretched, as they cover more than 20 area streams spread over two counties, and each of the streams needs to be monitored four times per year. Typically, a three-to-four-person team is assigned to one or two streams. Fortunately, our efforts this summer and fall have been enhanced by three Franklin County Middle and High School faculty members, science teachers Amy Chattin, Dorian Albano, and Frances Lash, who have enlisted their advanced students to survey the health of the Pigg River at Waid Park, near Ferrum.



The skills the students are learning are the same ones required of certified monitors: demonstrating a working knowledge of stream ecology; carrying out successfully field science methods, such as the collection of aquatic invertebrates in their stream habitats; and identifying accurately about two dozen varieties of water bugs, i.e., aquatic invertebrates, in various life stages. When at least 200 specimens are gathered as part of a valid sample, the percentage breakdown among the varieties of pollution tolerant vs. pollution intolerant bugs yields a stream score from zero to twelve, with scores of eight or above considered healthy. When a site yields consistently unhealthy scores, SOS can help landowners seek remedial efforts.



The mayfly, one of our most common pollution intolerant insects.

While the students participating in our effort on the Pigg River help fill in the gaps in our coverage, we also need a regular supplement of new volunteers from the community to maintain the viability of the program. Novice stream monitors are teamed with certified SOS trainers and given ample opportunity to train while working in the field. The training is supplemented by a morning-long classroom session at SMLA. Normally, novices are ready to be certified in a period from six months to a year. For more information, please contact the SOS area coordinator, Geoff Orth, at [gcorth01@gmail.com](mailto:gcorth01@gmail.com).

To download the most Current SOS Monitoring Report for the SML Watershed go to [www.smlassociation.org](http://www.smlassociation.org) click the **PROGRAMS** tab, then **SAVE OUR STREAMS** and scroll down.

### **WANTED—SMLA OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

On Tuesdays and Fridays, you will find Teresa Picking, our Administrative Assistant, taking care of business. We depend on volunteers to keep our office open Mondays and Thursdays.

Could you give as little as four hours a month, working in our office, located in The Plaza, 400 Scruggs Road? The duties are mostly greeting visitors, answering the phone, taking messages and providing information. Training is provided.

We try to keep the office open 9:00 to 5:00 from June through Labor Day, and 9:00 to 1:00 all other times. You can do half-days and choose the day/s best for you.

The ability to have the office open during these times is a service to our Board, our membership and our community. We appreciate all inquiries. Please call us at 540-719-0690.

## 2018 PUMP-OUT PROGRAM RESULTS

The Vessel Pump-Out Program removed 6864 gallons of effluent from 437 boats this season!

Marinas Participating in 2018	Pump Outs	Unique Boats
Bayside	36	16
BayRoc	6	4
Crazy Horse	61	16
Crystal Shores	84	32
Halesford Harbour	28	4
Lakeside	45	10
Parkway	13	6
Pelican Point	51	16
VA Dare	112	21
VISA	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>126</b>

Our vessel pump-out program is one of the many SMLA efforts to protect the quality of our waters. It's made possible through a VDH clean water grant combined with support from your membership dues and donations and further aided by TLAC administration. As a condition of grant, no fees are charged for this service, however tax deductible donations are gladly accepted to help cover the program's operating expenses.

Randy Stow—Chair, Vessel Pump-Out

***Are you on Facebook? Here are some pages to visit, including SMLA Business Partners:***

**SMLA :** <https://www.facebook.com/smlassociation.org>

**TPSML:** <https://www.facebook.com/TakePrideSML>

**Water Safety Council:** <https://www.facebook.com/SML-Water-Safety-Council>

***Please don't forget to LIKE our Business Partners!***

**Artfully Framed at the Lake:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Artfully-Framed-At-The-Lake>

**Bedfords Regional Water Authority:** <https://www.facebook.com/bedfordwater>

**Carilion Wellness:** <https://www.facebook.com/CarilionClinicWestlakeCenter>

**Capps Home Building Center:** <https://www.facebook.com/shopcapps>

**Crystal Shores Marina Resort:** <https://www.facebook.com/Crystal-Shores-Marina-Resort>

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**Lindsey A. Coley, Attorney at Law:** <https://www.facebook.com/LindseyAColeyEsq>

**Magnum Point Marina:** <https://www.facebook.com/magnumpointmarina>

**Mattress by Appointment:** <https://www.facebook.com/mattressbyappointmentsml/videos>

**Moneta Farm & Home Center:** <https://www.facebook.com/MonetaFHC>

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**Western Virginia Water Authority:** <https://www.facebook.com/westernvawater>

**Westlake Automotive:** <https://www.facebook.com/Westlake-Automotive-Service>

**And, let's not forget AEP:** <https://www.facebook.com/AppalachianPower>

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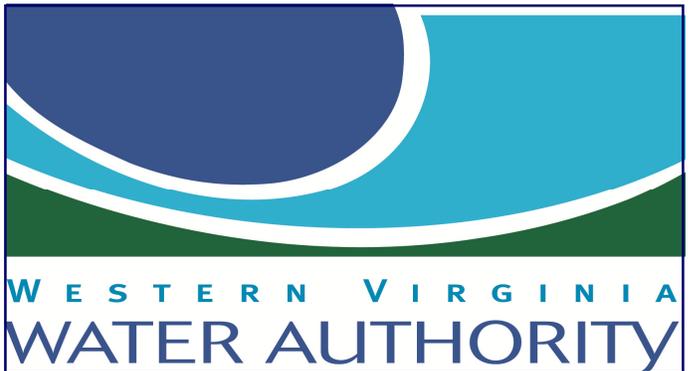
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• **An AEP representative is in the SMLA office on Friday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:30.** •

• **This is an opportunity for property owners to ask general questions** •

• **about shoreline management at Smith Mountain Lake.** •

• ***No appointment is needed.*** •

• **For Information about the Shoreline Management Plan go to [www.smithmtn.com](http://www.smithmtn.com).** •

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***VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: SMLA Web Maintenance***

The SMLA web site would like additional support updating and maintaining its website. If you'd like to volunteer to become part of this value added service for your SMLA friends, please contact John Rupnik by phone or email. Thank you.

**John Rupnik, SMLA Webmaster**

***703-201-9088 or [jrupnik@gmail.com](mailto:jrupnik@gmail.com)***

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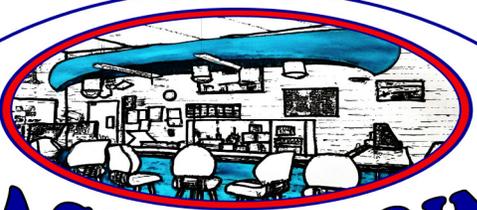
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Our goal is to keep you informed. What would you like to know?

Please send your Ask SMLA questions or comments to:

**[asksmla@smlassociation.org](mailto:asksmla@smlassociation.org)**

Responses of interest will appear in local newspapers.

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***Not a Member?*** Go to [www.smlassociation.org](http://www.smlassociation.org) and ***Become a Member Today!*** You can even pay the tax deductible dues online.

### ***Membership Matters!***

**SMLA encourages you to participate in our annual election of Directors**

*We have historically placed the ballot for our Board of Directors in the newsletter, however, this year we are implementing a dedicated balloting process. Your ballot, and the accompanying short bios, will arrive by US Mail, or eMail, about a week after the arrival of this newsletter.*

*The eMailed PDF file may be filled out, saved and returned to us online. Mailed hard copies must be returned to the office.*

*When you receive your ballot, please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with our candidates and vote. This is an opportunity to stand up and be counted.*

*Thank you in advance for making sure your vote is returned to our office!*