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SMLA Leader Honored with NALMS Leadership and Service Award

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA – Keri Green, a board member and leader of lake quality initiatives for the Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA) was presented with a Leadership and Service Award at the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) conference.

NALMS Leadership & Service awards recognize leadership, service, and practice of lake and reservoir management. Selection criteria for Leadership and Service Awards include level of involvement, measurable impact, sustainability of action(s), and innovation in lake and reservoir management.

Green was recognized for organizing the SMLA Lake Quality Council (LQC) to protect the water of Smith Mountain Lake and promote safe recreation. The award also noted her service as the liaison for the Virginia DEQ and Department of Health for harmful algal bloom (HAB) information and response.

Among her efforts on behalf of Smith Mountain Lake, Green was instrumental in the successful effort to get funding from the Virginia General Assembly to fund a lake-wide study of the causes of HABS. That effort is currently underway. She also started the Dock Watch program, which has more than 40 volunteers monitoring for cyanobacteria at locations around the lake.

Green has an educational background in ecology, lake management and natural resource protection. She led the science team for a regional planning agency in New Jersey for 12 years. She joined the SMLA as a volunteer in 2021 and was elected to the board of directors in 2022.

NALMS fosters and supports lake managers, scientists, practitioners and non-profits from across the continent. The conference was held in Lake Tahoe. Also at the NALMS event, Green presented about SMLA and the work being done to address conditions and causes of HABs on the lake.

About SMLA

The Smith Mountain Lake Association (SMLA) mission is to keep Smith Mountain Lake clean and safe. SMLA is the longest serving advocate for the SML community. Activities help to retain the pristine beauty of Smith Mountain Lake and the vibrant local economy. SMLA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). It is an all-volunteer organization that relies on memberships, donations and grants to support programs that keep SML clean and safe.

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