

It's about time to renew your boat permits!

THAT TIME OF YEAR IS ALMOST HERE AGAIN! YOU'RE PROBABLY DREAMING OF WARMER, SUNNIER DAYS AHEAD — BUT BEFORE YOU GEAR UP FOR BOATING SEASON, YOU'LL HAVE TO RENEW YOUR PERMIT.



Be sure to keep an eye out in the mail. The week of March 16, letters will be sent to owners who previously permitted a boat or watercraft. Review the form and make any necessary corrections. Then send back the signed letter, along with a check or money order for the permit fee.

You can also renew your permit in person. Starting April 2, the Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock Wardens' Offices will be open from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday

through Sunday, to accommodate permit sales.

Permits can be bought for seasonal or daily use — and are fee-based on horsepower and residence. A full breakdown of pricing is available at www.spartanburgwater.org.

Spartanburg Water's official start to boating season begins each year on April 1. Your permit is good from April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021.

DON'T FORGET...

You not only need a boat permit from Spartanburg Water; you also need a state permit from SCDNR. As of this year, SCDNR announced a change to the boat registration process.

Rather than renewing your permit every three years, as of 2020 boat owners are required to renew their registration annually. The cost of the new registration is \$10, a third of the current three-year fee of \$30.

For more information, please visit www.dnr.sc.gov/boating/2020RegistrationRenewalChanges.

▶ “Press Pause”: What's Next?

NOW THAT THE DECEMBER 1, 2019, “PRESS PAUSE” DEADLINE IS OVER, MANY OF YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHAT HAPPENS NOW. OUR LAKE WARDENS AND WATERSHED SPECIALISTS ARE HARD AT WORK INVENTORYING LOTS AND PREPARING PACKETS FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Our staff is currently reviewing each “Press Pause” request submitted before the December 1 deadline, and personally reaching out to each of the 681 Lake Bowen residents who signed up during the 14-month window.

As you can imagine, this process takes time, but our staff hopes to have all inspections and proper permitting completed by spring!

We again want to thank everyone who took advantage of this opportunity and enrolled in the “Press Pause” program. We appreciate you working with us to reach a resolution that allows you to ensure all required permits and authorizations are current for improvements on Spartanburg Water System property, while helping us care for our drinking water reservoirs.

Meet the Team

AS WE KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR, SPARTANBURG WATER IS WELCOMING SOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR LAKE WARDEN AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT TEAMS. THESE MEN AND WOMEN WORK HARD TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES SAFE ON THE WATER. WE SAT DOWN WITH EACH OF THEM SO YOU CAN GET TO KNOW THE FRIENDLY FACES AT THE LAKE A LITTLE BETTER.



JON MORGAN
*Watershed Coordinator/
Chief Lake Warden*

Jon Morgan graduated from Clemson University in December 1998 with a Bachelor's Degree in Aquaculture Fisheries and Wildlife Biology. He worked as a Professional Hunting Guide

in Jackson, Wyoming, and a Park Ranger at Croft State Park, before becoming a Lake Warden with Spartanburg Water in 2003.

In 2017, Jon was named Watershed Management Coordinator and in 2018, took on the additional responsibilities and duties of Chief Lake Warden.



ADAM COYLE
Lake Warden

Adam Coyle received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology from Coker University in Hartsville, S.C. After moving to Spartanburg in 2017, Adam began his law enforcement career with the South Carolina Highway Patrol. His Patrol

areas included Cherokee and Union Counties.

Adam left the Highway Patrol in late 2019 to begin his career at Spartanburg Water. He says he's excited for this new journey, and feels at home with Spartanburg Water.

Coyle and his wife, who's a high school teacher, have a dog. Adam loves animals, music, and the outdoors.



CHRIS HORRELL
Lake Warden

Chris Horrell joined the Spartanburg Water team as a Lake Warden in early 2018. Born and raised in neighboring Greenville County, his love of the outdoors began with Boy Scouts, rising to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Chris started his law enforcement career with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office in 2004, where he worked in Uniform Patrol for 11 years, was an investigator in CID, became a Master Deputy and was responsible for training 50 new deputies. Chris was awarded letters of commendation, two Distinguished Service medals, and a Medal of Valor. Horrell was also an operator on the SWAT team for many years and has a long list of training and certifications — most of which focus on emergency response, WMD, and anti-terrorism training.

Chris' appreciation for the outdoors is what brought him to Spartanburg Water.



JAKE LANCASTER
Lake Warden

Jake Lancaster is a Travelers Rest native. He attended Blue Ridge High School, where he played football and baseball, before moving to Charleston to attend The Citadel Military Academy. At The

Citadel, he had the honor of working as his battalion's Executive Officer.

After graduation with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Jake began his career as a deputy with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office from 2016 – 2019. He was also named "Rookie of the Year" during his second year there.

In May 2019, Jake joined the Spartanburg Water team as a Lake Warden. He says he's loved learning more about the watershed in Spartanburg, as well as spending time outdoors on Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock.

Lancaster married his wife, Carly, in December 2018. The two are members of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church in Greer and enjoy traveling. Also in his free time, Jake enjoys golfing and hitting the gym at Orange Theory.



JONATHAN PARRIS
Lake Warden

Jonathan Parris (J.T.), was born and raised in Spartanburg County. He is a husband to his wife Caroline and father to son Rhett.

After high school, J.T. joined the United States Marine Corps, where he was part of an anti-terrorism unit, before being selected to join the Marine Corps Special Operations Command. While deployed with Special Operations, J.T. was utilized as a multi-purpose K9 handler. His main assignment was to clear roadways and houses along patrol routes, looking for explosives. Parris completed multiple deployments, which included time in Afghanistan.

After his time in the Marine Corps, J.T. moved back to the Upstate and began working for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. He was assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division and was quickly promoted to the rank of Master Deputy.

In 2018, J.T. began his career as a Lake Warden with the Spartanburg Water team.



JAMES WEST
Watershed Specialist

James West was born in Spartanburg, graduated from Spartanburg High, and completed his Bachelor’s Degree in Biology at USC Spartanburg in 1991. For 10 years he worked for the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency in the pesticides section of the Atlanta Office. From 2001 to 2017, West worked for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in Laurens, Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union Counties. His work encompassed several areas — including septic systems, general sanitation, rabies, construction and industrial storm water, bulk petroleum tanks, mining, dam safety, and emergency response programs.

West has worked for Spartanburg Water in the Lake Blalock office since November 2017. As a Watershed Specialist, he addresses trees and vegetation, shoreline stabilization, docks, paths, boat lifts, irrigation, and sonar mapping issues.

West is married to his wife of 27 years and has two sons.



MEAGAN ROY
Watershed Specialist

Meagan Roy grew up in Spartanburg County, where she attended school in District 5. She graduated from Auburn University in 2015 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Wildlife Ecology and

Management, and went on to complete her Master’s Degree in Fisheries at Auburn in 2017.

Roy has worked on projects throughout Florida, Alabama, and Tennessee, researching stream ecology and watershed/wetland health.

She started her career with Spartanburg Water in fall of 2017. Roy is currently one of the Watershed Specialists for Lake Bowen, where she handles land permitting for lake residents and addresses issues concerning water quality and shoreline erosion.



MELISSA ALLEY
Support Administrator

Melissa Alley was born in North Carolina, but grew up living all over the world as a Navy brat. She’s been married for 21 years and has a daughter, who is currently a junior at Gardner Webb University.

Melissa worked at Crawley Memorial Hospital for 20 years, before coming to Spartanburg Water. She is currently working to obtain an Associate’s Degree in Office Administration.

DID YOU KNOW? ...

Our Lake Wardens and Watershed Specialists work together as a team, but they hold different job responsibilities. The specialists oversee all the permitting around the reservoirs, water sampling, and watershed-related issues. The wardens are Class 1 certified law enforcement officers, and handle all law enforcement and security needs, watershed inspections, reservoir patrols, boat permitting, and park management.

New Safety Feature at Public Landings

NEXT TIME YOU HIT THE WATER, YOU MAY NOTICE SOME ADDITIONS TO THE DOCKS AT OUR PUBLIC LANDINGS ON LAKE BOWEN AND LAKE BLALOCK.

These marine boarding rails are designed to keep you safe — which is always our top priority — and to provide access for those with mobility concerns.

Dock Boss safety handrails improve balance and provide steady support. They are designed to not only reduce the risk of slips and spills, they also minimize the strain on your back and knees as you get in and out of the boat.

We’re excited about this added feature, which is great for the elderly, pregnant, disabled, small children, or anyone else who could just use a helping hand!





Selling Your Home?

TRANSFER OF PERMITS FOR LAKE BOWEN.

With the new Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures document taking effect on October 31, 2019, permits can now be transferred along with the transfer of property. Existing authorizations (permits/licenses) are transferrable to new Contiguous Landowners 1) if the previous holder was in compliance with the permit requirements immediately prior to transferring the property, 2) and the application for transfer is received with all necessary fees paid 3) within 90 days of the transfer of ownership.

Please be sure to alert your realtor of this opportunity prior to the sale of your home. For more information and permit questions, please contact the Lake Bowen Wardens' Office at 864-592-2240.

Healthy Lakes.

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

News and information
brought to you by Spartanburg Water.

QUESTIONS: (864) 592-2240
spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes
USE HASHTAG: #healthylakes



Watch for Watercraft Permit Renewals in Your Mailbox.

Watercraft permit renewals will be arriving soon for boats and Personal Water Craft (PWC) permitted in 2019. All watercraft are required to be permitted each year and the fee structure, based on horsepower, is available on our website – spartanburgwater.org. To purchase a watercraft permit for the first time, please call the **Lake Bowen Wardens' Office at (864) 592-2240** for instructions on what items and documentation you need to purchase a watercraft permit.



Welcome to the Watershed Staff: PAUL GLOVER, Watershed Management Specialist



Paul Glover has been a Spartanburg County resident for the past eighteen years, moving to Spartanburg when his father became the pastor of a local Baptist church. He graduated from Boiling Springs High School, and from Lander University cum laude and Golden L Honors in Biology with a genetics emphasis. Paul's senior seminar project of the TRC8 gene mutation was selected as the winner of the Student Academic Showcase, and he was elected Vice President of the Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society and the Chess Club.

Paul previously worked for the Greenwood Genetics Center as a lab analyst to detect and conduct research on hereditary genetic disorders. He joined Spartanburg Water in 2016, where he served in various laboratory roles, and has now recently joined the Watershed management staff at Lake Bowen.

We are happy to have Paul as a member of the Spartanburg Water Watershed management team!

Wardens' Offices move to extended hours **March 16.**

Monday, March 16, marks the beginning of the busy boating season at Lakes Bowen and Blalock.

LAKE BLALOCK
Wardens' Office
open Monday-Sunday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

LAKE BOWEN
Wardens' Office
open Monday-Sunday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.



Important Dates

Free SCDNR Boater Education classes
Saturdays
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Lake Blalock
Wardens' OFFICE:

- APRIL 18
- APRIL 25
- MAY 16
- MAY 23

Paddle Fest Educational Paddle Tours
Lake Bowen
and Lake Blalock:

SATURDAY, MAY 30
9 a.m.-12 p.m., Blalock

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
9 a.m.-12 p.m., Blalock

SATURDAY, JULY 25
9 a.m. -12 p.m., Bowen

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
6-8 p.m. Bowen

All classes are **FREE**, but registration is required online at spartanburgwater.org, or by calling **(864) 592-2240**.

Where do I place my 2020 watercraft permit sticker?

Recreational boating permit stickers must be applied in the proper location on the watercraft in order to be a valid permit.

Please attach your permit sticker to the left topside (portside) of the watercraft adjacent to the end of the state registration number on conventional watercraft, sailboats and Personal Water Craft (PWCs).

For paddleboards, canoes, kayaks, pedal boats and other non-powered watercraft, the permit sticker must be applied to the left topside (portside) front of the vessel.

Valid permit stickers are required on both Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock before enjoying the lakes.



Notice Anything Different?

We have a new format for our Healthy Lakes newsletter: a shorter, more concise version delivered to your mailbox quarterly. This format allows us to deliver the best information about what's happening around our three reservoirs: Bowen, Blalock and Reservoir #1.



Even better than a hard copy of our newsletter?
Make the move to digital and save paper and postage by signing up to have Healthy Lakes delivered to your inbox. Go to our website and enroll to make the switch:

<https://www.spartanburgwater.org/Healthy-Lakes-newsletter>

Healthy Lakes

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

News and information
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spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes
USE HASHTAG: #healthylakes



Reporting Storm Water Runoff

Spartanburg Water is asking for support to help identify areas most affected by storm water runoff and erosion. We would like to pinpoint areas where excess sediment and erosion may be entering our drinking water sources.

You can send pictures and comments of trouble spots to: healthylakes@spartanburgwater.org.

We thank those of you who have already done so for your submissions.

Together, we can care for the reservoirs that supply drinking water to our entire community and ensure top-quality with every turn of the faucet.



Sonar Tech to Tackle Nuisance Vegetation



Have you ever had issues with plants hitching a ride on your boat? Aquatic plants like Bladderwort can attach to boat motors, affecting navigation and recreation.

In an effort to identify and map areas in our reservoirs where Bladderwort and other aquatic plants are growing, Spartanburg Water uses a variety of tools— one of which is sonar technology.

Our boats equipped with the sonar technology make the rounds on Lake Bowen, Lake Blalock and Municipal Reservoir #1 throughout the year, and collect data that gives us insight into the exact location and density of the underwater vegetation.

This data not only tells us the current state of vegetation in our reservoirs, it helps provide the mapping information we need to help mitigate it. In partnership with SCDNR, we restock Sterile Triploid Grass Carp each year as an effective biological tool to help control excess plant growth.

These vegetarian fish feed primarily on plants and algae, such as Bladderwort, and do not consume other fish. As one of the approved methods used regularly by SCDNR, the number of Triploid Grass Carp we stock each year is based on the density and growth of underwater vegetation that we are seeing – information that we gather with sonar technology.

On the flipside, Bladderwort isn't all bad. In moderation, it can actually be beneficial. Bladderwort helps filter pollutants and is an indicator of good water quality; however, there is such thing as too much of a good thing. So by using effective technology we can ensure that we maintain the proper balance – providing a safer place to recreate and better drinking water quality for all.

Are you short a life jacket?

**Please don't risk your safety!
Instead, access our life jacket loaner board.**

Created in partnership with Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System's Safe Kids of the Piedmont, the life jacket loaner board at Lake Bowen offers a variety of life vests and sizes if you've forgotten one at home or have more passengers than you do life jackets.

Vests are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and are disinfected after each use.

This loaner system was developed to keep everyone safe, and we encourage you to use it – because nothing is more important to us than your safety!

A friendly reminder for our neighbors...

Please be sure to alert your Realtor of this opportunity prior to the sale of your home:

In accordance with the Lake Bowen Policies and Procedures, permits for improvements/structures can now be transferred along with the transfer of a property. Existing authorizations (permits/licenses) are transferrable 1) if the previous holder was in compliance with the permit requirements immediately prior to transferring the property, 2) and the application for transfer is received with all necessary fees paid 3) within 90 days of the transfer of ownership.

For more information and permit questions, please contact the Lake Bowen Wardens' Office at (864) 592-2240.



NEWS/UPDATES

Please be sure to visit our website – spartanburgwater.org – for the latest information on park offices hours and public access to recreational areas.

To continue to reach our Wardens and Watershed Staff for questions and assistance, please call:

Lake Bowen: (864) 592-2240

Lake Blalock: (864) 578-5442



Even better than a hard copy of our newsletter?
Make the move to digital and save paper and postage by signing up to have Healthy Lakes delivered to your inbox. Go to our website and enroll to make the switch:

<https://www.spartanburgwater.org/Healthy-Lakes-newsletter>

Healthy Lakes

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

News and information brought to you by Spartanburg Water.

QUESTIONS: (864) 592-2240
spartanburgwater.org/healthylakes
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Lake Bowen Park Improvement Project

You may begin to notice some changes taking place around Lake Bowen Park. Spartanburg Water is currently working on some important projects to help provide a safer and more accessible experience for visitors to the park and boat ramps, as well as, provide much needed improvements to reduce the impacts of stormwater run-off from the park.

The projects planned fall into the following categories:

> SAFETY

- Enhanced traffic flow around the park to better separate those visiting the park for boating, and those walking, picnicking, fishing and enjoying the playground. This includes the addition of parking spaces around the upper loop of the park for vehicles without boat trailers.
- Designation of an existing boat ramp in the upper loop for non-motorized watercraft.

> IMPROVEMENTS

- Construction of a dedicated parking area for vehicles with boat trailers.
- Construction of an additional boat ramp, and relocation of an existing dock to locate all launching and retrieval of motorized watercraft within a centralized area.

> ENVIRONMENT

- Installation of a curb-gutter system and stormwater outlet improvements to reduce the environmental impacts of stormwater run-off.
- Landscaping improvements to enhance shoreline stabilization.



The project timeline is seven months, but the park will remain open throughout its completion, and every effort will be made to keep at least one boat ramp open for use at all times.

We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we work to make the Lake Bowen Park and boat ramps even safer and more enjoyable to relax, play and recreate – while making important changes to protect the environment of our largest drinking water reservoir.

For continued updates on the project progress, please call our pre-recorded message line: (864) 580-2055, or visit our website:

www.spartanburgwater.org/bowen-project-info

For questions or concerns, please contact our Chief Lake Warden and Project Manager, Jon Morgan: (864) 580-2518.





Taking Aim Against Algae

With the help of some new technology, Spartanburg Water is now even more

prepared to identify algae growth in our drinking water reservoirs, which – if left untreated – could otherwise lead to taste-and-odor issues.

Our lab recently invested in a new instrument called the GC Mass Spec, which gives our technicians the in-house capability to test for byproducts of Blue-Green Algae – the kind that can cause unpleasant aesthetics. Because the collection and processing of these water samples is time-sensitive, in the past, our lab had to contract services with an outside laboratory.

The GC Mass Spec is not the only tool in our algae-identification toolkit. Since early spring, our Watershed Specialists have implemented the use of a PAR, or Photosynthetic Active Radiation device. This instrument accurately measures the depth where sunlight is fueling the greatest algae growth – and helps to more efficiently target algaecide applications.

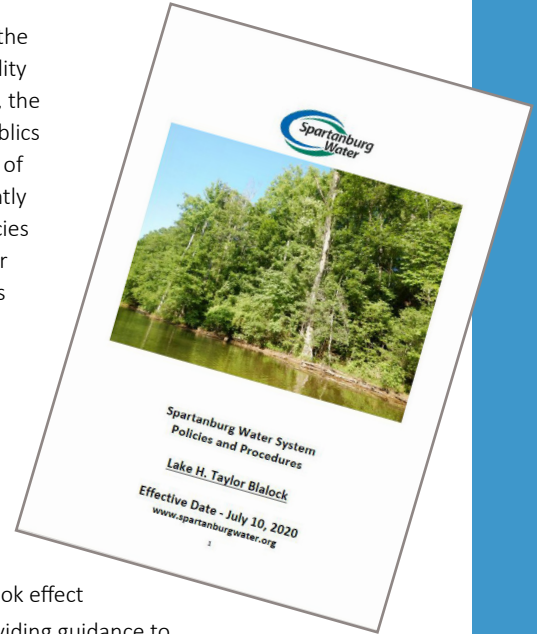
Our Watershed Specialists comb Lake Bowen and Municipal Reservoir #1 weekly, dropping the PAR into the water to pinpoint where photosynthesis is taking place. By doing so, it gives us a better idea of what's occurring in the water column in order to determine the best time and places to treat algae. By allowing us to address algae growth in its early stages – preventing it from reaching its peak – the PAR helps us more strategically plan for treatment.

Our goal at Spartanburg Water is to provide our customers with drinking water of the highest quality and standards, and we are confident these newly-implemented technological advances will allow for continued success by helping us identify, and in turn manage, algae growth in our reservoirs.



Lake Blalock Policies and Procedures

With maintaining the highest water quality standards in mind, the Commission of Publics Works for the City of Spartanburg recently adopted new Policies and Procedures for the use and access to Lake Blalock and SWS buffer property that surrounds the reservoir.



The Lake Blalock Policies

and Procedures took effect

July 10, 2020, providing guidance to

property owners with land adjoining to Spartanburg Water

System's property below the 720' elevation contour line. The new

Policies and Procedures take the place of the former Lake Blalock

Buffer Management Plan.

The guidance provided by these Policies and Procedures not only offers a number of benefits to adjoining property owners – but also to our nearly 200,000 customers.

The Policies and Procedures document is available for you to view in an e-reader format and printable version:

<https://www.spartanburgwater.org/Blalock-policies-guidance>

Should you have any further questions or need additional guidance, please contact the

Lake Blalock Wardens' Office at (864) 578-5442.

We thank you for doing your part to help keep our drinking water reservoirs healthy!

Did you know . . .



1,350 miles of water line make up the Spartanburg Water system?