



The Lakes Education/Action Drive (LE/AD)  
Presents the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual

# POLK COUNTY LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH CELEBRATION 2012



*SPONSORED IN PART BY:*



Sponsored by a grant from the  
Alafia River, Hillsborough River  
and Peace River Basin Boards of the  
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<http://www.Facebook.com/LakesEducationActionDrive>



## WHAT IS LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH?

Citizens are encouraged to enjoy their lakes and reservoirs throughout the year but especially in July – as July is Lakes Appreciation Month. The North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) sponsors Lakes Appreciation Month each July nation wide to draw attention to the value and importance of lakes and reservoirs.

Americans love to spend July, especially the Fourth, on the water, at beaches and on lakeshores. Boating, fishing and swimming are favorite recreational uses of American lakes and reservoirs. Lakes and reservoirs also play other vital and often hidden roles. They provide drinking water and irrigation water for agricultural fields and are a source of electricity and power generation. They also serve the important function of absorbing rainfall and runoff from land, help to prevent floods, and provide homes for precious wildlife. It is clear that as we enjoy and use lakes, we have to protect them. Because lake pollution is caused by so many different activities, no one regulation will suffice to prevent it. Education and outreach aimed at changing individual behavior are key components to any successful lake protection effort.

For us here in Polk County, that means an opportunity to celebrate our beautiful lakes (over 500 lakes) with a lake cleanup during the month of July. Lakes Education/Action Drive (LE/AD), along with the City of Lakeland, Lakeland Clean & Beautiful, Keep Polk County Beautiful and Keep Winter Haven Clean & Beautiful are helping to coordinate the efforts of a dozen agencies and groups with one goal in mind – removing trash from our lakes and leaving Polk County's lakes better than they were before!

### **Here's what you can do:**

Clean up your favorite lake any day/any time during the month of July. Volunteers may receive equipment (garbage bags and gloves) by calling one of the cooperating groups listed on the next page. To honor our dedicated volunteers, those who pre-register and return their registration, wrap up report and surveys to LE/AD, will receive a complimentary gift card\*.

**Lakes Appreciation Celebration**  
**Volunteer Sign-up Sheet**  
Pre-register your group by emailing [lakeseducation@hotmail.com](mailto:lakeseducation@hotmail.com)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Organization/ School/ Community Group/individual

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Clean Up

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

**Activity Description:** ☐ Shoreline Clean-up ☐ Deep Water Clean-up \_\_\_\_\_Name of Lake or Water Body

**Here's what you do:**

Clean up your favorite lake any day/any time during the month of July. Volunteers may receive equipment (garbage bags and gloves) by calling one of the cooperating groups listed below. Volunteers who register and return their wrap up report and surveys to LE/AD will receive a complimentary gift card\*. Registration is required.

*\*Larger groups (youth groups, scout troops) may receive a pizza party instead of individual gift cards.*

**Volunteer Sign-up**

Please Print Names (use back if necessary)	Volunteer Address (City, State, Zip)

**To arrange to pick up of equipment for lake clean up call:**

City of Lakeland Lakes & Stormwater Division (863) 834-8429

Lakeland Clean & Beautiful (863) 834-3306

Keep Polk County Beautiful (863) 676-7019

Keep Winter Haven Clean & Beautiful (863) 427-5184

**Email completed form to:**

Lakeseducation@hotmail.com

*\*LE/AD will require participants to complete a pre & post survey form to receive gift card. This form is for information purposes only to meet our grant requirements. No personal information will be collected.*



# Lakes Appreciation Celebration Wrap-up Report

*Our volunteers are dedicated to preserving the quality and beauty of our lakes!*

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Organization/Community Group	Date of Event
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Contact Person/Group Leader	Day Phone	Email Address
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Mailing Address	City/State	Zip
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## Event Information:

Number of Registered Volunteers Attending Clean Up Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of bags of liter collected: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Project Took to Complete: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Project:

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Volunteers in Attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

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**After your clean up, please fill out this event “Wrap-Up” report and survey and email to  
Lakes Education/Action Drive to receive your complementary gift card.**

**Email: [lakeseducation@hotmail.com](mailto:lakeseducation@hotmail.com)**

**If you have any questions, please call (863) 221-5323**

**Thank you for your dedication to our lakes!**



## 2012 LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH PRE-SURVEY

**LE/AD is a non profit organization that provides public education to the community on lake preservation and protection. Your feedback is very important to us. Please complete the following survey and return to LE/AD.**

Have you attended a previous Lakes Appreciation Month Celebration?

☐ No ☐ Yes If so, which year(s) have you attended? (Please indicate the years) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about this event? (check ALL that apply):

☐ LE/AD Website ☐ LE/AD Newsletter ☐ LE/AD Email ☐ LE/AD Facebook ☐ Newspaper

☐ Other Source (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

What do you like most about this event? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following activities do you practice:

☐ Use low flow toilets & shower heads ☐ Turn off water while brushing teeth ☐ Run full laundry & dishwasher loads

☐ Mulch yard debris instead of bagging or blowing into the roads ☐ Xeriscape (use Florida-Friendly plants)

☐ Never litter or dump anything down the storm drains

How many lakes are in Polk County? \_\_\_\_\_

What is a watershed? \_\_\_\_\_

What watershed do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

Name 3 ways to help keep Polk County lakes clean.

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you familiar with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

*(SWFWMD provided partial grant funding for this event. The District provides watershed education in the upper Peace River area.) For more information about either organization, visit: [www.watermatters.org](http://www.watermatters.org)*

Can you name a grant program offered by the SWFWMD? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive the SWFWMD's online monthly newsletter and occasional emails about workshops, cleanups and other opportunities to help protect our water resources?

☐ No, thank you ☐ Yes

If yes, please provide email address and county: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for volunteering and helping to protect our lakes and making LE/AD programs successful!!**

**Lakes Education/Action Drive - Protecting our lakes for future generations.  
PO Box 7607, Lakeland, FL 33807 [www.LE-AD.ORG](http://www.LE-AD.ORG) (863) 221-5323**





**2012 LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH  
POST-SURVEY  
(PLEASE FILL OUT AFTER YOUR CLEAN UP EVENT)**

What do you like most about this event? \_\_\_\_\_

What were you most surprised about, if anything, with this event? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything you would change about this event? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you participate in this event again next year? ☐ Yes Definitely ☐ No, why? \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2 stormwater projects that the county or a local city has initiated around our lakes.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you participated in any other LE/AD activities before? If so which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever visited the LE/AD website ([www.le-ad.org](http://www.le-ad.org))? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you found our page on Facebook and "liked" us? (many of our upcoming events are posted on our Facebook page) \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for volunteering and helping to protect our lakes and making LE/AD programs successful!! Now email your Wrap Up Report and Pre and Post Surveys to LE/AD to receive your complementary gift card.**

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