

# SHORELINER

## Boone Lake . . . All Year Long



Winter



Spring

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**APRIL 20, 2024**

The Boone Lake Association will hold its 25th Annual Cash for Trash Clean-up on Saturday, April 20, 2024. This successful event is due to the support of local businesses, corporate sponsors, governmental agencies, and most importantly you, the approximately 300 volunteers that come out annually to help keep Boone Lake clean and safe. Plans to celebrate this hallmark event are underway. Please contact [boonelakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:boonelakeassociation@gmail.com) if are interested in being a sponsor for this significant milestone.

**APRIL**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Summer



Fall

**BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
 Piney Flats, TN 37686 | 423.360.5057  
[www.boonelakeassociation.org](http://www.boonelakeassociation.org)  
[boonelakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:boonelakeassociation@gmail.com)

 [www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation](http://www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation)

**WATCHING THE WATERS**

**Winter 2024**

 [@boonelakeassociation](https://www.instagram.com/boonelakeassociation)



## What does BLA do all year long?

### In Winter? (Dec-Jan-Feb): **Disposal and Shoreline Access.**

When the lake is down 20' from full pool shoreline access exposes logs and hazards and the crew can chain saw and remove them before the waters rise again. Disposal is BLA's #1 goal during winter to pile wood logs and debris that cannot be burned on the Winged Deer Hwy 11-E ramp to be loaded and hauled to land disposal at Iris Glen landfill. Thank you, Johnson City, for your brush trucks and dumpsters that make sure everything removed by BLA does not find its way back into the lake. Sullivan County, S. Holston channel does not have such equipment nor a land burial option yet (help us if you can, Mayor Venable); so BLA obtains burn permits and conducts controlled burns at secure locations of the logs gathered and corralled all Fall.

### In Spring? (Mar-Apr-May): **River Inflows and Annual Cleanup.**

They say "April Showers bring May Flowers", but Mother Nature can rage and storm too. The annual cycle inundates the lake from logs and debris flowing into it from the Watauga and S. Holston rivers. During Spring TVA raises the lake level about a foot

a week dispersing all of the river inflows and causing any trees cut and dropped into the lake by some old and new shoreline projects (please have your tree services and personal cuttings removed before they float!). This is the most challenging time for BLA's crews and boats trying to clear the waters before the summer season begins. Thank goodness for April 20th and the 300 to 400 volunteers who turn out for the Annual Cleanup Event to remove and keep tons of debris and trash that would otherwise float into the lake this summer.

### In Summer? (Jun-Jul-Aug): **Tasks Response and Watching-the-Waters.**

Prime-Time on the lake for all! 1382'! In addition to BLA's Hot Line (**423-360-5057**), we receive email (boonelakeassociation@gmail.com) and Facebook requests for crew help to remove dangerous floating hazards, dock-threatening logs, and other Contributor requests. BLA prioritizes all requests for help, even from non-contributors, with boating threats at the top of our lists. With the lake at full pool our crews are able to navigate all the way from Austin Springs to Bluff City—looking for floating hazards every trip out. This year BLA is increasing our water sampling program in frequency and upgrading our instruments and test kits (see article inside).

### In Fall? (Sep-Oct-Nov): **Corralling and Gathering.**

After Labor Day TVA begins the draw-down of the lake from full pool at the rate of about a foot per week. BLA then concentrates on logs and hazards that were just out of view, under the water during the season, as they are exposed. The crew then uses cranes on their boats to remove, load and transport them to be corralled at a couple of future winter-burn sites or staged at the Winged Deer or Pickens Bridge ramps to be removed to land fill by Johnson City.

In closing I thank you for your contributions and kind words of encouragement to our unpaid volunteers and our year-round paid-crew who all love our lake and wish to preserve it for our children and children's children. So, until we see you April 20th, BLA's 25th Annual Cleanup Event, our Silver Anniversary, or helping you in your cove or just having fun on the lake . . .

### JOIN US—HELP US—HELP YOU.

Frank

Frank Hahne,

BLA's 19th President/CEO

## Your 2024 Board of Directors:

Frank Hahne, Jeanette Bailey, Jim Slaight, Ann Larson, Jerry Frank, Gary Parker, Laurie Spring, Jordan Bedford, Karen Stiggall, Bob Honeycutt

## 2024 BUDGET UPDATE:

Your Board has approved a 25% increased 2024 budget (\$178,000) over 2023 expenses with 95% earmarked for Lake Operations, Education, Awareness and Marketing. The largest increase is for water sampling and testing—a four-fold increase over 2023 that will be carried out in collaboration with Boone Watershed Partnership,

TVA and TDEC. A proposal for BLA-assistance from the City of Bristol for the Beaver Creek area has been discussed and updates will be shared, if approved. Year-to-Date (YTD) spending is:





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



SILVER ANNIVERSARY

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

# 25<sup>th</sup> Boone Lake Cleanup Day

## CA\$H for TRASH – PICNIC – MUSIC

### Saturday – April 20, 2024 – Winged Deer Park

**Trash Collection Sites:** #1: Boone Lake Marina #2: Davis Boat Dock

#3: Pickens Bridge Ramp #4: Winged Deer Park 11E ramp #5: Lakeview Marina

**Register:** receive your trash bags from 9 AM, at 1 of 5 trash collection sites.

**Return:** deliver your trash to any collection site up to 3 PM, to receive your tickets.

**Enjoy:** come to Meredith Pavilion Winged Deer Park by 4 PM for Food and Music.

**Win:** Meredith Pavilion Winged Deer Park at 5 PM for Grand Prize & Cash drawings.

**CA\$H for TRASH:** Pick up trash/Debris in bags provided. Bring your bags and larger items (large wood, appliances, Styrofoam, tires, etc.) to a trash collection site by **3 pm** to receive an access wristband and cash prize-drawing tickets.

**PICNIC & MUSIC:** The Meredith Pavilion picnic includes food served at **4 pm** to registered participants. Show your wristband for an event t-shirt. Please bring your lawn chairs to relax and enjoy the food and music.

**DRAWINGS:** The 40 - \$30 cash prize drawings will begin at **5 pm**, followed by the Grand Prize drawing. You can exchange your wristband for one (1) Grand Prize-drawing ticket. You must be present to claim a prize(s).

**2024 Sponsors Thus Far: 36 Days and Counting Down Join Us!**



# HELP US CELEBRATE.....25 YEARS OF CASH FOR TRASH

This year BLA is celebrating our 25th all volunteer lake cleanup event... Our 2023 cleanup turned out over 350 volunteers removing trash, tires, refuse and debris from the waters and the 130 miles of Boone Lake shoreline....

The 2024 cleanup will occur on April 20th, with 5 collection sites and as in years past, we will host the hundreds of volunteers that turnout for this

event at Winged Deer Park for a picnic with food, music and cash prizes. Volunteers will receive a special commemorative T-shirt. Along with our Cash for Trash drawings, there will be a special grand prize of a totally restored "Old Town" Canoe. And maybe a few more surprises!!!

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to our 25th annual clean up...Join Us! Help Us! Help You!



## Water Quality Monitoring

- Jim Slight

BLA's Water Quality Monitoring results have consistently shown how lucky we are to have Boone Lake as a recreational resource. Overall water quality estimates at all our monitored sites are almost always "Good" with E.coli levels that are very low and well within EPA guidelines. This year our efforts are directed

at increasing the number and frequency of monitored sites and improving confidence in our estimates.

We are currently trialing the new water quality field kits, that are used worldwide for both drinking water quality and recreational water quality evaluations, alongside our former equipment. The field kits include E.coli tests

that will allow us to test more sites, more often than before and also allow us to



sample on the weekends. That means we can accommodate those volunteers that are only available on the weekends. So far, the results have been very good and we're looking forward to continued improvements.

# LAKE OPERATIONS UPDATE - Jeanette Bailey



Ready or not, here it comes! Boone Lake is rising and the flowers and trees are blooming. Get your lakebed ready for the season. It is time to remove the leaves and debris. As the water rises, the shoreline debris begins floating. Call the BLA hotline 423-360-5057 for any logs or other heavy items.

The crew has been busy gathering and disposing of wood, tires, chairs and derelict docks over the winter months. The exposed shorelines are littered so it keeps us busy. Recently, SK #2 our barge with the large claw has been trolling from Boonies to Boone Lake Marina to retrieve reported floating logs and trees. These logs like to move around, but with your help we can try to find them all. Be safe out there!

BLA celebrated our 40th Anniversary, in 2023 with a dedicated focus on consistent water quality testing. In the past, volunteers managed the testing. Water quality testing by BLA Operations team began in early March to confirm that our new chemical and bacteriological equipment agreed. Additional details and results will be available in a future Shoreliner since we will launch our new program in April.

Johnson City continues to support BLA's effort at Pickens Bridge with a weekly pickup service. Our crew cuts and stacks wood on the ramp, "Free Firewood". BLA's board continues to collaborate with Sullivan County to find a solution for wood and debris disposal in the Bluff City area.

**in joining the BLA crew, please leave a message on our hot line or email your resume to [boonelakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:boonelakeassociation@gmail.com)**

Our team needs your continued financial support since BLA's major expense is Labor, Fuel and Insurance. We could not maintain our fleet and crew without you. Thank you!



**If you love the lake and you're interested**



## Boone Lake Fishing Report

- Derrick Paduch



There are big brown trout coming up all over the lake feeding on small shad as the lake temperature has warmed to the mid 50s at the surface. Strippers are concentrated in the center of each arm of the lake with the hybrid bass generally located downstream closer to Boone Dam. Crappie and bass fishing are also picking up all over the lake and can be especially good during the morning hours. The baitfish population has really increased since the lake has been back at full pool thanks to some of the tree growth that was left standing from the 7 years of downtime. The baitfish population is great to see and hopefully will continue to make Boone Lake a destination lake for fishing for many years to come.

### New Striped Bass Regulation: Boone Reservoir Effective March 1, 2024



#### Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass

2 per day in combination, only one may be a Striped Bass.

#### Striped Bass

36-inch minimum length limit.

#### Hybrid Striped Bass

15-inch minimum length limit.



Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Report Violations: 1-800-831-1174

### New Trout Regulations: Boone Reservoir

Effective March 1, 2024



From South Holston Dam downstream to Boone Dam and Boone Dam upstream to the Highway 11E Bridge (DeVault/Bristol Hwy. Bridge) on the Watauga arm:

- 16-22 inch Protected Length Range (PLR —no harvest) for all trout
- Daily creel limit of 7 trout, with only one over 22 inches



Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Report Violations at: 1-800-831-1174

# BLA Contributor Update - Gary Parker

2023 demonstrated an improvement in the number of regular/individual contributions to BLA. We are gradually climbing back from the low of 263 in 2017 to a total of 536 in 2023. However, we have yet to equal the elusive, all-time high of 601 experienced in 2014 prior to the dam repair. Although early in the new year, we are a little concerned that we are lagging 2023's contribution count (year-to-date) by about 40 contributors. Hopefully, this trend will reverse, if not it is a real disappointment. Our goal is to meet and exceed the 2014 total of 600 to support our objective of maintaining the lakes cleanliness/safety and monitor its water quality. The lake is enjoyed by a wide range of people consisting of lakefront owners and those that access it via marinas, boat ramps

and public beaches. Many in these groups contribute to BLA and all bolster the local economy. However, we believe we can do better. As an example, out of the 1798 lakefront owners in our database only 429 contributed (25%) to BLA in 2023. This is one group that has the most at stake in the lake's condition and will hopefully improve its participation in 2024. BLA received many accolades about the cleanliness of the lake last summer, let's work together to maintain and improve that in 2024. Your contribution, however large or small, will help us meet that objective.



**A special thank you to the just over 100 contributors who have sent their 2024 contribution. We appreciate your support and your commitment to a clean and safe Boone Lake!**

## SUPPORT OUR MARINAS

**Boone Lake Marina**  
452 Sportsman Dock Rd.  
Piney Flats, Tn. 37686  
423-391-7283  
[www.boonelakemarina.com](http://www.boonelakemarina.com)

**Davis Marina**  
641 Buffalo Rd.  
Blountville, Tn. 37617  
423-279-0013 - no website  
"Boonies" a full-service lakeside restaurant, open year round  
[www.booniesmenu.com](http://www.booniesmenu.com)

**Jay's Boat Dock**  
945 Pickens Bridge Rd.  
Gray, Tn. 37615  
423-273-9236  
[www.jaysboatdock.com](http://www.jaysboatdock.com)  
Jay's Grill, opening May 12th for the summer season

**Lakeview Marina**  
474 Lakeside Dock Dr.  
Kingsport, Tn. 37663  
423-323-1054  
Marker 2 Grille and live band music on weekends.

**Rockingham Marina**  
639 Rockingham Rd.  
Johnson City, Tn. 37615  
423-207-6016  
[info@rockinghammarina.com](mailto:info@rockinghammarina.com)  
Hosts the Carefree Boat Club.

**Sonny's Marina**  
109 One St.  
Johnson City, Tn. 37615  
423-282-9440  
[www.thesonnysmarina.com](http://www.thesonnysmarina.com)  
The Krazy Chicken is a seasonal summer restaurant and live bands on the weekends

**BLA would like to thank our advertisers for their support. Please support them too!**

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Read all about the 2024 Grand Prize (on page 7 of Summer 2023 Shoreliner)

GRAND PRIZE Drawing – Thanks to your Platinum & Gold Sponsors



PLATINUM SPONSORS



Read how Hard Rock's Earth Day linked up BLA (page 8 Summer 2023 Shoreliner)



HSN anchored the 2023 Grand Prize (see page 4 of Summer 2023 Shoreliner)

## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER



I'm Bob Honeycutt, the newest board member. I was born and raised in Johnson City and have grown up on Boone Lake. I used to rent fishing boats from Jay McCracken in the 70's! I currently keep my boat at Rockingham Marina. My family enjoys fishing & family days on the lake.

I am recently retired from the radio business. I spent the last 50 years on area radio stations as Bob Gordon. I still operate a mobile DJ business and will be playing the music at the upcoming Clean-up day at Winged Deer Park.

Besides music, my background includes marketing and computer/IT

work. I joined the Boone Lake Association to help out in these areas and

give back so that my kids and grand-kids can enjoy the beauty of the lake.

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**WINTER 2024**

The Boone Lake Association is a not-for-profit 501c3. Your contributions may be tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. Please check current rules for tax purposes as IRS tax codes may change. We appreciate your support! Every dollar you contribute goes to helping to keep Boone Lake clean and safe for everyone's enjoyment.

**THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING  
 GENEROUSLY TO KEEP BOONE LAKE CLEAN**



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 Help Us!  
 Help You!**



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- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100+ **Supporter**
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$50+ **Contributor**

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Contact me about volunteering.

Please Donate by  
 Check payable to Boone Lake Association  
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[www.boonelakeassociation.org](http://www.boonelakeassociation.org)



**Watching  
 the Waters**

Cleaning Boone Lake since 1983

PINEY FLATS, TN 37686

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**ASSOCIATION**

**BOONE LAKE**

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