

SHORELINER

Celebrating Our Freedom...



... Over Boone Lake

BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION

Piney Flats, TN 37686

www.boonelakeassociation.org

boonelakeassociation@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/boonelakeassociation

WATCHING THE WATERS

Summer 2025

BLA Hotline: 423.360.5057

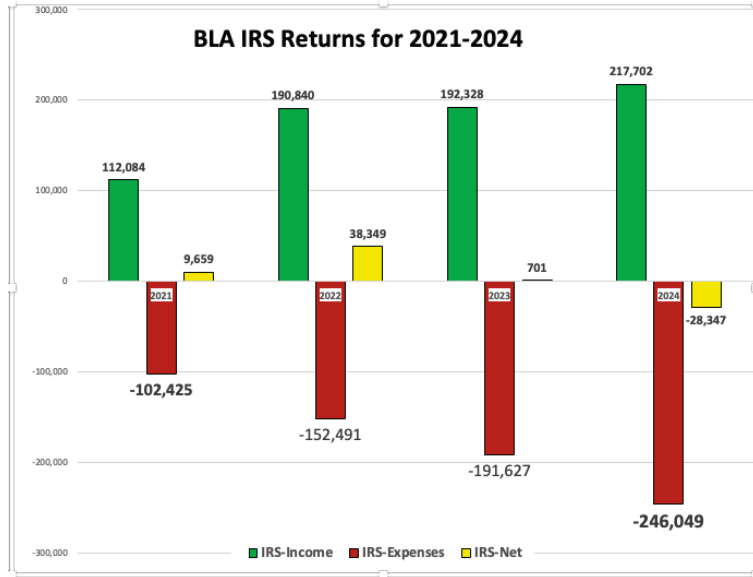


@boonelakeassociation

President's Letter, Summer 2025

BLA's Value Proposition to . . .

BLA was created, and exists, through private citizens who love the environment and lake enough to serve as non-paid board and committee volunteers for this 42 year-old environmental Nonprofit. This 4th of July Independence Day I would like to recognize the Veterans who make up BLA's volunteer Board and lake crew—over half of them served in our military (indicated below with flags) and continue to serve you on Boone Lake.



BLA's 501(c)3) Nonprofit Tax Returns were prepared by Blackburn, Childers & Stegall. BLA's increased care of Boone Lake has risen from \$102,425 to over \$246,049—>95% from Individual Contributors or Businesses and only 1.7% from our local area counties and cities and 0% from disaster recovery funds during 2021-2024.

If you are one of the **1,800 lakefront homeowners** your property value has increased from log-clearing, call log responses and weekly-tested waters of our Boone Lake . . .

If you are one of the **thousands of boat owners** your safety has been protected from floating logs and weekly water tests on Boone Lake . . .

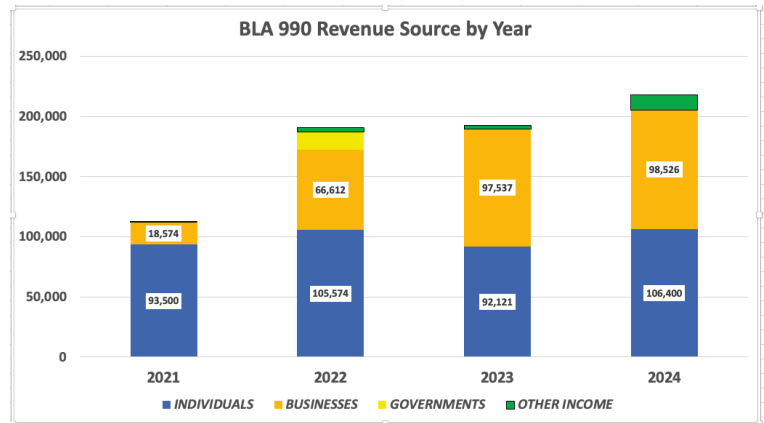
If you are one of the **hundreds of business owners** you have benefited from the construction and commerce of the \$130 million economy of Boone Lake . . .

If you are one of the **half-dozen local government entities** you have realized increased tourism, new residents attracted and increased tax basis without any contribution funding of BLA's lake operations budget . . .

. . . BLA has provided you the following values—in 2025, year-to-date, alone:

- Removed over **50** Brush Truck loads from the lake at Winged Deer & Pickens

- Filled **30** Dumpsters of logs and dock debris at Davis, Winged Deer & Pickens
- Completed **148** of the 154 Help Requests received by Email & Hot Line Calls
- Repaired 20-year-old **CAT TH83** and acquired a 7-year-old **Kubota 75-2**
- Paid lake crew to work **2,700** man-hours clearing and cleaning Boone Lake
- 1,325** man-hours donated to BLA by non-paid Board & Committee volunteers
- 26th Annual Lake Cleanup volunteers invested over **1,400** hours last April 26th
- 26th Annual Lake Cleanup removed **1,321** items weighing **15** tons
- Completed **13** weekly trips and **90** water tests of lake waters
- Printed and mailed over **5,500** Shoreliners and emailed thousands more
- Won TACD's **2025** Category II Conservation Award for State of Tennessee
- Website published every weekly Water Tests for **13** weeks
- Reinvested **\$246,000** in 2024 into operations (**\$134,000** thus far YTD in 2025)
- Won Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Earth Day **award(s)**



You see that we reached into our reserves over \$28,000 in 2024 to sustain the \$246,000 of efforts of all we do for the lake and you. This has been possible by local businesses coming alongside Individual Contributors—look deeper at the source of our Individual funding on page 7 showing how we have plateaued at only 20% of homeowners. Share with us how you think we can convince more of the 80% to join in! Our 2025 expense budget is FLAT, the same as 2024, but Hurricane Helene (page 6) aftermath continues to deplete our reserves.

In closing I thank you for your consideration and contributions, and . . .

JOIN US — HELP US — HELP YOU.

Frank
BLA's 19th President/CEO

Board of Directors, Officers.

Frank Hahne, CEO

Gary Parker

Vacant, COO

Karen Stigall

Jim Slaight, CFO

Janise Sizemore

Ann Larson, Secretary

Jerry Frank

*Kate Tilley, our newest member representing Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Bristol

Crew: Nick Fuller , Travis Foulke , Gavin Guldseth, Blake Poland, Stefan Guldseth, Holly Fuller (WQ)

On the cover: God Bless America...Flag fly-in at America's Bash!



Watching the Waters: *BLA Water Quality Program*

!!!BLA NOW PERFORMING WEEKLY WATER QUALITY TESTING!!!

Following a News Channel 11 story last year that revealed no government agency claimed responsibility for testing on the lake, the BLA is collaborating with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) on its more frequent testing efforts and has aligned its protocol based on TDEC recommendations.

The BLA Water Quality committee met with TDEC and asked for their cooperation to review our procedures. TDEC staffers joined BLA on a recent sample gathering and provided us with suggestions to make our testing more accurate. They will join the crew again at the end of the summer season.

We have stepped up our efforts to test the water for various parameters, including visibility, nitrates, alkalinity, pH and E. coli. Testing for E. coli takes a little longer and involves bringing a water sample back to the new lab located at Rockingham Marina and waiting 24 hours for results. If the results are concerning, BLA will notify TDEC. All results are posted on our website (www.boonelakeassociation.org) for public viewing. The weekly test-

ing takes about three hours to perform. Water is collected and tested at various popular use locations on the lake, but always at the TVA beach and Winged Deer Park. So far this year, test results have been well within the safe range.

The new weekly testing protocol is not cheap. Last year, BLA spent about \$500 on testing; this year, that amount is expected to be closer to \$15,000. There are new sponsors that are helping with the costs, including Boone Lake Marina, Rockingham Marina, and the Carefree Boat Club, which loans a boat for the water testing trips.

If you care about the lake and its cleanliness and safety we need you to support our efforts to continue the testing. We appreciate the support we have now, but with fewer than 400 individual contributors so far this year, our budget is stretched to its limit. There are almost 1800 property owners and thousands of people who use the lake. So if what we're doing, whether it be clearing the logs from Hurricane Helene floating into the lake, or doing weekly water testing, if that's something that's important to you we really would appreciate your continued support.



Jim Slaight

Parameter	TDEC Criteria for Recreation (BLA Does Not Sample All TDEC Water Quality Parameters)	Watagua July 9, 2025			Holston July 9, 2025		
		Winged Deer	Jay's Boatdock	Marker #17	Dam & Beach	Marker #9	Beaver Creek
		12 ft	64 ft	99 ft	13 ft	16 ft	17 ft
Depth	Depth at test locations	26/79	29/79	27/80	29/83	28/82	27/81
Air Temp	Temp °C/ °F (Rounded)	29/84	29/85	29/84	29/85	29/85	30/86
Water Temp	Temp °C/ °F (Rounded)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Visibility	IAW Q Value Standards: >3.5 Feet	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TDS	<=500mg/l	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nitrates	Nitrates plus Nitrites < 1.22	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hardness	<=400mg/L	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chlorine	<=19ug/L CMC <=11ug/L CCC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alkalinity	<300mg/L	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carbonate	>=50-200<=ppm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PH	>=6.0-9.0<=	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
E coli *	<=410 cfu individual sample	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓ Within EPA/TDEC Criteria for Recreation							
* E coli Above EPA/TDEC Individual, Statistical Threshold Value, Sample Criteria (410 CFU/100mL) for Recreation							
* E coli Above EPA/TDEC Multiple, Geometric Mean over 30 days, Sample Criteria (126 CFU/100mL) for Recreation							
* E coli CFU results are counted by hand and are estimated above 50 CFU							
These samples are analyzed at the BLA Water Testing Lab using the most up-to-date methods available							

How Well Do You Know Your Septic System?

National SepticSmart Week is Sept 15-19 2025. This year will be the 13th annual celebration...Why would we want to celebrate SepticSmart Week? Many of the homes around Boone Lake are on septic systems and some of these systems are quite old. Homeowners need to be aware of where their system is located, is it properly sized for the home, and is it inspected and cleaned out on a regular schedule. Overflows and leaks can potentially adversely affect lake water quality. The following information is provided by the EPA. Please take care of your septic system..and if you want further info about maintaining your system check out all the information available on the

EPA website. epa.gov/septicsmart If you want information concerning your home's septic system to include it's mapped location (if available), public records are available at tdec.tn.gov.

Keep it Protected—Get it Inspected!

Have your septic tank inspected and pumped out by a licensed septic tank contractor as needed (on average every three to five years).

Don't Strain your Drain!

Use water efficiently to avoid overtaxing your system. Fix household leaks, run the dishwasher and clothes washer only on full loads, and consider installing high-efficiency fixtures.

Think at the Sink!

Don't pour grease, fats, or harmful chemicals like paints and solvents down your sink. They can clog or harm your system.

Don't Overload the Commode!

Do not flush non-degradable items such as dental floss, diapers, coffee grounds, or feminine hygiene products.

Shield your Field!

Care for your drainfield by only planting grass, not driving or parking on it, and reducing roof and surface water drainage near the drainfield.



Ann Larson

2025 Annual Lake Cleanup

26th Annual Boone Lake Cleanup Day – A Community Triumph!



Janise Sizemore & Kate Tilley

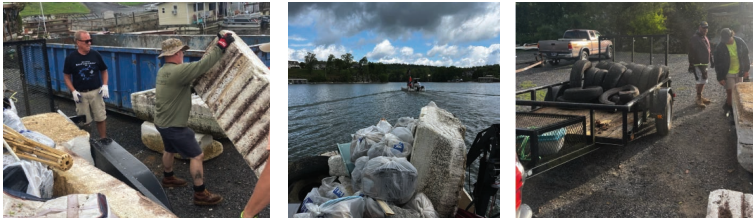
Boone Lake Association (BLA) proudly hosted its most successful cleanup event yet on **Saturday, April 26, 2025**, at **Winged Deer Park**. With the theme **CASH for TRASH**, this year’s event brought together over **300 citizens**, **50 site volunteers**, and numerous community partners in a shared mission to clean up Boone Lake. Together, they removed an astounding **15 tons of trash** from the lake and its shoreline.

Trash Collection Sites: Participants registered and picked up trash bags at one of five designated locations:

1. Boone Lake Marina
2. Davis Boat Dock
3. Pickens Bridge Ramp
4. Winged Deer Park
5. Lakeview Marina

2025	Lakeview Marina	WDP	Picken's Bridge	Boone Lake Marina	Davis Marina	TVA Employees	Totals
Weight (tons)	2.60375	2.945	3.036	3.2635	2.945	0	14.8
Tires	5	20	24	34	20	0	103
Trash Bags	39	159	173	67	147	32	617
Styrofoam	66	11	28	25	17	4	151
Wood	55	66	30	95	46	7	299
Other Items	37	9	66	5	22	12	151
Tickets	202	265	321	226	252	55	1,321
	15%	20%	24%	17%	19%	4%	100%
RANKING:	5	2	1	4	3		

Starting at 9 AM, volunteers fanned out across the lake, collecting everything from bagged litter to bulky debris—**wood, tires, appliances, and Styrofoam** among them. Once finished, participants returned their trash to any of the five designated sites to receive wristbands and prize tickets. Collection sites remained open until 3 PM, ensuring everyone had ample time to contribute.



Picnic & Music at Meredith Pavilion

The celebration continued at **Meredith Pavilion** in **Winged Deer Park**:

- 4 PM: Free picnic with food and drinks for all registered participants
- Music and community gathering

- Free event t-shirts for wristband holders

At 5 PM, the excitement peaked with drawings for this year’s event featuring **CASH for TRASH** program, where participants earned prize tickets for every bag of trash collected. Prizes included outdoor gear, gift cards, and even a brand-new canoe donated by JoAnne Coates!

Safety Reminder

BLA President **Frank Hahne** reminded boaters to stay alert for floating debris, especially following Hurricane Helene, which left behind submerged hazards now resurfacing as lake levels rise. “We’re finding logs and debris floating into the lake. Please be cautious,” said Hahne.



Community Support & Sponsors

This year’s event was made possible by the generous support of our **2024 Platinum, Gold, Silver Sponsors** and local partners. A special thank you to **Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Bristol**, which donated **\$3,720** through its “Save the Planet” campaign. Their team also joined the cleanup effort at Winged Deer Park.

Share Your Experience!



Did you take photos at the event? Tag us on social media or email them to boonelakeassociation@gmail.com and we will post on our website.

Boone Lake Fishing Report

It has been very hot over the last month or so bringing the Boone Lake water temperatures into the mid-80s. Night-time Bass fishing is going to be best over the next month or so with temperatures remaining hot..

Striper fishing is best at the mouths of both Rivers, however with limited flow out of Watauga and S. Holston it will be spotty at best. If you are fishing for

Stripers in the lake please keep in mind that any fish much over 15 pounds will be very hard to get back into the lake alive if it has been caught in deep water. Some type of device that allows you to empty its air bladder and get it back into that deeper water quickly will help, this also helps when catching largemouth and smallmouth deep.

I'm still seeing those Florida strain bass out there and some are approaching 3 pounds. This is also a great time of year to get a youngster out around any dock or

lake bank bluegill fishing.

The draw downs on Watauga and S. Holston usually start around mid-august, and that will turn the volume up on the fishing as well as any large amounts of rainfall that can get generation schedules rolling.

Good luck out there and try to get those grandkids and youngsters involved.



Sheriff's office unveils 2 boats on Boone Lake

The Washington County Sheriff's Office has acquired two boats to be used for patrols on Boone Lake.

According to the sheriff's office, the boats are equipped with tools, tow ropes, jumper boxes,

and will be used to help those in need on Boone Lake. The officers assigned to the boats have to pass a swim assessment to ensure they are competent swimmers and will be trained for a variety of scenarios as well as complete CPR and AED certifi-

cations.

Sheriff Keith Sexton said the Marine Patrol Unit will provide assistance to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and will not take officers away from land patrol.



BOONE LAKE ASSOCIATION

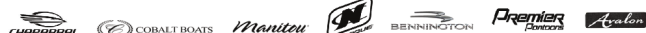
Watching the Waters..

Boone Lake Cleanup Day

2025

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LAKE OPS: HELENE UPDATE

BLA RESPONDS —



Nick Fuller



Helene “Holdup” is floating down the rivers and into the lake and Johnson City is clearing the piles that BLA is taking out of the lake each week...they have had to triple the number of truck pickups. As a result of Helene, annual Spring river flows and ongoing shoreline erosion **large trees will be the norm for Boone Lake into the future.** Please visit our website at www.boonelakeassociation.org to view the photo gallery to see the extent of what we have taken out of the lake recently.



In May, BLA's 20 year-old CAT TH83 **Telehandler broke down leading to a \$6,500 repair expense** and equipment rental until the TH83 was back on station. Instead, BLA was able to avoid the \$16,000 rental expense by procuring a used **Kubota 75-2 Skid Steer for \$34,500** that can be moved by employee's pickup trucks from log take-out locations at Winged Deer, Pickens Bridge, Point 9 area and Bluff City-Piney Flats area.



These large piles of wood hazards, from dilapidated docks and log debris, were removed from Boone Lake by BLA's Lake Ops crew. These are not unusual hauls anymore, but the norm! **Imagine what the lake would look like if BLA wasn't here.**

Thank you for your comments!

We always love to hear from you. It's nice to know that our crew is appreciated. Here are just a few of the recent comments on Facebook:

"It's like 6:50 AM, and they're out collecting tree trunks out of the lake. How about a big thank you to our crew for making sure that we can enjoy the lake, riding our boats ,jet skis ,canoes.."

"Thank you all for your amazing work! Your efforts do not go unnoticed and are very much appreciated."

"These people have had their hands full this summer. Early in the morning, especially after the storm, I would see the boats full of tree limbs and parts of structures. The boat crane is the best...I just wanted to say these people have really worked hard this summer to keep our lake waters clean."

"We saw them working our waterfront in Bluff City in the pouring rain! Had to make a BLA donation right then and there. We're so thankful to them for keeping the water clean and safe."

Your Association's Goals for 2025:


- Clear the Waterways: Protect your boats and, more importantly, keep the lake safe for kids tubing, knee-boarding, or surfing.
- Test the Waters weekly: We anticipate testing to be 99% TDEC-Recreational Compliant; but any non-compliant level will be reported to TDEC and posted to BLA's website.
- Hotline: Call (423) 360-5057 anytime, 24/7, to report threats or issues. Calls will be picked up daily, prioritized and shared with the crew for the next time they are in that area. For emergencies, please contact a BLA officer.
- Communicate: We aim to educate, advocate, and support Boone Lake's interests within the community and with government agencies.
- Sustain BLA: We'll do whatever it takes to keep serving you for another 42 years—funding, crew, boats, volunteers, and more.

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CONTRIBUTOR STATUS



You can read all about what BLA is doing for you in the President's letter (p2). In a 2020 report compiled by LakeHomes.com Boone Lake was listed as the 16th most expensive lake to live on in the US and

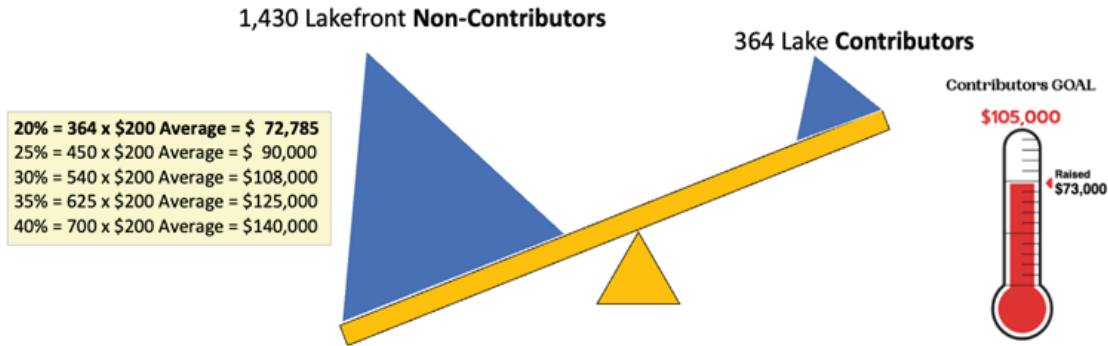
second only to Fort Loudoun Lake in TN (9th).

BLA is looking out for your property values yet so few lake front property owners actually contribute. Where

do you fit in the graphic below? Won't you help us shift that 80/20!! Gary Parker

**LIVE HERE! PLAY HERE!
GIVE HERE!**

**Let's Break the 80%-20% Rule!
Help BLA Balance our BUDGET**



BLA is an IRS-approved not-for-profit 501c3 organization



Boone Lake Association
P.O. Box 111
Piney Flats, TN 37686

SUMMER 2025

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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- _____ \$250+ **Partner**
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☐ Contact me about volunteering.

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Check payable to Boone Lake Association
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www.boonelakeassociation.org

BLA Lake Ops Crew Chief Recognized

Nick Fuller, a Marine Corps veteran with 20 different country deployments, was one of the veterans recognized on stage at the 2025 America's Bash held on Boone Lake, sponsored by David and Deb Hatley's corporations.

Nick has worked for BLA since 2022 and was promoted to crew



chief in 2024 and Lake Operations Manager in 2025.

We are looking for your summer fun on Boone Lake photos for our Fall Newsletter. If you have photos to share please email them to boonelakeassociation@gmail.com

We will see you at Meet the Mountains at Winged Deer Park, Aug 15 & 16



**Join Us!
Help Us!
Help You!**



THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING GENEROUSLY TO KEEP BOONE LAKE CLEAN

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.



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See Inside

Cleaning Boone Lake since 1983

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