

August/September 2021



# Bulletin

## *YOUR PRIMARY VOICE ON LAKE ISSUES*

With a mission to identify issues affecting our members and pursue resolution with the responsible organizations.

[www.lakegastonassoc.com](http://www.lakegastonassoc.com) [info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com)

(252) 586-6577 or 1-888-586-6577

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VA**

John Cataldo,  
*Government Relations*

Carol Warfel,  
*Lake Clean-Up*

### **HALIFAX COUNTY, NC**

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Judy Waters

### **MECKLENBURG COUNTY, VA**

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Bill Heflin,  
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Tony Moran,  
*Marketing &  
Membership*

Jeff Zimmer,  
*Vice President &  
Lake Environment*

## ***President's Corner***

It's an honor and privilege to become the new president of the LGA. I want to thank Don for his stewardship and guiding us through the pandemic. A very difficult time for all and we managed to Zoom our way through it with technology and patience. Long ago lost track how many times we had to tell a speaker "you're on mute" or how to turn on the camera.

After two monthly meetings and the return of committee meetings, indeed, it is good to be back face to face.

So what's next? First, I certainly want to enjoy my time doing this. I had a work colleague a long time ago advise me when doing something like this to "enjoy my time in the sun". I plan to do that. We have a dedicated board who volunteer countless hours in support of the LGA mission.

I can say without reservation every board member cares deeply about the LGA and wants to do the right thing the first time. The committee work is where ideas are born and carried out to hopefully a successful and/or impactful conclusion. If you've never been on one of our committees, maybe this will be the year to step up and volunteer.

Over the year, you will hear repeated reference to upcoming projects and issues such as the lake vegetation survey, CERT, volunteerism, "What 3 Words", etc. What we do is intended to "make a difference" and hope you can support us.

Just so you know, we are looking for someone to Chair the Education Committee. If you have an interest in this discipline, we need you. Next spring we hope to resume normal activities now that in classroom instruction is back in session. The Lakeside learning days which is intended for sixth graders is a key component to introduce students to the lake; many for the first time.

That's all for now. We hope you find this edition of the Bulletin a good read. Please let us know what we can do better or have ideas we can include in the next edition.

Sincerely,

***Brian***

***Enjoy Lake Gaston, be safe and stay healthy.  
A special place with incredible people.***

## ***August 4, 2021 – LGA Monthly Meeting***

9:30 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Baptist Church (1 mile north of Eaton Ferry Bridge on Hwy 903)

**Topic:** Activities on Lake Gaston since Memorial Day

**Speaker:** Officers from NC Wildlife Resources Commission & VA Dept. of Wildlife Resources

You might be surprised to hear how busy they have been. This will be a good time to ask questions about lake activity. We hope you can join us.

**Also:** Got a lake-related issue or concern that the LGA should be working on? There will be time allotted on the agenda to present those concerns to the LGA Board. And, catch up with what the Committees are working on.

The meeting is open to the public, members and non-members alike so gather up your neighbors and come join the LGA for an informative meeting. For more information contact [info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com) or call (252) 586-6577 or toll free 1-888-586-6577.

## ***Stay Safe and Enjoy the Rest of the Summer!***

Although crime pressure around the lake has been minimal, we have begun to hear reports of isolated home burglaries. Please use this opportunity to double down your crime prevention efforts and ensure storage sheds are locked and car doors locked when the vehicle is parked. Don't leave things of value in the open. Use of timers, stout 1 inch deadbolt locks and security cameras are good deterrents. Most importantly, be vigilant in your neighborhood. If something doesn't look right like a strange car in the neighborhood, when in doubt call 911.

If you don't have one of our "In Case of Emergency" orange cards, please let us know. These cards document location details of your residence and boat dock for guests and renters and help first responders find the address if the caller is using a cell phone.

The recent tropical storm that passed by the lake was a good teachable moment to secure items at boathouses and on decks. By the time you read this we will be in the teeth of the hurricane season. Hope you have purchased extra batteries in case you lose power.

In other news, the Northampton County Emergency Services has recently completed their first training CERT class. Planning is underway for a second class and if enough lake residents sign up, the class will be offered near the lake. To learn more about the Community Emergency Response Team, please visit <https://www.ready.gov/cert>. Hopefully in the not too distant future, active CERT members will be trained in all 5 nearby counties. This is an excellent volunteer effort.

Take a look at something called "What 3 Words". You can learn more by visiting <https://what3words.com/clip.apples.leap>. More details to come.

Save the date: We have invited the 5 county sheriffs to our September 1<sup>st</sup> monthly meeting. Good time to ask questions.

Monthly Public Safety Committee meetings are held the second Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. Everyone is invited to participate to give us fresh ideas and viewpoints.

Contact us at [Safety@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:Safety@LakeGastonAssoc.com)

## **LGA Dues Discount:**

**Sponsor a friend or neighbor and they will get a \$5.00 discount off of their 2021 membership dues and you the same during the next renewal period.**

**Want more information?**

**Contact Moira Underwood, Executive Director at 252-586-6577.**

## *News from the Lake Environment Committee*

### **E. coli testing**

We are once again making Coliscan Easy gel water test kits available to volunteers. This is a simple, accurate and quantitative way to identify and differentiate coliforms and E. coli (true fecal coliform). The presence of fecal coliform bacteria indicates contamination by human and/or animal fecal material. If E. coli is present in water, disease-causing bacteria may also be present. With the exception of Miles Creek in the upper reaches of the Lake our tests have not detected significant amounts of E. coli.

Contact Al Potter to make arrangements for the test equipment: [apotter11@gmail.com](mailto:apotter11@gmail.com) . We ask that you provide your test results so we can track results by location over time.

Thanks to all those who are concerned about LKG water quality and willing to run these tests.

### **“Hands on Habitat” Improvement**

We had some great weather for our “hands on” habitat improvement work this June. Over three days 23 volunteers contributed 271 hours of their time to help develop native vegetation. Aquatic vegetation is an important component of productive fish and waterfowl habitats. Native vegetation anchors bottom sediments, stabilizes shorelines, and removes nutrients. All of this is beneficial to water quality.

Our volunteers worked with members from the NCSU Aquatic Plant Management Team, North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission, as well as Virginia Wildlife Resources. We installed one new “cage” in upper Great Creek, repaired numerous cages, harvested and replanted native vegetation at several sites.

Funding is provided by the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council and the Sport Fish Restoration Program. Since 2014, LGA volunteers have participated in this project. Each year we continue to see native vegetation grow and expand.

Thanks to all who volunteered this year. You can be proud of what you are doing to improve habitat and the health of Lake Gaston.

### **Fall Vegetation Survey Plans**

Plans for our fall volunteer vegetation survey are now underway. Volunteers float and survey aquatic vegetation along the shoreline (both emergent and submerged) and report using electronic notepads. This information is used along with sonar data to determine the location and density of vegetation and algae for integrated management planning.

Jessica Baumann, Extension Associate for Lake Gaston with NC State University’s Aquatic Plant Management Program has developed several tools to manage the survey including a training video, electronic sign up form and map displaying where survey work is planned and completed. Jessica is in the process of updating these tools and they should be available to us mid-August.

Anyone who has volunteered in the last few years will receive an email with sign up details. If you are new to the survey and would like to join this year, you can notify Judy Waters [k1dskab@hotmail.com](mailto:k1dskab@hotmail.com) and let her know.

To learn more about this and other Lake Environment volunteer opportunities contact Jeff Zimmer [jzimmer2216@gmail.com](mailto:jzimmer2216@gmail.com)

Monthly Lake Environment meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Kitchen Table Café, 4111 Gasburg Road, Gasburg, VA 23857 (across from Dollar General). Everyone is invited to participate.

Contact them at [Environment@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:Environment@LakeGastonAssoc.com)

## ***Weed Control questions ...***

Do the property owners in your subdivision have questions about weed control?

Feel free to contact Jeff Zimmer our Lake Environment chair at [jzimmer2216@gmail.com](mailto:jzimmer2216@gmail.com) .

## ***Lake Gaston Lost & Found items ...***

If you have **lost any property or found any property** that may have floated away like a canoe/kayak, jet ski, boat, paddle board etc. call/email the LGA office at 1-800-586-6577 or (252) 586-6577 or [info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com) and let us know, describe each item(s) and give us contact information for you. Lost & Found items would be listed in this section of our bi-monthly bulletins but rest assured we would not list your contact information.

## Thinking of Renting Your Home?

Whether pandemic or financially related, many lake residents have chosen or are considering renting their lake property. Both the demand and rental fees have never been higher.

It can certainly make sense and what also makes sense is to contact your insurance agent and make sure you are adequately covered. A vacation rental rider is surprisingly inexpensive and can head off a possible claim denial.

We bring this to your attention as it has become a problem. Imagine a total loss by fire and clean up and replacement being delayed. Imagine you live adjacent to the property or are a director of an affected Home Owners Association! You may be surprised how many of these properties are not fully covered.

Have other ideas of getting important topics out to our membership?

Monthly Marketing & Membership Committee meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. Please join us. We are a small group and would appreciate your input.

Contact them at [MarketingMembership@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:MarketingMembership@LakeGastonAssoc.com)



## Keeping Lake Gaston Clean

Whenever you have a chance and see some trash along the road, please help yourself (safely) to picking up the trash and disposing of it properly. Be careful of the high grass along the roads....ticks and chiggers seem to be plentiful this year (I speak from personal experience).

Also, with the high water recently, many things have washed up along the shorelines. It is important to keep those things from floating back into the water and possibly causing damage to a vessel. Please check your shorelines.

Monthly Lake Clean-Up Committee meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. Everyone is invited to participate.

Contact them at [LakeCleanup@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:LakeCleanup@LakeGastonAssoc.com)

## Education Committee Update

We hope all are enjoying your summer vacations and outdoor lake activities.

There are no Education activities this summer. We are waiting on hearing what the local school policies will be for the upcoming school year to determine what if any programs we may support to help our local students. Our Education Committee meetings have been canceled for the near future. Stay healthy!

**SUSPENDED** - Monthly Education Committee meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. We welcome your participation at these meetings even if it is to learn more about our programs.

Contact them at [Education@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:Education@LakeGastonAssoc.com).

## Staying current with Lake Gaston's water level

Whether you are full or part-time at the lake we recommend that you have the following link to Dominion's website as a 'favorite' on your computer or hand-held gizmo. Rest assured we will still send you water level alerts from Dominion when they occur but if you want to know on any given day what the water level is, then click on the link - <https://www.dominionenergy.com/community/lakes-and-recreation/lake-gaston-water-levels>

## News from the Government Relations Committee

The dust has settled and the County budgets have been approved for FY2021-2022. The local county fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

The information below is our annual posting for each county of the total budget, the ad valorem tax rate, and funding to the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (LGWCC) for noxious weed control.

County	Total Budget (1)	Tax Rate per \$100 (2)	LGWCC Funding (3)
Halifax, NC	\$ 48,160,011	0.76	\$ 58K
Northampton, NC	\$ 36,688,700	0.905	\$116K
Warren, NC	\$ 36,543,135	0.81	\$116K
Brunswick, VA	\$ 49,986,099	0.65	\$ 90K
Mecklenburg, VA	\$240,527,042	0.42	\$116K

(1) Note that Virginia counties are funded differently than North Carolina counties, which results in higher budget totals, but lower ad valorem tax rates.

(2) NC: Halifax stayed the same, Northampton went down from 91 cents, Warren stayed the same

VA: Brunswick up 12 cents and Mecklenburg stayed the same as last year.

(3) All five counties continued with the same LGWCC funding as FY2020-2021

The Government Relations Committee is a non-partisan activity that focuses on monitoring and interacting with our local and, to some extent, state governments. Our common goal is to represent the interests of our membership on matters that affect the Lake Gaston area.

There has been no new release of information on the two major lake developments – (Community Center at Edwards Beach & Chateaux on the Lake) that we have been following. The committee will resume our meetings as issues arise.

You can help by joining us at our monthly meetings or by volunteering a small amount of your time. For example, members can attend a local county Commissioner/Supervisors meeting and witness your government in action. It only takes an evening a month or less (we can switch off with other members) and can be very interesting.

Monthly Government Relations Committee meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the Littleton Food & Spirits, 235 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, NC 27850. Everyone is invited to participate.

Contact them at [GovernmentRelations@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:GovernmentRelations@LakeGastonAssoc.com).

## LGA Monthly Committee Meetings:

Committee	Meeting Day	Time	Location
Public Safety	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	8:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *
Education	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	8:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *
Government Relations	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	9:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *
Lake Environment	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	8:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *
Marketing & Membership	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	8:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *
Lake Clean-Up	Last Wednesday	10:30 am	Littleton Food & Spirits *

\* Littleton Food & Spirits is located at 231 N. Mosby Ave., (Hwy 903), Littleton, N.C. 27850

***Occasionally a LGA scheduled committee meeting may need to be cancelled.  
If you are on one of the above committees, the chair will inform you via  
email of its cancellation.***



## ***“Dedicated to all the boaters who use common sense, boat responsibly and are willing to help a boater in distress”***

A picture is worth a thousand words. By now you have probably seen or heard about the boat who flew over the guardrail and landed on Lizard Creek Road at 12:15 on a Sunday morning. A photo is on the [www.LakeGastonWaterSafetyCouncil.com](http://www.LakeGastonWaterSafetyCouncil.com) web site. Fortunately, the two occupants were not injured. A miracle might be a better word to describe the final outcome.

Lessons learned: The renters were from another state and obviously didn't know their surroundings. They were going way too fast in less than ideal boating conditions. We don't know if drinking was involved but clearly the skipper had no clue where he/she was at upon impact.

We can't stress enough the importance of situational awareness and there is little margin for error on the water.

Some good discussion on social media about why the USCG patrols Lake Gaston during holidays. We wish they were here more but for those in doubt; trust us they have a legal right to be here. An operator on a jet ski over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday found out the hard way.

NC Wildlife reports there were 29 boat related drownings on NC lakes in 2020. 18 were not wearing a life jacket. The water is still warm and boating is ideal. Please be careful out there and watch out for the other guy.

***Brian Goldsworthy, President***  
**Lake Gaston Water Safety Council**

# **Wear Your Life Jacket!**

# **They Float, People Don't!**

## ***Free Vessel Safety Check***

Flotilla 93 will perform a free Vessel Safety Check on your boat at your home. The boat can be in the boatlift or on a trailer and does not need to be running. They will also provide a Vessel Examiner at your Home Owners Association Meeting to inspect boats after your business meeting. Call John Dyckman at (252) 537-9877.

## ***Buoys placed in Lake Gaston need state & federal approval***

Dominion Energy as well as the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries and North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission have received complaints concerning buoys being placed in the lake to deter boats near boat docks.

Both Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries and North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, as well as Dominion, do not allow buoys to be placed in the lake without state and federal approval. Any buoys placed in the lake will be considered an obstruction to navigation and will be required to be removed.

## **Need to know who are your Government Elected Officials**

### **Lake Gaston NC & Lake Gaston VA**

**US, State and County... <http://www.lakegastonassoc.com/GovRel/ElecOfficials.htm>**

***LGA Government Relations Committee keeps this page on our website updated for you.***

*(It's the best kept secret under Committees, Government Relations. Check out who represents you at the lake and email them direct from our website. Telephone #s are listed as well. Use the link above to check out this information. You can also get to the County websites from the same page.)*

## *From the Desk of the Executive Director*

I feel like my old self as I write to you today. Fingers crossed ... I hope we never encounter the virus again. FYI – on the first Friday of the month in Littleton there is a band in the town parking lot, no charge. Bring your own chair, dance the night away. The restaurants are open in town and there are a few vendors in the parking lot too.

Something for you I'd like you to consider ...

**What does it take to be a LGA Director?** How about it? We have a wonderful group of directors to work with. While ... there is no pay to take home, the hours are flexible and we're a great group to hang with.

You are welcome to sit in on any of our committee meetings and decide what is best for you – look for the committee meeting grid on page 5 for when they meet.

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month for the LGA monthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Baptist Church across from Subway on Hwy 903 to see what is being done and what can be done. Contact

[Nominating@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:Nominating@LakeGastonAssoc.com) .

As for me, I will be assisting the Marketing & Membership Committee with their membership drive. I will be mailing letters to Warren County households at Lake Gaston that are not currently members of the Lake Gaston Association.

I'm looking forward to our August 4 monthly LGA meeting (see page 2) when we will hear from the Officers from NC Wildlife Resources Commission and VA Dept. of Wildlife Resources. They have lots of information to share with us. I always enjoy their presentations. Come prepared – bring a list of questions for them

We hope to see our members come to the Littleton/Lake Gaston Festival Friday night Sept. 3 from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. downtown Littleton. Come visit the LGA booth & the LGWSC trailer across from us by the Littleton Hardware store on North Main St. See you there!

And ... before I know it, it will be time to send out our renewal notices for 2022 dues at the beginning of October – our membership dues year is January – December.

Please take care of yourselves and stay safe.

*Moira*

## **Wanted!**

### *What does it take to be a Director?*

- You are welcome to sit in on any of our committee meetings and decide what is best for you – look for the committee meeting grid in the Bulletin for when they meet.
- Join us the first Wednesday of each month for the LGA monthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. (Lake Gaston Baptist Church, across from Subway), to see what is being done and what can be done.

Contact [Nominating@LakeGastonAssoc.com](mailto:Nominating@LakeGastonAssoc.com)

***Please support the businesses that advertise in our newsletter beginning on page 11. Shopping local helps everyone in the community around Lake Gaston.***

## Mile marker buoys & danger buoys

If you notice a mile marker buoy that is damaged, light is out, is missing from its mooring, has washed up on the shore, etc., please contact Dominion Energy at (252) 535-6161 Ext. 4. Similarly, if you notice a danger or no wake buoy damaged, missing, etc. please contact the LGA at [info@lakegastonassoc.com](mailto:info@lakegastonassoc.com) or (252) 586-6577 or 1-888-586-6577 and we will report it to the NC Wildlife Resource Commission or VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.



### Who's the right contact for lake levels, operations, Shoreline Management, Wildlife Officers etc.

We have received the following information from Dominion Energy for you to use ...

For questions/comments related to lake levels and operations, please send an email to [lakeinfo@dominionenergy.com](mailto:lakeinfo@dominionenergy.com).

#### A couple of items related to the account ...

1. As would be expected, this is not to be used for emergencies.
2. The account will be checked at least weekly and emails will be forwarded to the proper person for reply.
3. For questions related to Shoreline Management such as docks, riprap or the mileage buoys, please continue to call Will Miller, the Reservoir Program Manager, at 252-535-6894
4. For issues related to boating safety and regulations:

In **North Carolina**, WRC enforcement officers are the point of contact. If there is an urgent concern about safety or violations, please call the enforcement hotline at 800-662-7137 and the dispatch center will contact the nearest officer on duty. General complaints should probably be directed to Col. Jon Evans at 919-707-0036.

In **Virginia**, VA Conservation Police Officers (CPO's) enforce boating safety laws. Violations in progress should be reported to the Wildlife Crime Line at 1-800-237-5712 or [WildCrime@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:WildCrime@dgif.virginia.gov).

General complaints can be directed to the main line at 804-367-1000 or <https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/contact/>.

## Need a Children's Loaner Life Jacket?

The PERFECT solution when guests show up and you don't have children's life jackets of the correct size for all of them. The Lake Gaston Water Safety Council's FREE loaner program makes children's sizes available at the following locations:

#### Bracey, VA

Holly Grove Marina - (434) 636-3455  
Americamps - (434) 636-2668

#### Gasburg, VA

The Club - (434) 577-2935



#### Henrico, NC

Washburn's Marina - (252) 537-1335  
Sherwood Forest - (252) 537-2526

#### Littleton, NC

Eaton Ferry Marina - (252) 586-4661  
Thousand Trails/Outdoor World - (252) 586-4121  
Stonehouse Timber Lodge - (252) 586-3012





## 2021 PUBLIC EDUCATION BOATING SAFETY CLASS

- August 28
- September 11
- October 2

**Course Fee \$30 includes book and all materials**

**Location: Longbridge VFD 1678 Eaton Ferry Road Littleton, NC 27850**

### LAKE GASTON

Courses are taught by certified instructors from the USCG Auxiliary Lake Gaston Flotilla. Classes are 8:00am to 5:00pm, (arrive at 7:45am to sign in) with the exam given at the end of class. Please bring your lunch. **Free Coffee and muffins available.** Bottled water, sodas, chips, snacks can be purchased for \$1.00.

**North Carolina's Covid-19 restrictions will be adhered to IAW Governor Cooper orders if appropriate. Class size may be limited.**

For additional information, email us at [uscgauxflotilla93@gmail.com](mailto:uscgauxflotilla93@gmail.com) or phone 252-537-9877.

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 306 Henrico, NC 27842**

**America's Boating Course** is an eight-hour course covering the basics of boating and is appropriate for youth as well as the adult boater. Successful completion of this course satisfies the education requirement to operate a boat in ANY STATE and for youth to operate a PWC in both Virginia and North Carolina.

**Virginia Law** : All Virginia boaters in the waters must have proof of taking a Boating Course.

**North Carolina Law**: Requires that all PWC and Motor Boat Operators born after 1 Jan 1988 will have proof of completing a Boating Course, if they are operating a vessel with a 10 HP engine or greater.

### ***On-line courses & Classroom by NC Wildlife & VADGIF:***

**For North Carolina Boating Safety course options go to**

<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Boating/Marina-Resources/Boating-Education-Courses>

**For Virginia Boating Safety course options go to**

[www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/education/requirement/steps-to-requirement.asp](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/education/requirement/steps-to-requirement.asp)

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 911**

Speak clearly and as calmly as possible – Provide:

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Subdivision \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Nearby Major Roads \_\_\_\_\_

Call Back Number \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

**STAY ON THE LINE**

**It is always best to use a land line phone. If using a cellular phone, the location data must be very specific.**

Provide name of caller and anyone having a medical emergency. Describe problem briefly. Give accurate address information including street number (spell out street name) and closest major roads. Provide call back number in case the call is interrupted.



*Provided courtesy of the  
Lake Gaston Association*

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT LAKE GASTON:**

There are challenges associated with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and 911 Operations when using a cell phone around Lake Gaston. Cell phones can not find your location like landlines when calling 911. And cell phones don't always work in rural areas around the lake. If First Responders can not find you then they can not HELP you.

Always call 911 first. If you do not get through to the proper county, use these alternate emergency numbers:

**Brunswick County, VA - 434-848-3133**

**Mecklenburg County, VA - 434-738-0028**

**Halifax County, NC - 252-583-7051**

**Northampton County, NC - 252-574-1041**

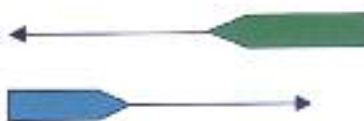
**Warren County, NC - 252-257-3456**

Another way to tell the 911 operator where you are located is with the **what3words** app which can be downloaded to your phone. The **what3words** app has given every 10 ft square in the world a unique combination of 3 words. Open up the app and wait for the GPS dot to stabilize. Tap the current location icon. The 3 word address appears on the screen. Read the 3 words to the 911 operator or tap "share" for additional information.

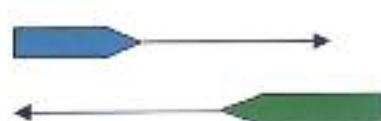
For more info contact the LKG911 Community Task Force - email: [lkg911taskforce@gmail.com](mailto:lkg911taskforce@gmail.com)  
[www.rural911taskforce.com](http://www.rural911taskforce.com)

**RULES FOR PASSING AND OVERTAKING OTHER VESSELS****MEETING HEAD-ON**

**ONE SHORT BLAST**  
**Pass to Right (Starboard)**

**PASSING**

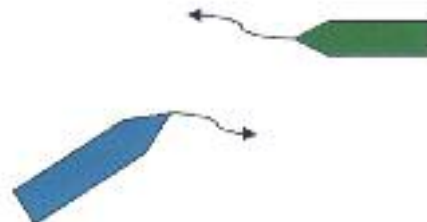
**ONE SHORT BLAST**  
**Maintain Course**

**PASSING**

**TWO SHORT BLASTS**  
**Maintain Course**

**OVERTAKING**

**ONE SHORT HORN BLAST FROM RIGHT**  
**(Starboard side)**  
**TWO SHORT HORN BLASTS FROM LEFT**  
**(Port side)**

**CROSSING**

**Pass Astern of Boat on Right**  
**(Starboard side)**

*Information in above diagrams courtesy of the Lake Gaston Water Safety Council*

## Calendar notes ...

Aug 4 – LGA monthly meeting, 9:30 till noon, Lake Gaston Baptist Church (252) 586-6577  
 Aug 4 – Lake Gaston Striper Club, 6:30 p.m. Lake Gaston Lions Den, Henrico (252) 586-7112  
 Aug 10 – Lake Gaston Computer Club, 1 p.m., Lake Gaston Lions Den, Henrico (717) 875-4481  
 Aug 14 - O'Sail – The Crossing starts at 9:00 a.m. the south side of Eaton Ferry Bridge, (910) 620-2074  
 Aug 20 – American Legion Post 308 Spaghetti Dinner at 5 – 7 p.m. Hwy 903, Littleton (252) 586-2558  
 Sept 1 – LGA monthly meeting, 9:30 till noon, Lake Gaston Baptist Church (252) 586-6577  
 Sept 3-4 – Littleton Lake Gaston Festival - Friday 7-10 p.m. & Sat 10 am-4 pm downtown Littleton  
 Sept 14 – Lake Gaston Computer Club, 1 p.m., Lake Gaston Lions Den, Henrico (717) 875-4481  
 Sept 24 - American Legion Post 308 Spaghetti Dinner at 5 – 7 p.m. Hwy 903, Littleton (252) 586-2558  
 Oct 2 - Seafood Festival, 1-5p.m., Lake Gaston Lions Club, 139 Stanley Rd, Henrico (252) 586-9866  
 Oct 9 - Taste of Brunswick Festival 10:00 - 4:00 - Lawrenceville/Brunswick Municipal Airport, Lawrenceville, VA  
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# 36<sup>th</sup> Littleton-Lake Gaston Festival

September 3 and 4, 2021

Downtown Littleton, NC

(No admission charge)

Friday night 7-10 p.m. street dance

**"Brake Tyme Band"**

Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

live entertainment, arts & crafts,  
vendors, carnival rides, food vendors,  
Stray Cats Rod & Custom Show, etc. etc.,  
& lots & lots to eat



Littleton-Lake Gaston Festival  
is organized by the Littleton Lions Club  
and money raised will go to local  
organizations, and Lions service projects.

*Don't forget to stop by and visit the LGA  
Booth on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m*

Please fill out the application below for any changes of information or to become a new member of the LGA.

## LGA APPLICATION

Dues are for Calendar Year (January-December)

### PLEASE INDICATE:

- ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal  
☐ Address Change ☐ E-Mail Change

### PAYMENT FOR (Select one):

- ☐ \$20 Sponsor Membership\*  
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**2021 Membership Goal: 2,500**

**Current Members: 2,199 (Households 2,109 / Businesses 90)**