

LAKE NEWS

and Shoreline Views



No Anchor Regulation

The Water Patrol Division would like to remind the boating public of recent boating regulation changes that went into effect in late summer 2021:

RSMo 306.221 now states, *"No person shall anchor a vessel within one hundred feet of a permitted boat dock on Lake of the Ozarks in a manner that obstructs ingress or egress of watercraft to or from the dock, unless authorized by the boat dock permit holder."*

In addition, *"No person shall secure a vessel to, or enter upon a private permitted boat dock on the waters of this state unless authorized to do so by the boat dock permit holder. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply during inclement weather conditions or other emergencies, or actions taken to prevent an unsecured vessel from becoming a navigational hazard."*

On Lake of the Ozarks, **the revisions to this law only apply to boat docks that are permitted through Ameren.** Lake of the Ozarks is a public waterway. Everyone has access to the water, including those engaged in fishing around permitted boat docks.

Any person who violates this law is guilty of an infraction. Questions can be forwarded to the Water Patrol Division at **573.751.5071**.

Adopt-the-Shoreline — Thank you to volunteers

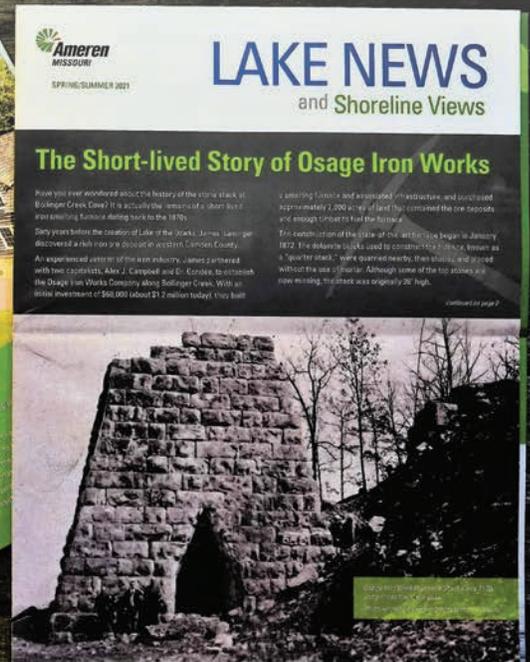
This year marks the 31st year of the Adopt-the-Shoreline (ATS) program. During that period, volunteers have removed approximately 5 ½ million pounds (2,750 tons) of trash and debris from Lake of the Ozarks. Organized ATS teams that have adopted specific sections of shoreline receive recognition for their efforts from local media outlets, but there is another group of cleanup volunteers who are flying under the radar. These folks, though not officially connected with the ATS program, take the time to clean up their shoreline year after year, using their own trash service, because they know that pitching in to keep Lake of the Ozarks clean is the right thing to do. We don't know how many lone-wolf trash collectors are out there, just that the amount of trash they remove is significant. So, whether you are part of an official ATS group or volunteer independently, we want to take this opportunity to say **Thank You!**



Lake News Now Online!

Available now, past issues of Lake News and Shoreline Views can be found online under the Shoreline Management tab at AmerenMissouri.com/lake.

Over the years, we've covered a wide variety of topics related to Lake of the Ozarks, including local history, regulations, safety, Adopt-the-Shoreline, environmental and conservation issues, nature, and more!





February 2021 Drawdown

Many of you remember where you were in February 2021. Like much of the Midwest, you were likely trying to stay inside where it was warm. A historic cold snap brought single-digit temperatures to Missouri for several consecutive days. If you owned property along the shores of Lake of the Ozarks, you'll also remember the entire lake was frozen and rapidly dropping.

Those of you who have lived on the lake for years know that the lake level is intentionally lowered in late winter through early spring in anticipation of spring flooding. Leaving some extra room in the lake basin reduces the potential for flooding both lake shoreline property and that of landowners in the Osage River Basin downstream. The minimum levels are set by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in the Bagnell operating license and allows Ameren to drop the lake elevation to 651 feet during the winter, if needed. In February 2021 the lake was lowered rapidly in response to the high demand for electricity to keep all of us warm.

The Osage Energy Center at Bagnell Dam is one link in the electrical grid, which is inter-connected with other energy-generation sources throughout the country. These generators feed electricity into transmission lines that serve all energy users throughout the

country. This interconnection of utilities is what keeps the grid stable. Unlike a car battery in which electricity is stored, energy generation must always match demand on the grid. If there is high demand in one area, energy can be transmitted from outside areas to compensate. However, if there is not enough energy to meet the demand, sections of the grid must be turned off to keep the overall grid stable, resulting in a brown out. This is what happened in Texas and in several utilities that border Ameren's service territory. Generation here in our area had a significant impact on the Ameren portion of the grid, helping it remain stable and power homes. But as a result, this increased generation lowered the lake quickly over the course of several days.

Even after the worst of the cold had passed, the lake continued to be an important resource for grid stability. An ice dam formed during the freeze on the Missouri River upstream of Jefferson City, seriously reducing water flow for the river. For several days, water in the lake was used to support energy generation farther downstream to keep those generators online. Bagnell Dam is a key piece of the energy grid and is especially helpful during extreme situations like that of February 2021.



Bryozoans

Bryozoans are a colonial organism, which means that when you see a bryozoan ball, you are looking at hundreds of individual animals called zooids. Although most bryozoans are marine, there are about 20 species that live in freshwater habitats in North America. Colonies usually develop on a hard submerged surface, such as a branch or dock cable. They feed by filtering food particles from the water using small tentacles that transfer food to the mouth. They are harmless and their presence generally indicates good water quality.

Mayflies

Many people are familiar with the winged adult mayflies. This adult form only survives for a few days, just long enough to reproduce. But depending on the species, mayflies can live for months or even years in an aquatic stage known as nymph. Mayfly nymphs are an important food source for many species of fish. If you have ever fished for trout, chances are the fly you tie on the end of your line was designed to resemble a mayfly nymph. In certain areas of the lake, mayfly populations will synchronize their transformation from the nymph to adult stage over a period of a few hours. The result can be a massive hatch, with literally millions of mayflies taking to the air.

Freshwater Sponge

Like jellyfish, most species of sponge are marine. The few species that are found in freshwater are seldom seen. Sponges grow on hard substrates such as wood or rock. Although some species can develop

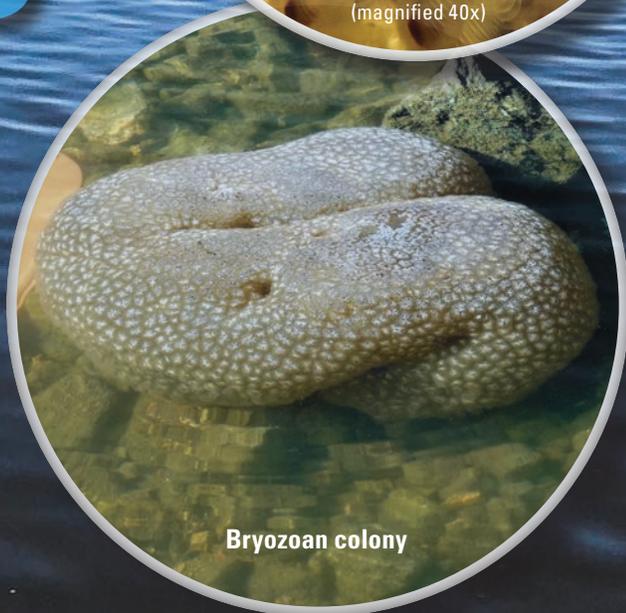


Curious Lake Critters

There are animals in Lake of the Ozarks (LOZ) that most lake users will never see unless they are looking closely. Although an artificial impoundment, LOZ is part of a natural waterway and as such contains many of the organisms found throughout the Osage River Basin.



Bryozoan zooids
(magnified 40x)



Bryozoan colony



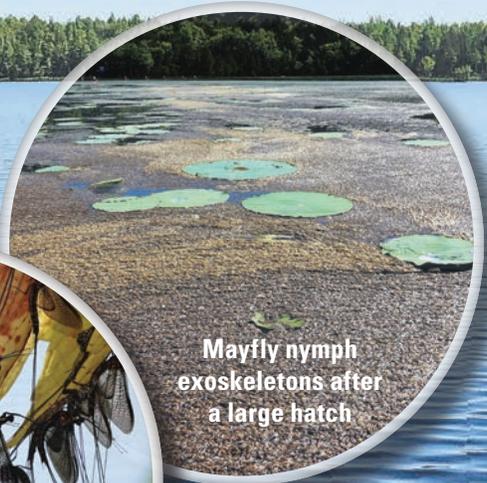
intricate growth patterns, most resemble a thin layer of algae. Unlike algae, sponges feel rough to the touch instead of slippery. Like bryozoans, their presence indicates good water quality.

Spongillafly

You may never see the aquatic larvae or adult stage of this small insect, but if you own a dock and have looked closely, you have likely seen their cocoons, which are smaller than a matchhead. When the aquatic larvae are ready to pupate, they will leave the water and spin an intricate, double-walled cocoon where they will remain until they metamorphose into the adult insect. Spongillafly larvae feed on both bryozoans and freshwater sponges.

Freshwater Jellyfish

Yes, that's right. Not all jellyfish live in the ocean. We do have one species, *Craspedacusta sowerbii*, that lives in the lake. This species originated from the Yangtze River valley in Asia but has now been transported throughout the world. Just like their marine cousins, this species does have tentacles with stinging cells that they use to gather food. Luckily, the stinging cells on this species are too weak to penetrate human skin. These jellyfish are small, about the size of a dime, and almost transparent. Most sightings occur in late summer or early fall. If you see one, consider yourself lucky!



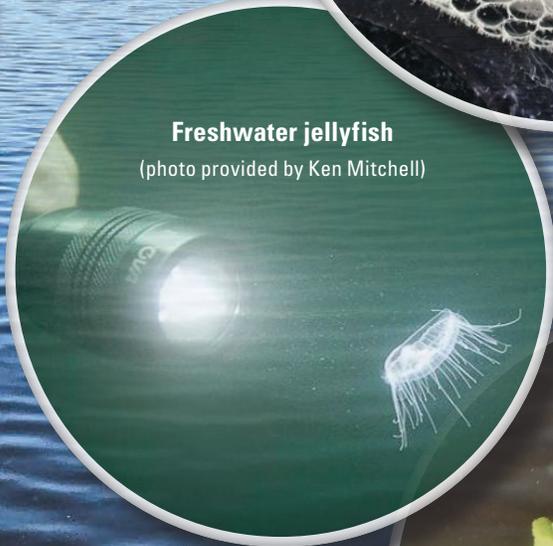
Mayfly nymph exoskeletons after a large hatch



Mayfly adults



Spongillafly cocoon



Freshwater jellyfish
(photo provided by Ken Mitchell)



Freshwater sponge



Mayfly nymph
(photo provided by April Sevy)



Dock Electrical Safety:

As electricians at Lake of the Ozarks, we hear every year about electrical safety issues associated with docks. Water and electricity in proximity can be extremely hazardous, but with proper electrical system design and maintenance, the risk of injuries can be dramatically reduced or prevented.

The ability to properly design and repair boat dock electrical systems requires specialized training. Lake of the Ozarks Association of Electrical Contractors is a nonprofit community service group that has the expertise to ensure the safety of your boat dock.

This association has two primary functions: firstly, to train electricians about the specialized work of dock electrical installation and repair; and secondly, to educate the public regarding potential electrical hazards and to provide solutions that property owners can adopt to keep swimmers and other dock users safe. A dock owner is responsible for the safety of people on and around their boat dock and boat. These are some things you, as a dock owner, can do to help protect you, your family and your guests.

1. Have an annual inspection of your boat dock by a certified Dock Electrical Technician from Lake of the Ozarks Association of Electrical Contractors.
2. Have an alarm installed on your dock to alert swimmers if there is electricity in the water.

3. Never swim around a dock where breakers or GFCIs are tripping.
4. Never attempt to turn on or reset a breaker at the dock or in the house if someone is swimming near a dock.
5. At least once a month, do the following:
 - Push the test button on the GFCI breakers you have in the electrical disconnect next to your dock walkway, making sure the breaker trips.
 - Visually inspect all the conduit on your dock to ensure it is not broken or separated anywhere.
 - Remove extension cords, as they can be dangerous and are permitted only for temporary use. Instead, have an approved receptacle professionally installed and then inspected by your local inspector.
 - Examine all your light fixtures to ensure there is no water in the globes.
 - Remind your neighbors to do all these things as well. Electricity does not respect property lines.
 - Always instruct swimmers before they go in the water to wear a life jacket and to swim away from the dock should they feel a tingle in the water.

You may find additional information about Lake of the Ozarks Association of Electrical Contractors at lozaec.org.

Permits

All structures within the project boundary must be authorized in accordance with our FERC license. This authorization has been a requirement since 1931 and is accomplished by the issuance of a permit. Permit review and approval was originally handled by the Corps of Engineers and now is administered by Ameren Missouri. Each individual structure that is installed or has been installed within the project boundary must have its own permit number that is issued to the current owner of the facility. Permit numbers are unique to each parcel of land, much like a 911 address, they do not move with a facility such as a boat dock. If you are unsure if one of your lakeside improvements is properly permitted or don't have copies of your permits, contact the Shoreline Management Office at **573.365.9212** or **573.365.9208**.

**Ameren Missouri Permit Number &
Address Posting Requirement**

0.08" Aluminum or
equivalent

3" Block
lettering
contrasting
color to
background

UE-12345-1-A
1028 BAGNELL DAM BLVD
65049

Approximately 24" or as
necessary for 3" letters

Approximately
14" or as
necessary for 3"
letters

The sign shall be mounted on the lake side of the dock in a location most visible from
the cove or the main channel

Missouri State law requires all docks located at the Lake of the Ozarks to display
their permit number and the nearest land-based 911 address, including the zip code.

LAKE PERMITS AND TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP

From the 1,150 miles of shoreline to the many plants and animals that make up the local ecology, Lake of the Ozarks is unique. Also, it is unique in the number of private improvements that populate the shoreline, such as docks and seawalls. Each structure along the shoreline must be covered by a valid permit in the name of the owner of the facility. If you are new to the lake and have not transferred the permits associated with your improvements, you can register at our online permit portal, ameren.flairdocs.com/prod, and transfer your permits.





3 Willmore Lane
Lake Ozark, MO 65049

Website:
AmerenMissouri.com/lake

Important Phone Numbers:

Lake Protection Hotline
573.365.9203

Lake Level
573.365.9205

Adopt-the-Shoreline
573.365.9206

Water Patrol Division (Buoy)
573.751.5071

Benton County (Emergency Management)
660.438.8412

Camden County (Planning & Zoning)
573.346.4440

Miller County (County Commission)
573.369.1900

Morgan County (County Commission)
573.378.4643

Shoreline Management Staff is here to assist you with your next lakeside project and to help answer your questions about Ameren Missouri's role at the lake:

Osage Arm – Bagnell Dam to 10-mile marker and Gravois Arm

Josh Friedrich - 573.365.9247

Osage Arm – 10 to 26-mile marker, Glaize Arm, commercial docks, and docks 3,000 square feet or larger

Heidi Shewmaker - 573.365.9216

Osage Arm – 26 to 32-mile marker and the Niangua Arms

Chuck Van Bebber - 573.365.9215

Osage Arm – 32-mile marker to Truman Dam

Joe Daly - 573.365.9207

Dredging, wetlands, shoreline vegetation or other environmental questions

Greg Stoner - 573.365.9206 • Brian Spencer - 573.365.9217

Permit Transfers

Elizabeth Langelier - 573.365.9212 • Shawn Roark - 573.365.9208



EVERY STRUCTURE ALONG THE LAKE SHORELINE MUST BE COVERED BY A VALID PERMIT. DO YOU HAVE COPIES OF YOURS?

To obtain copies of your permits, you will be asked to submit a permit request form. The permit request form can be downloaded from our website, AmerenMissouri.com/lake