



Staghorn Plantation Estates
Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 267
Nicholson, GA 30565

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS APRIL 2023

Life Returning to Staghorn Lake

I like to walk from my home, across the dam, through the woods to the Staghorn dumpster and back toward home. It is a nice walk when it is not raining.

Recently on my walk as I approached the cement boat ramp on Staghorn Lake, I saw Pam McGee and her two grandkids. Pam told me how much fun it was to see all the tadpoles and minnows now in Staghorn Lake. They are easy to see along the shore line because the water is so clear.



Hudson Smith (4) and Lillie Smith (2) showing me the tadpoles they caught from the lake.

Staghorn Lake is very clear in part because we removed years of accumulated dirty water when the Lake was drained to rebuild the dam spillway. It also helps that our lake maintenance support organization is putting chemicals in the lake when needed to control the growth of weeds.

The clear water is attracting all kinds of wildlife. I have seen in recent days, our Swan, Blue Heron, King Fishers and now a newcomer, a double-breasted Cormorant below.



David McGee says he is seeing this waterfowl on a regular basis. The Cormorant is a large, top heavy and mostly black bird. It has an upright posture, a wingspan of more than 5 feet and large webbed feet. You will know when you see it, because of the size.

Our new neighbor can spend two minutes under water. Its wings are not waterproof so you might see our Cormorant fanning its wings out in trees along the shoreline.

Staghorn Work Day – April 22 9-12 PM



We are hoping that April 22, 2023 will be a beautiful day so that we can attract lots of happy workers. I am going to see to it that we have coffee, water and donuts. So, if you just want to come down and shoot the breeze and watch other's work, I guess you can do that. We want to see as many smiling faces as possible.

Seriously, there are lots of things to get done. We need all your skills to do things like use chain saws to clean wooded areas, mulch the playground area, install a ladder on the swim dock and lots more.

Join us. It is only between 9:00 and 12:00 so we won't wear you out or take away whatever plans you have made for Saturday, April 22, 2023.

Helping Those Less Fortunate

I think you would agree that we are truly blessed to live in this wonderful community we call Staghorn Plantation Estates. Many people only dream about living in a community like ours.

I am amazed at the number of caring people we have in Staghorn that serve others. Here are a few organizations we support.

Cheryl Martin is very actively involved with **Fresh Wind Recovery Ministry**, a nonprofit residential ministry for men and women who struggle with substance abuse. They focus on individual healing by addressing the root soul / spirit hurts that are at the core of one's addiction. You can contribute at <https://www.freshwindrecovery.org/>

Martie Hutchens and Herschel Mize support the **Salvation Army of Athens, Georgia**. They recently participated in a \$10 a plate chicken dinner to raise funds for the organization. You can contribute to this vital organization at <https://southernusa.salvationarmy.org/athens>

First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St, Athens, GA 30601 provides meals from 12:00 – 1:00 Monday through Friday as part of the "**Our Daily Bread Program**." Like me, many residents have helped serve or contributed funds. <https://downtownministries.org/our-daily-bread>.

I have seen some of our residents out at 7:00 AM on the second Saturday of the month in the Commerce Restore parking lot to provide 30,000 lbs. of food in boxes to residents of Jackson and Banks Counties as part of the **iServe Ministries** Program. You can help by volunteering or contributing funds to <https://www.iserveministries.org/>.

Craig Gieler – President SPEHOA