

FREDERICK COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHAWNEELAND MANAGER'S REPORT – MAY 2021

Cherokee Lake:

The lake has made a remarkable recovery over the past 3 months. The lake level on December 3, 2020 was -129" and by March 8, 2021 the lake level was +11.5". This is the highest lake level since July 2, 2018 when the lake level was +12".

On March 17, 2021 the lake level was 7" above full pool. With the weather forecast calling for up to 2" of rain I decided to begin the lowering process by turning on 1 siphon and charging a 2nd to have on standby in case we needed an additional discharge.

I base my decisions on lowering the lake by the weather forecast that is given. It is my duty as a Frederick County employee to operate and maintain the dam pursuant to the provisions of the Dam Safety Act (Section 10.0-604 et Sep./Code of Virginia). I will continue to make decisions based on the most recent weather report.

Mowing Season:

Mowing season is here once again, and staff will be cutting the common grounds once a week for as long as it is needed. Along with mowing, the staff will be weed eating and spraying weeds as needed. We will also begin mowing along the trails beginning in June. This will continue until fall.

Tree Removal:

The staff has completed cutting trees for the time being. We will start the cutting process again in the fall. We will use a tree contractor on May 26th to remove some tree's that are unsafe for the staff to remove. Please keep in mind that we still have lots of wood laying on the right of way's for citizens to utilize.

Beach Season:

We will follow the lead of how the Frederick County Parks and Recreation is handling the opening of public pools this year as to the opening of the beach. Once we receive this information, we will prepare the beach accordingly.

Grader Patching:

The staff will begin grader patching this month. We will concentrate on the trails that will be receiving Tar & Chip this fall. Then we have several trails that are in desperate need of asphaltting. If time allows, we will also be widening the following trails this summer/fall: Tomahawk, Maple, Tecumseh, and Bowman.

Tar & Chip Preparation:

The Shawneeland staff begins preparing the trails that are scheduled for Tar & Chip in the fall. Before the scheduled work, we cut trees and brush overhanging limbs throughout the fall and winter as the weather allows. We also replace any drainage culverts during this time as weather allows. During the spring months we finish any tree cutting that was not achieved during the winter. The staff then begin taking care of any drainage issues by working the shoulders and ditched in any location that need attention. We also replace any culverts that were not replaced during the winter months. During the month of May we begin grader patching these trails as the weather permits.

Please keep in mind that this time of year is very busy with cutting grass, weed eating, spraying weeds, etc. This drastically slows down the process of preparing trails for Tar & Chip.