

# November 21, 2024

## Lakes Committee Update

The second Fountain as you enter needs both a motor and pump replacement. The salt in the lakes has been noted to require additional attention to keep the fountains running. The motor in the front fountain was replaced in September and now this fountain has damaged impellers. The technician stated this is likely due to brackets that failed (corrosion?) and at this point the motor and pump are recommended to be replaced. The fountain itself is ok and will save us thousands by keeping it, but these two items are required to fix the pulsing low flow we have now.

The Lakes Committee met on October 21st to review the latest water testing data.

Salinity levels were measured just prior to Hurricanes Helene & Milton. While the results supported continued reduction in salt levels the committee was aware that these storms did bring salt water back into the ponds. As a result the key action was to request an interim retest of several of the test sites to see what that effect was.

The committee also was having the aeration systems reviewed and priced for service/replacements. Most of these compressors sit low at the lake side and are prone to flooding during these historic surges. None were damaged during Helene but Milton did damage several and we await those counts.

Depending on the next round of test results the Committee will endeavor to continue specialty nutrient and midge treatments as needed. Fish stocking, littoral planting and eutrosorb treatments are all contingent on working best in a lower salt environment with good oxygen levels.

Tests also indicated that clarity is good, nitrogen levels are low (good) and dissolved oxygen is at healthy levels and well distributed but the oxygen is expected to be hampered by the downed aeration systems.

Marina Cove had a fish kill and testing was added to this pond. The committee is considering adding aeration to this pond. This next round of tests will help guide this need as initial tests showed very low oxygen on the bottom of that pond and aeration corrects that.

The committee recommends withholding insectivorous fish stocking until after the rainy season.

(water test results uploaded to website)