

Gator Tales



Volume 11 Issue 34

Newsletter Date: Spring 2023

A newsletter for the citizens of the PRVWSD community

The Pearl River Valley Water Supply District

Happenings around the Rez

Rez Life
www.rezlife.ms

SUNSET CONCERT SERIES

Bobby Cleveland Park at Lakeshore

Live Music - Food - Beer
Free with REZ tag - \$5 Per Vehicle - \$1 Per Walk-In

Chasin Dixie
March 30th
@5 pm

Keys vs Strings
April 27th
@5 pm

Andrew Pates
May 25th
@5 pm

2023 Scheduled Events at The Rez

4/27	Sunset Concert	BCP
4/29	Bugs, BBQ, & Music	BCP
4/29	CARA	PSP
5/6	Natchez Trace Century Ride	OTP
5/12	Pepsi Pops	OTP
5/25	Sunset Concert	BCP
7/1	Independence Celebration	OTP & BCP
9/28	Sunset Concert	BCP
10/13-14	Celticfest	BCP
10/26	Sunset Concert	BCP

OTP - Old Trace Park / BCP - Bobby Cleveland Park at Lakeshore / PSP - Pelahatchie Shore Park / SP - Spillway Road / FL - Fannin Landing
ML - Madison Landing / RR - Rankin County Boat Ramp / TBD-To Be Determined

Online Campground Reservations

Last month, Leake County Water Park became the first PRVWSD campground to roll out an online reservation system. Previously, campers had to reserve spots in-person prior to camping.

"We really want to improve the entire camping experience, and one of the first things we wanted to do is allow campers to make reservations from their phones or computers prior to arriving," said Reservoir General Manager John Sigman.

After a testing phase is completed at Leake County Water Park, the online reservation system will extend to the other campgrounds. Prospective campers can go to the camping page on PRVWSD's website for more information.

www.therez.ms.gov/Pages/Leake-County.aspx



2022-2023 Dredging Operations



*Christmas Tree Discarded Illegally
in Reservoir*

Dredging progress continues in Pelahatchie Bay. So far, work has been completed in Eagles Cove, Woodward, Sunrise, Paradise, and Audubon Point areas. The dredge is currently

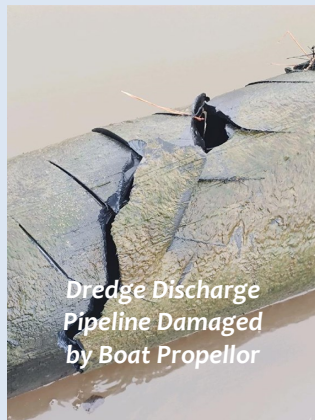
working in the Glen Cove area and will move next to Beaver Run and Arrowhead Point.

The contractor has experienced some significant delays over the last few months. In the Fall of last year, the main engine on the dredge failed and had to be replaced. It took six weeks to locate, obtain, modify, install, and test the new engine.

Dredging has also been impeded by debris encountered in some of the channels, including stumps, logs, cinder blocks, yard waste, construction debris, and tires. The worst items of debris are old Christmas trees. Christmas trees trap sediment, among other debris. When the dredge encounters one, the tree clogs the cutter head and pump inlet, requiring hours of work to remove.

Around the first of March, the floating dredge pipeline was severely damaged by a boat propellor. This shut down operations while the line was repaired. The pipeline is marked with buoys and lights. Please cross the line only at the designated crossing and at dead slow speed.

"Although we would prefer dredging to be faster, we understand that unforeseen problems do arise. We're happy that we can provide this service for the leaseholders and our guests, and we're happy that we are seeing progress in the operations," said Reservoir General Manager John Sigman. Dredging was originally scheduled to be completed in early April but has been extended through mid-July, 2023.



*Dredge Discharge
Pipeline Damaged
by Boat Propellor*

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MDWFP Alligator Hunting Season

Alligator hunting season begins in May at Ross Barnett Reservoir's Pelahatchie Bay. There are two hunting periods: May 5-7 and May 12-14. The selected permit holders will be allowed to harvest two alligators more than 6 feet long. More information is available at

mdwfp.com/wildlife-hunting/alligator-program/

After Hours Sports Bar & Grill is your new local sports bar on the Rankin County side of the pond!

Watch the game on 1 of 16 TVs or gather around the big screen!



Located at Fannin Market
1149 Old Fannin Road Ste 16

MON: CLOSED
TUE: CLOSED
WED: 4-12
THU: 4-12
FRI: 3-2A
SAT: 11-2A
SUN: 11-10



HAPPY HOUR
4-7!



*Great Food!
Cold Drinks!*

2023 Legislative Recap

As the 2023 legislative session winds down at the Mississippi State Capitol, we would like to thank our legislators, Senator Josh Harkins, Senator Walter Michel, and Representative Brent Powell, for their unwavering support of the Reservoir. In November of 2021, one of the drinking water wells that provides fresh water to leaseholders failed. Thanks to our legislators, funding for a new well was approved. A site has been selected, plans are being prepared, and we will begin construction in the near future. Additionally, we were also approved for \$2 million for our next dredging project. This funding will allow us to improve boater access to additional areas of the lake.

Several other legislators were instrumental, including Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann, Speaker Philip Gunn, Senator Dean Kirby, Senator Briggs Hopson, Rep. John Read, Senator Jennifer Branning, and Rep. Lee Yancey. Thank you!



Earth Day on the Rez

Sunday, April 23, 2023

2:00 - 5:00 pm

Hosted by Keep the Rez Beautiful and the Botanical Park Garden Club.

Earth Day on the Rez will feature Earth Day learning stations, children's activities, and a plant swap.

Reservoir Botanical Gardens
2230 Spillway Rd in Brandon, MS.

For more information visit: <https://keeptherezbeautiful.org>





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PRESORT STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

JACKSON, MS

PERMIT # 573

GET CONNECTED!

To receive texts about road closures, dredging updates, boil water alerts, and other important news around the Rez, text Madison or Rankin to 833-205-7575, or scan the QR codes with your phone!

A shortcut to enrollment



Rankin County QR

1. Use your smart phone's camera to take a picture of the QR code for Madison County (left) or Rankin County (right). Your phone will be directed to enter the county name in a text to the correct number.
2. Hit "Send" and the enrollment process will begin.



Madison County QR

Support Reservoir Foundation and community with license plates

Over 1,800 vehicles now bear the Reservoir Tag, the proceeds of which benefit the Barnett Reservoir Foundation that serves as a support group for PRVWSD and the reservoir business and residential communities. The Foundation receives \$26 annually for each tag, which is the group's leading source of revenue.

The Foundation funds projects around the lake, and holds special events to enhance the Reservoir Community. Chief among those is the annual Independence Celebration fireworks show each summer. This year's event will be on July 1.

Other events include a Food Truck Frenzy, a Sunset Concert Series, a Crawfish Boil and a Steak Cookoff Association contest. The Foundation also partners in co-sponsoring events conducted by outside groups.

The benefit of the tag, in addition to its attractive look, is free admission to many of the Foundation events and free entry into the Reservoir parks.

