



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Justin Altice & Mariah Burgess

Date: 04/05/20

Starting Location and Time: Chris Greene Lake Boat (10:30 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Chris Greene Lake Boat Ramp (11:30 AM)

Weather: Clear Recent Precipitation: Rainfall for the week was $< \frac{1}{4}$ "

USGS Gauges: North Fork 5.61 ft (74.9 ft² / sec)

Water Color: Green Water Odor: None Air Temp: 56° F

DO: 4 ppm pH: 8 Turbidity: 10 JTU Water Temp: 54° F

Water Testing Location: Boat Ramp

Land Use:

Chris Greene Lake is owned and operated by Albemarle County along with the land surrounding the lake. The majority of the perimeter is wooded although a one acre dog park and two acre recreational beach are located on the north side. Several trails are located throughout the park for hiking, biking, and fishing. This is a popular spot for fishing with a well-maintained boat ramp, ADA compliant fishing pier (currently blocked off for minor repair), and additional parking and access area where many people cast from the shore.

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Painted Toad, Carp, Canada Geese, Swallows, and many tree varieties surrounding the lake including white oak, tulip poplars, and hickory.

People Interactions:

Upon entering the park, staff were reminding people of the current COVID-19 recommendations to maintain a distance of 6 feet and not gather in groups of over 10. The park was not as crowded as expected for a weekend, fair-weather day and considering VA outdoor space use is up by 46% as of March 30 (in relation to COVID-19). There were about 5 cars and two fishing boats on the water when we arrived and those numbers were about



double when we left. We spoke with one fishing pair who said the fishing wasn't great that day.

There were less than 10 people at the dog park and just two observed playing in the water.

Litter and Pollution:

Removed a few trash items (fishing line/bobbers/worm containers, cigarette butts, tennis balls, and food packaging)

Overall Summary:

It was a sunny but cool day to be out on the water and the lack of visitors made it peaceful. The lake and amenities were in good condition.

Actions Needed – level of priority (1 highest/5 lowest):

5 – There is not a lot of buffer between two of the parking lots and the lake. Potential to assess if plantings could be beneficial to protect the lake from polluted runoff.

Pictures:



Figure 1: Family paddling around the beach



Figure 2: Signs of a resident beaver



Figure 3: View towards beach area (currently closed).



Figure 4: Painted Turtle



Figure 5: Plane overhead (located near airport).



Figure 6: Parking lot at 11:30am



Figure 7: Serene view over the lake.



Figure 8: Northwest shoreline



Figure 9: Roped off beach area that is closed.



Figure 10: Nursery Web Spider



Figure 11: Wooded landscape surrounding the lake.



Figure 12: Dog Park area located along lake.



Figure 13: Steward Mariah with her new Painted Turtle friend.