



Friends of Claytor Lake

2023 Clean Up Report
February 2024





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 <p>MAY-OCT DEBRIS REPORT</p>	<p>ROLL OFF TOTAL Each is 15 tons!</p> <p>174</p>
<p>BAGS OF TRASH 128</p> <p>TIRES 23</p>	<p>THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!</p> 
	<p>DOCKS 7</p> <p>BARRELS 4</p> <p>1 OIL TANK 1 FUEL TANK</p>



History

Mission: Dedicated to protecting Claytor Lake's environment for all.

Vision: FOCL envisions... An engaged community that stewards environmental sustainability and enjoyment of Claytor Lake for future generations.

History & Equipment: In 1992 FOCL began clean up in response to Peak Creek becoming blocked by debris and running red in color. FOCL began with volunteers and open boats hauling out trash and debris. These dedicated few evolved into a major operation through the dedicated efforts of many volunteers and partners.

In 2022 our efforts included a five person crew working with a large barge with an excavator, a small barge holding a large 30 cubic yard rolloff dumpster attached to a conveyor sitting on a third barge and a small salvage boat. The crew, wearing chest waders, worked in the water with chainsaws clearing woody debris from the shore. Smaller debris is pushed onto a conveyor and loaded into a rolloff container. However, the majority of debris is removed by the excavator operation on the large barge. Clean up is funded from many sources including Pulaski County, American Electric Power, and FOCL donations from a variety of sources. Clean up at Claytor Lake serves 2100 lake affected residents along with the estimated 453,743 visitors to the Claytor Lake State Park and public boat landings plus those from private marinas annually. The average dumpster roll-off weighs an estimated minimum of 15 tons with water logged woody debris. In addition, 100 trash bags equals a full roll-off at an estimated 4-5 tons.

Previous Year's History:

2023: 206.5 Roll-offs, 135 Bags of Trash, 30 wheel/Tires, 8 Docks, 4 Barrels, 1 Refrigerator, 1 Water Tank, 1 Fuel Tank

2022: 250 Roll- Offs, 140 Bags of Trash, 37 Wheel/Tires, 9 Docks, 2 Barrels, 1 derelict floating houseboat, 1 Water Heater

2021: 355 Roll- Offs, 240 Bags of Trash, 48 Wheel/Tires, 11 Docks, Misc. 1 Water Heater, 1 Propane Tank, 1 Round Hay Bale, 1 Ramp

2020: 350 Roll- Offs, 64 Bags of Trash, 30 Wheel/Tires, 6 55 Gallon Barrels, 4 Docks

2019: 248.5 Roll-Offs, 249 Bags of Trash, 55 Wheel/Tires, 18 55-Gallon Barrels, 9 Docks, 1 Tractor Tire, 1 Freezer

2018: 290.5 Roll-Offs, 229 Bags of Trash, 59 Wheel/Tires, 10 55-Gallon Barrels, 14 Docks, 2 Boats, 1 Camper, 1 Ramp, 1 Playhouse, 1 Gas Grill

2017: 224.75 Roll-Offs, 218 Bags of Trash, 28 Wheel/Tires, 2 55-Gallon Barrels, 3 Docks, 1 Ramp, 4 Trees, 1 Fishing Boat

2016: 191.75 Roll-Offs, 410 Bags of Trash, 48 Wheel/Tires, 11 55-Gallon Barrels, 14 Docks, 1 Pipe, 1 Picnic Table, 1 Metal Steps

2015: 232.75 Roll-Offs, 452.5 Bags of Trash, 42 Wheel/Tires, 6 55-Gallon Barrels, 13 Docks, 1 Freezer, 1 Water Heater, 1 Propane Tank, 1 Tractor Tire

2014: 304.5 Roll-Offs, 637 Bags of Trash, 179 Wheel/Tires, 24 55- Gallon Barrels, 35.5 Docks, 1 Freezer, 1 Water Heater, 1 Propane Tank, 1 Waterski Jump, 1 Metal Boat House, 1 Car Gas Tank, 1 set of steps

2024 Estimates

FOCL's 1984 surplus Navy push boat, "Miss Pulaski", had both diesel engines rebuilt with a major overhaul during 2022 and was very helpful with debris removal operations during 2023.

FOCL will, again, try to maintain a crew of 4 and aggressively try to add at least 2 more members to the team which could operate independently of each other to cover more area and increase quick debris removal. FOCL continues to implement an end of year performance review of the crew. More accountability and access to comments from crew members help foster a team environment for years to come.

In March and early April FOCL's crew will begin de-winterizing, power washing our push boats and seeing that any needed repairs to the boats, barges, excavator, loader and rolloff truck are completed. They will begin clean up operations by prioritizing public launch ramps, the main lake channel and dock areas. They will then move to areas noted on FOCL's and AEP's debris surveys and any requests for clean up received during the winter months.



2023 Clean Up Work

FOCL began 2023 in March by completing major equipment repairs.

The rebuilt diesel engines were installed in the "Miss Pulaski", our 1984 surplus Navy push boat, our crew power washed the boat's exterior and interior, removed the old deteriorated paint, primed and painted the boat. In the process, our crew found 2 leaks in the fuel tank area of the hull which were repaired. A new fuel tank was fabricated and installed. Our "new" push boat was power washed and painted.

The deteriorated top layer of steel deck plating on the excavator barge was removed and replaced with new A36 diamond plated steel decking. The worn steel barge section connecting pins were replaced, guard rails and other repairs were completed.

A newer 2004 Caterpillar 953C track loader was purchased with funding help by AEP and Pulaski County to replace the failed 1973 track loader which is needed to maintain the access to our debris storage area and organize the wood debris piles for burning.

Like 2022 the lake was relatively clean at the beginning of our 2023 clean up season as our crew was able to clean all areas of the lake in 2022 and there were no high flow or high lake level events. The boat launch areas at the State Park and DeHaven Park were clear and the lake was calm, so we began cleaning the upper Peak creek areas. However, in late May heavy rains resulted in lots of debris coming down river to the lake. Our crew positioned our equipment just below the Lomans Ferry Bridge to intercept the large wood debris before it moved downstream to dock, launch ramps and park areas. We did not experience other storm events during the clean up season so our crew was able to remove debris in all areas of the lake above and below the Lomans Ferry Bridge.



The lake was so clean that we actually had to search for debris at the end of the clean up season as we did not experience tropical storms or other weather events that would impact the lake in 2023. Our equipment was removed before the Fall drawdown, the wood debris piles were burned and the debris storage area was cleaned up and graded ready for 2024.

We appreciate all the support from APCO and Pulaski County with these endeavors in the past and look forward to continuing to work for the good of Claytor in the coming year.

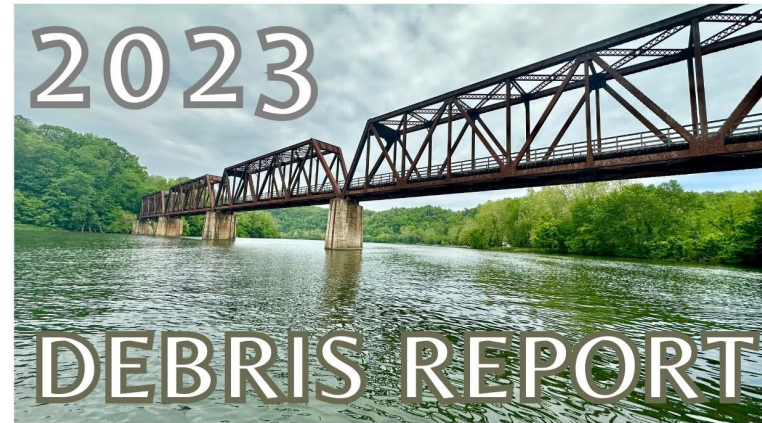
Extra clean up efforts included volunteer groups from Kollmorgen cleaning up Peak Creek around Rock House Marina and Conrad Brother's, once last season.



2023 Operation & Results

This past season had one major high flow event during Memorial Day weekend. The crew was able to work in areas they hadn't been able to get because of the lack of debris during the rest of the season. This ensured time to clean up trash and other debris such as derelict structures, etc.

Finding and retaining seasonal crew workers continued to be difficult due to the type of work. We had increased the pay rate and have increased the rate for 2024.



ROLL OFF TOTAL
Each is 15 tons!

206.5

BAGS OF TRASH
145

TIRES
30

THANKS FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!



DOCKS
8

BARRELS
4

1 REFRIGERATOR
1 OIL TANK
1 FUEL TANK

Date	Location Number	Location Description	Roll off Loads	Tires / Wheels	Trash Bags	Barrels	Docks	Misc.								
									10-Jul	8	Shoreline: O.H. Powerline down to Peak Creek	5		9		
25-May	1	Upper Peak Creek - upstream of power line	3						11-Jul	8	Shoreline: O.H. Powerline down to Peak Creek	1	3			
25-May	2	Shoreline: Smith Hollow to State Park Cabins					2		12-Jul	9	Twin Hollow	4		12		
30-May	2	Shoreline: Smith Hollow to State Park Cabins	3						13-Jul	9	Twin Hollow	2				
30-May	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	5						13-Jul	10	Lakeview Shoreline	1				
31-May	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1						17-Jul	10	Lakeview Shoreline	2				
1-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Brisge to Clapboard Hollo	9		3	1			17-Jul	11	Shoreline: Peak Creek to Feltz Hollow	2				
2-Jun	1	Upper Peak Creek - upstream of power line	1						18-Jul	11	Shoreline: Peak Creek to Feltz Hollow	1				
5-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1						19-Jul	12	Shoreline:Claytor Lake Estates to Buzzard Roast Holl	3				
6-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	3	2	6				20-Jul	1	Upper Peak Creek - upstream of power line	1	1	4		
7-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1						24-Jul	1	Upper Peak Creek - upstream of power line	2				
8-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	2						24-Jul	13	Feltz Hollow	1	1	5		
9-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1						25-Jul	14	Smith Hollow	1		2		
12-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollow		3	6				25-Jul	15	Buzzard Roost Hollow to Big Hole Hollow	1				
12-Jan	4	Nunn Hollow	7	1	8				26-Jul	16	Swiss Knob/Hidden Valley			6		
14-Jun	5	Claytor Lake Estates	2		4				27-Jul	17	Shoreline:Swiss Knob/Hidden Valley to State Park Ca	2				
15-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	3		3				31-Jul	17	Shoreline:Swiss Knob/Hidden Valley to State Park Ca	5		4		
19-Jun	4	Nunn Hollow	3	1	6				1-Aug	17	Shoreline:Swiss Knob/Hidden Valley to State Park Ca	1				
26-Jun	4	Nunn Hollow	3	2	2				1-Aug	18	Shoreline: State Park Cabins	1		5		
27-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	4	3	3				2-Aug	17	Shoreline:Swiss Knob/Hidden Valley to State Park Ca	2		2		
28-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	6		3				2-Aug	18	Shoreline: State Park Cabins	1				
29-Jun	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1						3-Aug	19	Shoreline: Cook Hollow to the Dam	2				
29-Jun	6	Claytor Lake Cabin Land	3		1				7-Aug	20	Lakeview	2				
30-Jun	6	Claytor Lake Cabin Land	1.5		5				8-Aug	21	Ridpath Hollow	2				
3-Jul	7	Shadowland	2						8-Aug	15	Buzzard Roost Hollow to Big Hole Hollow	2	3	1		
5-Jul	7	Shadowland	2						9-Aug	19	Shoreline: Cook Hollow to the Dam	4				
5-Jul	8	Shoreline: O.H. Powerline down to Peak Creek	1		4				14-Aug	19	Shoreline: Cook Hollow to the Dam	2	1	1		
6-Jul	8	Shoreline: O.H. Powerline down to Peak Creek	5		5											

Debris Totals

16-Aug	22	AEP Cabin to Dam Cove to Bullard Farm Shoreline	3					
16-Aug	23	Shoreline: Spooky Hollow to Cook Hollow	2		4			
23-Aug	24	Shoreline: Allisonia Boat Ramp to Abutmnt	2					
24-Aug	24	Shoreline: Allisonia Boat Ramp to Abutmnt	1					
24-Aug	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	2					
28-Aug	26	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	3	1				
29-Aug	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	4					
30-Aug	26	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	4					
4-Sep	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	3					
5-Sep	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	1	1	3			
6-Sep	26	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	3					
7-Sep	25	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	1					
7-Sep	26	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	1		4		1	
11-Sep	26	Shoreline: Little Wytheville to Max Creek Hollow	3					
13-Sep	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	3					
13-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge			4	2		
14-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	2					
18-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	2					
19-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	2					
20-Sep	25	Shoreline: Abutment to Little Wytheville	1					
21-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	2					
25-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	3				1	1 Frig
26-Sep	27	Shoreline: Maxcreek Hollow to Lomans Ferry Bridge	4					
28-Sep	28	Lakewood Estates Cove	1					
28-Sep	4	Nunn Hollow	1					
28-Sep	3	Shoreline:Lowmans Ferry Bridge to Clapboard Hollo	1					
3-Oct	29	DeHaven Inlet/ramps	0.5					
4-Oct	30	Clapboard Hollow	2	3	4			
5-Oct	31	Shoreline: Cabin Land to Clapboard Hollow	2	2	5			
9-Oct	31	Shoreline: Cabin Land to Clapboard Hollow	3					
10-Oct	31	Shoreline: Cabin Land to Clapboard Hollow	3		3			
11-Oct	32	Baptist Church Hollow	1					
12-Oct	33	Shoreline:Big Hole Hollow to Stocky Hollow	2	1	2			
16-Oct	33	Shoreline:Big Hole Hollow to Stocky Hollow	4	1	3			
17-Oct	33	Shoreline:Big Hole Hollow to Stocky Hollow	2					
18-Oct	6	Claytor Lake Cabin Land	0.5					
19-Oct	6	Claytor Lake Cabin Land	1					
		TOTALS	206.5	30	145	4	8	1 Oil Tank; 1Fuel Tank, 1 Frig

Debris Pile 2023

The debris pile was compiled and burned safely at the end of the season. FOCL notifies all local Fire/Emergency services of the permitted controlled burn each year.

The crew was able to keep the burn time to one week this season starting early December.



Drawdown & Flow Events

Email Preview

Sender: The Friends of Claytor Lake <info@focl.org>
Subject: Drawdown + Mussel Salvage 2023
Preview Text: Save the dates



Drawdown + Mussel Salvage 2023

FOCL proposed a 5 foot drawdown for this November 4-12 to enable property owners to do shoreline maintenance and clean up.

Upon approval, AEP, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and FOCL encourage property owners to begin the permit application process **NOW** through AEP, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and Pulaski County for any projects that might require permits, such as dock modifications or expansions, shoreline stabilization, vegetation removal or dredging.

FOCL encourages salvaging stranded mussels during drawdown by gently tossing them into deeper water. To support continued drawdowns, FOCL also collects data on mussel salvage efforts and drawdown use, and asks that you report your salvage activities [here](#). [Please contact us if you're interested in being a volunteer at our mussel event on NOV. 4!](#)

Remember: *Vegetation removal from within the Project boundary is not allowed unless prior approval has been obtained. Info about shoreline permits can be obtained by calling (540) 489-2556 or visiting <http://www.claytorhydro.com/shoreline.aspx>*

In preparation for 2023 Drawdown & Mussel Salvage, FOCL sent information via email and shared details on social media and website.



The Friends of Claytor Lake

Published by Ciara Sanders · November 2, 2023

Drawdown starts today! ⚠️



Claytor Hydroelectric Project

November 1, 2023

The drawdown of the Claytor reservoir begins today. The reservoir will be lowered approximately 1.5 feet per day until it reaches an elevation of 1841 feet—or f... [See more](#)



The Friends of Claytor Lake

Published by Ciara Sanders · August 18, 2023



FYI



Claytor Hydroelectric Project

August 18, 2023

POTENTIAL HIGH WATER LEVELS ON NEW RIVER STARTING MONDAY 🔥

Appalachian Power wants boaters and recreational users downstream of Claytor Dam to know water levels on the New River could rise rapidly starting Monday, Aug. 21, and continue to fluctuate through the week.

Flow/Weather Alerts

Sender: The Friends of Claytor Lake <info@focl.org>

Subject: FYI AEP Lowering Lake

Preview Text: Water Management Update



AEP WATER LEVEL UPDATE: LOWERING

Per the Water Management Plan for the Claytor Project, Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian) may reduce the Claytor Project reservoir elevation to 1841.0 feet to provide additional inflow storage capacity in anticipation of high inflow events. Based on updated rainfall and river flow forecasts issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) for the New River watershed,

Appalachian will begin lowering the reservoir elevation beginning at 12 PM (noon) today (June 19, 2023) from the current level of approximately 1845.3 feet to reach a target elevation of approximately 1841 feet by 12 PM (noon) tomorrow (June 20, 2023). Appalachian will continue to monitor the NWS forecasts and make adjustments as needed.