Greetings Howell Creek Residents!

Please find the latest bioassessment report for your creek below. Some of the key highlights from this report include:

- Hydrilla update
- Submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV)
- Emergent vegetation
- Lake Waumpi vegetation status/update

On **July 25th, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program biologists, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Howell Creek** and **Lake Waumpi**.

Hydrilla has increased since the previous inspection. Patches of hydrilla started at the weir and were seen throughout the creek. The west half of the creek had very dense hydrilla. The hydrilla will be treated by the MSBU funded herbicide contractor.

**Photo: Hydrilla (invasive)**
Native submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) species found during the inspection included: coontail, roadgrass, bladderwort, and eelgrass. A substrate algae was present on most of the submersed vegetation.

Invasive emergent vegetation observed during the inspection included: alligator weed, paragrass, wild taro, water hyacinth, water primrose, torpedograss, salvinia, chinese tallow, and creeping oxeye.

**Photo: Duck weed (native).**

Very little native emergent vegetation was present. Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: pennywort, duckweed, and spatterdock.

Lake Waumpi was also surveyed during this inspection. There has been a reduction water lilies since the previous inspection. The hydrilla that had previously been treated in Lake Waumpi has expanded greatly.
The secchi reading (water clarity) in Lake Waumpi was visible on bottom in a depth of 3 feet. No triploid (sterile) grass carp fish were observed. LakeWatch water quality data for Lake Waumpi can be found on the Seminole County Watershed Atlas at: http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/default.asp?wboid=151861&wbodatlas=lake.

8/29/2016

On **August 29th, 2016**, Seminole County Lake Management Program biologists, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in **Howell Creek** and **Lake Waumpi**.

Large amounts of hydrilla were found in Howell Creek and Lake Waumpi. Hydrilla was found throughout the length of the creek but the majority was found in the upstream half. That area was topped out with hydrilla. To prevent a waste of MSBU funds, treatment for the hydrilla will not begin until Lake Waumpi’s hydrilla is under control.

**Photo: Topped out hydrilla.**
Native submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) species found during the inspection included: coontail, roadgrass, red ludwigia, and eelgrass.

Invasive emergent vegetation observed during the inspection included: alligator weed, wild taro, water-primrose, torpedograss, salvinia, and creeping oxeye. Both alligator weed and torpedograss have increased since the previous inspection.

Photo: Water paspalum.
Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: pennywort, duckweed, spatterdock, and water paspalum.

Lake Waumpi was also surveyed during this inspection. The lake was topped out with hydrilla and not navigable. The City of Winter Park is currently developing a plant to control the hydrilla of Lake Waumpi.

**Photo: Hydrilla in Lake Waumpi**
The secchi reading (water clarity) in Lake Waumpi was visible on bottom at 3 feet. One triploid (sterile) grass carp fish was observed. LakeWatch water quality data for Lake Waumpi can be found on the Seminole County Watershed Atlas at: http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/default.asp?wbodyid=151861&wbodyatlas=lake.

11/7/2016

On November 7th, 2016, Seminole County Lake Management Program biologists, Thomas Calhoun and Joey Cordell, surveyed the aquatic plants in Howell Creek and Lake Waumpi.

Majority of Howell Creek is unnavigable due to very large amounts of hydrilla. This hydrilla may be a strain of hydrilla from upstream in Winter Park that exhibits resistance to certain herbicides. Due to its potential for resistance, alternate herbicides will be used in treating this strain of hydrilla.
Native submersed aquatic vegetation (SAV) species found during the inspection included: coontail, roadgrass, bladderwort, and eelgrass. Hydrilla is crowding out a lot of the native SAV.

Invasive emergent vegetation observed during the inspection included: alligator weed, wild taro, water hyacinth, primrose willow, torpedograss, salvinia, cuban bur-head sedge, and creeping oxeye.

Native emergent vegetation found during the inspection included: pennywort, duckweed, spatterdock, water paspalum, and climbing aster. Very little native emergent vegetation was seen.

Lake Waumpi was also surveyed during this inspection. The lake was topped out with hydrilla and not navigable. The City of Winter Park is currently developing a plan to control the hydrilla of Lake Waumpi.
The secchi reading (water clarity) in Lake Waumpi was visible on bottom at 3 feet. No triploid (sterile) grass carp fish were observed. LakeWatch water quality data for Lake Waumpi can be found on the Seminole County Watershed Atlas at: http://www.seminole.wateratlas.usf.edu/lake/default.asp?wboid=151861&wbodiatlas=lake.