Reminder of “No Wake Zones”

“No Wake Zones” generally require the operation of boats, barges and personal watercraft such as jet skis at idle speed, or around 5 mph. Areas are generally designated as “No Wake Zones” in order to protect shorelines from erosion, prevent damage to docked vessels, or to prevent injuries to swimmers, kayakers and other individuals on the water.

The City of Tyler has designated several areas around Lake Tyler and Lake Tyler East as “No Wake Zones.” This includes areas around the Marina, South Point Subdivision and East Side Subdivision No. 3 on Lake Tyler, and around East Shores Estates and Big Oak Bay on Lake Tyler East. In addition, Section 19-135 of the City of Tyler Code of Ordinances states the following with regards to travel through the channel connecting the two Lakes:

“No person may operate any boat, barge, or other watercraft on or through the connecting channel at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the circumstances then existing. Due to the length and narrow width of the connecting channel, it is designated as a no wake zone and craft should be operated slowly enough to leave no visible wake.”

Additionally, there are a few other tips you can follow to guarantee a fun and safe experience for everyone on the water:

- **Slow down whenever you pass within 500 feet of a small boat, the shoreline or a marina.** Distances beyond that allow the wake’s waves to spread out and get rounder, causing less disruption to other boats and less erosion.

- **Slow down in advance.** Chopping the throttles as you come abeam of a marina or close aboard to a small boat doesn’t alleviate the wake’s effect.

- **When operating at no-wake speed, trim the drive or outboard to a vertical position.** Neutral trim allows your boat to proceed with the smallest wake.

By following these few simple rules, everyone can enjoy their time on the Lakes. Feel free to contact Lisa Crossman by phone at (903) 531-1239 or by email at lcrossman@tylertexas.com if you have any questions.
Lake Tyler Marina Lease Terminated

The City of Tyler terminated its lease agreement with Daveryl Holdings, LLC for operation of the Lake Tyler Marina effective as of March 3, 2014. The termination came after months of failed attempts to resolve several violations of the lease with the lessee.

Currently, the interest in the lease has reverted to Citizen’s State Bank, which had an outstanding loan on the Marina that was foreclosed on May 5, 2014. The City and bank staff are negotiating a plan of action for operation and maintenance of the Marina. The bank has made contact with the residents in the RV parks, as well as with anyone that still has a boat in the rental slips, and is collecting rental payments for those units. In addition, the bank is making agreements for new rentals of RV spots and boat slips on a short-term basis. Meanwhile, City staff is operating the gas pumps Fridays through Sundays, weather permitting. No decision has yet been made regarding the ultimate outcome of the long-term RV rental units.

Trash Cleanup Around Lakes

As a result of complaints about trash on the roads and other areas around the Lakes, the Smith County Sheriff’s office has agreed to provide labor to collect the trash if Lake residents will donate money for the trailer that is needed to collect the trash.

Billy McGwier, a resident of the Peninsula Subdivision on Lake Tyler, has agreed to collect the donations for the trailer. If you would like to contribute to the trash cleanup, please contact Mr. McGwier by email at McGwier@yahoo.com. Checks should be made payable to Billy McGwier with a reference to “trash pickup” in the memo line of the check.

Operational Data for Lake Tyler / Lake Tyler East

Presented at right are the annual water production figures showing the amounts produced through May 8, 2014 by the Golden Road Water Treatment Plant (Lake Tyler/Lake Tyler East), Lake Palestine Water Treatment Plant (Lake Palestine) and the City's 11 water production wells over the past ten years.

Also presented at right is a graph that illustrates the annual high and low water elevations for Lake Tyler and Lake Tyler East as compared to the normal pool elevation of 375.5 feet. In addition, annual rainfall totals in inches are shown.

Rainfall data through Aug. 31, 2013 was measured at the Golden Road Water Treatment Plant. Rainfall data from Sept. 1, 2013 through the present is measured at the Lake Tyler Raw Water Pump Station.

Updates on Repair Projects

Lake Tyler Dam Repair

Bids were opened on March 28, 2014. Two bids were received and the contract was awarded to Gracon Construction, Inc. A pre-construction meeting was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 with members of City staff, the design team and the construction company in attendance. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the various project team members and the roles they each play and to discuss general issues related to the contract requirements. In addition, the project team members then met onsite to discuss site specific issues such as access to the site and locations for storing equipment and materials.

The contractor is currently preparing submittals for the materials that will be used during construction and the detailed work plan for construction of the cutoff wall, both of which must be approved by the design engineer before the contractor may begin construction. The contractor is also preparing a proposed schedule of work. Construction crews should begin to mobilize and bring materials to the project site during June and July. Overall construction is anticipated to be complete by the end of December 2014.

Miscellaneous Retaining Wall Repairs

The retaining wall contractor, Knight Erosion Control, began mobilizing equipment and materials to Hill Creek Park on Monday, May 5. When work at that site is complete, they will move to East Side Park #4. Construction is expected to take a total of 180 days and should be complete at both sites by November 2014.