The East Texas area, like much of the state, has experienced several bouts of unusually high rainfall over the last year. Twice in the last 12 months, Lake Tyler has experienced water elevations more than one foot over the normal pool elevation of 375.5’ mean sea level (msl). In March 2015, the water elevation peaked at 376.84’ msl (1.34 feet over spillway elevation) while in March 2016, the water elevation peaked at 377.20’ msl (1.7 feet over spillway elevation). Both times, Tyler Water Utilities (TWU) made the decision to close the boat ramps for several reasons:

- To minimize the risk to boaters from floating debris,
- To minimize the risk of erosion of the shoreline, and
- To minimize the risk of flooding boathouses from wakes.

For these reasons, TWU asks for the assistance of lake residents during future flooding event to stay off the water during times that the lakes are closed.

While there is no formal written policy governing the closing of the lakes, the decision to close the lakes to boat traffic is made based on a number of factors. When lake elevations exceed one foot over spillway, TWU staff begins monitoring the situation. However, lake elevations alone do not necessarily trigger a lake closure. TWU staff also takes into account the amount of rain received prior to the event, as well as the anticipated rainfall after the event. Therefore, if it can reasonably be anticipated that lake elevations will fall rapidly after reaching a peak elevation, the lakes may not be closed. However, as lake elevations begin to rise and more rain is expected, the decision may be made to close the lakes.

Currently, TWU staff will consider closing the lakes as water elevations begin to reach elevation 377.00’ msl (1.5 feet over spillway) and will re-open the lakes when waters begin to recede to around 376.00’ msl (0.5 feet over spillway). After any closure of the lake, TWU staff monitors the elevations and the weather closely in order to open the lakes back up as quickly as possible.
Operational Data for Lake Tyler / Lake Tyler East

Presented at right are the annual water production figures showing the amounts produced 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. 2016 production through Apr. 7, 2016 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Gallons Produced</th>
<th>% of Production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golden Road WTP</td>
<td>0.785 billion</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Palestine WTP</td>
<td>0.932 billion</td>
<td>54.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells</td>
<td>0.0 billion</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 is measured at the Lake Tyler Maintenance Complex through Apr. 7, 2016.

So far in 2016, 12.37 inches of rain have been measured at the Lake Tyler gauge. In addition, the minimum water elevation measured to date has been 375.58 feet, which is just at spillway elevation, while the maximum water elevation has been 377.20 feet, or about 1.7 feet above spillway elevation.

New City of Tyler Contact

Tyler Water Utilities is pleased to announce a new contact for lake residents. Questions regarding Lake Tyler lease and Lake Tyler East registration issues should now be addressed to Victoria Constant (soon to be Davis). Victoria can be reached by phone at (903) 531-1242 or by email at vconstant@tylertexas.com. We want to extend a warm welcome to Victoria with her new duties.

For now, Lisa Crossman will still be responsible for the Lake Tyler newsletter and any ideas for articles or upcoming events that you would like to see published should still be forwarded to her at lcrossman@tylertexas.com.

Upcoming Events

Krazy Kids Inflatable Fun Run—April 30
The Krazy Kids Inflatable Fun Run is coming to Camp Tyler on April 30. This is the first nationwide obstacle run created solely for children. Children must be between 3 and 12 years of age and must be at least 36 inches tall to participate. The event will raise money for the American Cancer Society. Visit http://krazykidsinflatablefunrun.com/tyler-tx/ for more information.

Cruise the Lake for The Cause—May 23
The Tyler Cattle Barons’ Gala is sponsoring a Cruise the Lake for The Cause event at The Boulders at Lake Tyler on May 23. Visit http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/Gala/GalaFY10HighPlains?pg=entry&fr_id=76110 and click the “Register for All Hands” link for registration information.

Life Jackets Required on Paddleboards

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has determined that stand up paddle (SUP) boards operated outside a surfing, swimming or bathing area are “vessels” under USCG regulations. Life jackets are required as follows when you are operating outside of those areas:

- Each paddler 13 years of age or older must have a USCG-approved Type I, II, III, or appropriate Type V life jacket although it isn’t required to be worn.
- A child 12-years old or younger must wear their USCG-approved life jacket.

Visit the following website for more information: http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2012/05/top-10-tips-for-stand-up-paddleboarding/.

Reminder of No Ski Zones

The City of Tyler has long designated several areas on Lake Tyler and Lake Tyler east as “No Ski Zones”. These areas include:

- The area around the Concession #1 Marina
- The entirety of Hill Creek cove
- The far west end of Gilley Creek cove
- The far north end of Prairie Creek cove, starting about where Northwest Subdivision No. 1 begins
- The entirety of Allen cove
- The full length of the connecting channel
- The entirety of Quiet Bay
- The entirety of Club Lake cove
- The far north end of Mud Creek, starting about Norway Peninsula
- The far east end of North Bridge cove
- The far east end of South Bridge cove
- The far south end of Stillwater Bay

FYI...

Southern Utilities will be installing a new water line on McElroy Road from FM 848 to The Boulders at Lake Tyler property. Southern Utilities anticipates that work will begin in about 30 to 60 days, depending on weather. Please be careful in this area after work begins.