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# The Lake Mitchell H.O.B.O.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

HOBO is active in causing many good things to happen on Lake Mitchell. The Fire/Rescue Boat Committee has the boathouse completed. The fish weigh-in and aerator structure for bass tournaments will soon be constructed. The membership committee is working on a lake phone directory for the entire lake which will be available for all members. Johnye Woodrow and the Picnic Committee did a fabulous job with our annual picnic. Our water monitors will soon be trained in soil erosion and wetland protection. Our security committee is obtaining neighborhood watch signs and is forming better communication with our sheriffs. Our membership is at an all time high. The budget is stable.

So what's the problem? Construction on the lake is at an all time high and erosion/silt from construction sites and dirt roads threaten our aquatic life. Each creek entrance to Lake Mitchell is a miniature wetland where small fish, minnows and all sorts of aquatic creatures are born and reared. If we allow silt to smother these creatures we severely damage our fish population and other wildlife. So what can you do? Read and learn about wetlands and erosion. Seek advice before you start construction - it is free. Call the RC&D soil and water department in Clanton at 755-5101 - ext. 202 and talk with Ben Gary. If you have an area where silt is running into the lake, stop it with rock, hay and plants. Be a watch dog - report erosion problems to Alabama Power representative, Bo Warren, at 755-8959 or call Alabama Environmental



Watchdog line at 1-800-982-4364. Silt is not just dirt. It is dirt plus what attaches to dirt such as pesticides, bacteria, PCB's etc. We all have a responsibility to keep Lake Mitchell clean and beautiful.

## FISH TISSUE REPORT

The fish tissue report just completed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management in their testing of Lake Mitchell is summarized in these words: "Concentrations of PCB's continue to exceed the FDA guideline of 2.0 parts per million in samples of bass, crappie and catfish in Upper Lay Reservoir. Lower Lay, Mitchell and Jordan reservoirs also had elevated levels of PCB's in individual fish, but the contamination does not appear to be as severe." The Alabama Department of Public Health did not issue a fish consumption advisory for Lake Mitchell or Lake Jordan. You may get the entire advisory from the State Health Department. Contact Brian Hughes, 334-206-5973. You may contact Dan Murchison at 755-0521 or 823-2308 and he will review the complete ADEM report and the Health Department advisory.

## ATTEND RIVER CHURCH!

River Church is a wonderful non-denominational service provided by Clanton First Methodist Church especially for people on the lake. As usual it runs from Memorial Day through Labor Day. In keeping with the relaxed atmosphere on the lake come as you are. The service begins at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday Stay for Family Time with coffee and donuts at 9:00 - 9:30.

