
Understanding the Link between an Aquatic Shoreline and an Urban Development: A Mission of Planning and Management.

Over the past 15 years, the issue of water quality and wastewater management surrounding an urban environment has led to changes in the way urban areas are dealing with its surface water and control over drainage patterns. Cities and developments that sit along aquatic shorelines are beginning to see the need for management and planning of their water, but have to deal with issues that have a direct correlation to design elements within the city itself. However, a new urban development along an aquatic shoreline can be designed with water management and planning strategies in place to help protect water quality.

In July of 2003, a preliminary master plan was presented to state and local leaders of Smith, Rankin, Jasper, Jones County for the development of a recreational facility including a lake. The 900 acre lake and surrounding infrastructure will be a mixture of business, residential, and traditional park atmospheres within the Bienville National Forest, and will be planned with the ideas of sustainable management and planning practices to ensure a high water quality within the lake and the surrounding creeks and tributaries. This project will be devoted to the development of a marina and commercial area and will mimic the ideas of New Urbanism while paying attention to the issues of water management and planning along the aquatic shoreline. A fully designed master and water management plan will be developed for the lake.

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