

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE WATER!



Greetings from SOLOS (Saving Our Lakes and Open Spaces)

SOLOS is still stronger than ever with 1300+ members and growing. We continue to monitor the Development issues in our community which continue to be focused on our water supply. We hope you all understand, our water comes from the Cosumnes River and our reservoirs, Lake Chesbro and Lake Calero. Lake Clementia is strictly a recreational reservoir and not used for our water supply. So, this past long hot summer and regulations that restrict how much water we are permitted to draw from the river, results in lower water levels in our reservoirs each Fall. Lower water levels certainly serve as a strong visual reminder that our water is truly precious and everyone needs to stay updated on how the proposed future Development will affect our water supply.

Most of you know SOLOS Vice President, John Merchant. He walks our trails and around our beautiful Lakes often and keeps us all current on issues concerning our water. We are reprinting his recent Facebook post today. Please take time to be informed.

From John Merchant CSD has reported an outbreak of Cyanobacteria in Lake Chesbro. As I walk Lake Clementia's trails, it appears Clementia should also be checked for a similar outbreak. This blue-green algae is but one of several impacts to our drinking water that occur as temperatures warm and the level of our lakes drops from evaporation. Our permits do not allow us to add or refresh water from May 31 to November 1 of any "water year". Toxins in the water yield algae blooms which can poison the water and require copper sulfate and other chemicals to kill them. Increasing air temperatures will continue to increase this

biological activity. Less dissolved oxygen in the water will kill fish. Turbidity and PH levels can deteriorate the quality of our drinking water. These are important factors to consider as CSD prepares the 2023/2024 Integrated Water Master Plan. All our historical water plans caution us that the future proposed level of Development will reduce our lake levels to "dead storage". For example, Lake Calero, which can hold over 2,500 acre feet of water, will be reduced, at times, to no more that 200 acre feet. We will be asked to drink this water as Calero is annually emptied. To date, no scientific analysis has been undertaken to evaluate the impact of totally draining our reservoirs. CSD has never studied the impact of processing water from low level reservoirs, and the impact on the filters (and processing) in its water plant. **BE AWARE!** This water plan will have wide reaching impacts on our quality of life and the value of our homes. It is important that we pay attention. Understand also that a 2013 CSD study of Lake Clementia already presents problems of excessive solids and coliform. That study recommends this water as a "last resort".

Thank you, John, for this alert. All we can say at this point, we agree with John as he says, "Pay attention." The Integrated Water Master Plan Study that CSD is conducting currently needs to reflect these concerns and others. You will get a chance to review the draft of this Plan in the coming months. **STAY TUNED!**

Thank you,
Cheryl McElhany,
SOLOS President



PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS TO JOIN
SOLOS. GO TO solosrm.org for more info and to join.