

GC will host a community event updating Lake George this Thursday

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The George County Board of Supervisors will host an informal community event updating the Lake George Project on Thursday, April 16 from 6 to 8:30 PM in the High School Auditorium.

The center piece of the event will be detailed maps showing the proposed location, size, and footprints of the lake project. There will be several viewing stations with large maps for citizens to examine at their convenience. County supervisors along with project field personnel will be on-hand to answer questions. Participants can "come and go" on their schedule during the 2.5 hour exhibit.

"We are eager to display this map, show our progress, and get some local feedback from our residents and property owners," GC Supervisor Larry McDonald,



District 3, said. "The County is getting close to submitting our permit application for the project. We wanted to give our citizens the opportunity to see the proposal and get their opinions."

This community update is the latest step forward in the Lake George Project. Personnel from Mississippi State University and the Pickering Firm have been gathering information and data about the area since fall 2011. They have been measuring stream flows, looking for and mapping natural springs, wetlands, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources and collecting data needed for the permit application.

"Lake George is further along today than at any point in this project's history," GC Supervisor Kelly Wright, District 2, explained. "This will be the most detailed information the County has ever been able to present to the public about the Lake."

Water levels in the Pascagoula are critical to the environment, economy and quality of life for George and Jackson county residents. Recalling the frequency and duration of droughts and low flows on the Pascagoula River since 2000, the project's goal is to maintain the Pascagoula River's flows well into the future and provide a major new public recreational amenity.

Participants are welcome to bring or fill out comment cards at the event. A large comment map will also be available to write on as well. The event is open to all citizens. George County High School is located at 9284 Old 63 South. Parking for the auditorium is on the north side of campus.