



MEDIA ALERT

Friends of the Loch Haven Lakes (EIN 85-357-4441) is a community-based non-profit organization founded by concerned residents in the neighborhoods surrounding the Loch Haven chain of lakes in Orange County, FL. Our purpose is to protect and improve the health of the Loch Haven lakes for today and for the enjoyment of future generations.

The Loch Haven chain includes Lakes Formosa, Estelle East and West, Rowena, Winyah and Sue. These lakes span three local jurisdictions - Orlando, Winter Park and unincorporated Orange County – and they are part of the larger Howell Branch watershed. The lake chain surrounds the City of Orlando’s Loch Haven Cultural Park, site of the Orlando Science Center, the Orlando Museum of Art, the Mennello Museum, Orlando Shakes and several other cultural organizations which collectively draw many thousands of visitors annually. The Harry P. Leu Gardens, and the main campus of AdventHealth Orlando are also both situated here.

WHAT: To celebrate the awarding of \$1.35MM for the Loch Haven chain of lakes in Florida’s 2023-24 state budget, to thank our elected representatives in Tallahassee who successfully delivered this crucial funding, and to hear from St. Johns River Water Management District leadership about plans for the use of these funds.

WHO: Senator Jason Brodeur (R-SD10), Representative Anna Eskamani (D-HD42), Director Michael Register and senior leadership of the St. Johns River Water Management District, Orlando District 3 Commissioner Robert Stuart, Orange County District 5 Commissioner Emily Bonilla (tentative), Winter Park Vice-Mayor Sheila DeCiccio, Winter Park Commissioner Todd Weaver and other elected officials and staff from Orange County, Orlando, and Winter Park, as well as members of the Board and Supporters of the Friends of the Loch Haven Lakes.

WHERE: Harry P. Leu Gardens, Magnolia Room, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando FL 32803

WHEN: Friday September 29, 9:30 – 11 a.m. (program begins promptly at 10 am)

WHY: This is a big win for our lakes, for residents, and for visitors to this significant cultural and educational area in Orange County. It is important to both acknowledge those who helped us achieve it and inform the community about next steps made possible by this grant.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: Shan Atkins 847-525-4797 or Jennifer Coleman 407-222-7070

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