

Lake Berryessa News

November 3, 2024

Welcome to Daylight Savings Time - Again

Does one more hour of sleep once a year in the Fall make up for one hour less sleep in the Spring? Surveys show that most folks would like to get rid of Daylight Savings Time altogether. Why not simply split the difference (spring ahead 1/2 hour next Spring and leave it set at that time for all the years after that?)

There's a very informative review of the institution of Daylight Savings Time in this morning's edition of Napa Valley Features. (I am a paid subscriber.) I like the authors "easily amused" comment. My son thinks that's one of my most endearing qualities. But that's better than the current political situation of so many being folks who are "aggressively gullible".

Napa Valley Features Sunday E-dition:
Nothing's Funny About Daylight Saving Time

By Glenda Winders

Nov 03, 2024

<https://substack.com/home/post/p-150820559>

2025 is Almost Here and the 25 For 25 Program Continues

My sincere thanks to those of you who have already contributed to the future of the Lake Berryessa News. But like the annoying political ads we've been bombarded with for weeks (and will soon be history), I must continue my appeal for your support for The Lake Berryessa News 25 for 25 program. This email newsletter is regularly opened by more than 400 people per issue. You are, as I am, also receiving a barrage of similar requests from worthy organizations. But please consider making a donation to your "hyper-local reporting" resource.

I challenge you to find any Lake Berryessa news anywhere. Hopefully, the many years of our intensive reporting about the latest Lake Berryessa issues will convince you of the truth of our motto, "Without The Lake Berryessa News there would be no Lake Berryessa News".

Your decision to support the Lake Berryessa News will show your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community. I'll continue to do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting Lake Berryessa.

The Lake Berryessa News has been around in one form or another since the 1970s. You can download searchable PDF files of it from 2005 to the present at <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/styled-2/>. That web page also includes some very old fun-to-read editions from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. If anyone has any old issues (or old maps other than the ones on my website (<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/photos-4>)) please let me know at PKilkus@gmail.com.

If you love Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms and want to support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program please send a donation check of \$25 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Kilkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Kilkus, 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558. You can stick crinkly old cash in an envelope with your information and send it to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My Venmo account is under @Peter-Kilkus, Paypal is Member #2051. You can email me at pkilkus@gmail.com. (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)

Thanks, Peter

Glory Hole Watch 2025

Lake Berryessa Statistics (11/3/24)

First light rain of the season occurred on Saturday, October 12. Several light showers have brought the lake rainfall today to .58 inches at Monticello Dam.

The lake level has dropped to 428.25 feet, 11.75 feet below Glory Hole.

Water temperature has dropped to 66 degrees.

Lake output is gradually dropping slowly and is at an average of 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 198 A-F (acre feet per day).

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake capacity dropped to 86.2%.



Lake Berryessa status 11/3/24: The Gift That Keeps On Taking

The Bureau of Reclamation's disastrous Visitor Services Plan, introduced in 2000 (Yes, almost 25 years ago!) culminated in the demolition of millions of dollars of usable resort infrastructure in 2009. The BOR ground five resorts down to the dirt, including perfectly usable concrete launch ramps and serviceable roads. Compare the present situation at Spanish Flat Campground, Monticello Shores Recreation Area, and Steele Park Campground to what existed prior to 2009.

That action has drastically affected the ability of interested recreation companies to create financially viable plans to redevelop the lake resorts and revitalize the Lake Berryessa community. This is mostly due to the upfront multimillion dollar investment required to build new facilities to replace those stupidly destroyed by the Bureau of Reclamation. The BOR was supported by some local politicians and the usual pseudo-environmental exclusionists, some of whom are still actively opposing the efforts to revitalize the lake. Thankfully, the Napa County Board of Supervisors has been consistently supportive Lake Berryessa's reasonable redevelopment since 2016. (Yes, almost ten years ago!)

The long, contentious political history of Lake Berryessa leading to the final destruction of its recreational community by the Bureau of Reclamation is fully documented in my book, [Policy and Politics Betray the People: The Lake Berryessa Saga, 1958-2020](#). Since Napa County took over management of the Lake Berryessa resorts under the Managing Partner Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation on November 1, 2020, no substantial progress in implementing the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program has occurred. Thanks to Napa County for keeping Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat open under interim contracts with local folks managing the day to day operations.

After two years of wasting the Lake Berryessa community's precious time with no visible progress, Sun Outdoors bailed out of its commitment to the revitalization of three Lake Berryessa resorts on June 12, 2023.

On November 7, 2023 Board of Supervisors chose Camp Margaritaville Resorts, a new offshoot of the larger Margaritaville brand, which was the second choice bidder on the original Steele Canyon Recreation Area bid, to replace Sun Outdoors to redevelop the Steele Canyon Recreation Area. Napa County and Camp Margaritaville Resorts agreed to a twenty-four (24) month planning period commencing November 2023 to November 2025.

According to Napa County, Camp Margaritaville Resorts is on track and are working on the necessary studies for NEPA/CEQA and design site plans and the upgrade and tie in to NBRID. They have a total of 30 months to complete these items in the agreement schedule.

Suntex, which manages Pleasure Cove Marina, won the bid for Berryessa Point, previously Berryessa Marina. The Suntex agreement was for a twenty-four month period commencing on June 23, 2022 and ending on June 23, 2024. They appear to

be struggling with the planning and financing process and are behind in their original schedule. Suntex requested and received a six month extension which is an option in the agreement, which is now active until Jan 23, 2025.

Only a single bidder, Collective Retreats, was interested in Monticello Shores, previously Rancho Monticello. They never followed up on their bid.

Napa County is still working on Monticello Shores. The County has had a few companies look at the site, but the issue is the high cost of infrastructure reconstruction. Several companies are interested in Lake Berryessa, but costs are the issue with all these sites. If the Bureau of Reclamation had not demolished all of the infrastructure, it would be a different story. The gift that keeps on taking.

"Through the Vine" is a nicely produced, informative video series from Napa County. This episode of "Through the Vine," takes a look at what Napa County is doing to protect election security"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYhTgaBqjtM>





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NapaLife by Paul Franson

(<https://www.napalife.com/>)

Local journalism and media

As we reported, *The Napa Valley Register* and *St. Helena Star* have been sold to Florida-based Hoffmann Media, and we all very curious about what that will mean for its coverage of the local community.

One disquieting indication is that Hoffmann has acquired 5% of Lee Enterprises, the *Register's* former owner, and wants to buy it all, saying it likes its management. From my point of view, Lee's actions are a major reason for the *Register's* shrunken staff and local coverage – along with the impact of the Internet on local journalism.

However, editor and now publisher Dan Evans has launched a survey to gauge what locals want. You can access it at [reader survey](#). They don't list *NapaLife* (or *The Lake Berryessa News*) as a choice when they ask where you get local news, but you can write it in :)

Fortunately, unlike many places in the country that are turning into news deserts, we have the *Register*, an aggressive *Press Democrat*, the *Yountville Sun* and *Calistoga Tribune* now owned by nonprofit Napa Valley News Group, *Napa Valley Features*, KVYN/KVON, and *The Lake Berryessa News* which continue to be locally owned and community oriented.

(Paul is a long-time friend and supporter of the Lake Berryessa community.)

Another Invasive Mussels Species Has Been Discovered Nearby

Golden mussels were just discovered in the Delta near Rough and Ready Island and

Turner Cut. This is the first time these mussels have ever been found in North America, and they are now right in our own backyard. Boaters should be vigilant in preventing the spread of this invasive species to Lake Berryessa.

Golden Mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*)

A new invasive mollusk was discovered in the Delta in October 2024.

Fast Facts

- Golden Mussels (*Limnoperna fortunei*) were found at Rough & Ready Island near Stockton, California on October 17, 2024.
- The Golden Mussel has been identified as one of the **highest-risk** invasive species globally.
- This is the **first-ever** detection of the Golden Mussel in North America.
- Capable of rapid spread (> 240 km/yr in Brazil), these mussels post an **immediate and urgent threat** to both the Delta ecosystem and water-based built infrastructure.
- DWR is contributing to a multi-agency team to monitor and report Golden Mussel sightings and coordinate on possible strategies for control and eradication.



Physiology & Ecology

Physical Description: Golden Mussels are sessile (non-moving) bivalves (two-shelled mollusks) whose color varies from a light golden to darker yellowish-brown and brown hues. Adult shells are typically 2-3 cm in diameter, with some reaching sizes of >4 cm. Golden Mussels typically grow in dense, reeflike colonies containing as many as 200,000 organisms per square meter.

Habitat: Originating from China and southeast Asia, Golden Mussels now inhabit shallow (< 10 m), freshwater aquatic environments worldwide. They tolerate many environmental stressors including wide ranges of temperature, pollution, and low oxygen. Preferring fresh water, Golden Mussels can nevertheless tolerate salinity of up to 10 ppt for as much as 30 days (Sylvester et al., 2013).

Life History: Larvae develop into a mobile life stage (i.e., veligers) that propagate through water bodies before reaching the settling stage roughly 11-20 days after spawning. They then colonize hard surfaces and grow into adult mussels, remaining attached for the rest of their life span.

Ecosystem Impacts: Golden Mussels are **effective ecosystem engineers** capable of catalyzing environmental changes equivalent to those caused by Zebra and Quagga Mussels in the Great Lakes. They can dramatically reduce plankton abundance, leading to broad food web impacts. Their ability to rapidly colonize surfaces jeopardizes infrastructure in any infested water bodies.

Monitoring Notes: Golden Mussel colonies typically attach to solid substrates. They are found near piers, moorings, rocks, boats, and other submerged objects but can survive subaerial exposure in tidal systems (Boltovskoy et al., 2022). They do not inhabit in soft sediments and are therefore unlikely to be detected using typical benthic monitoring approaches (e.g., grabs and cores).



The impact of tourism on Napa Valley

Visit Napa Valley has released its 2023 Visitor Profile and Economic Impact Study. The report finds that visitor spending and related tax revenue have surpassed pre-pandemic levels. Visit www.visitnapavalley.com for more. Among the key findings report (2023 numbers versus 2018):

- 3.7 million people visited in 2023, 5% higher than 2018
- Average visitor age decreased from 46 in 2018 to 40 in 2023
- The share of Black visitors has increased from 4% to 11%
- The share of Latino/Hispanic visitors has grown from 10% to 17%
- The share of LGBTQ visitors has doubled from 4% to 8%
- Visitors brought \$2.5 billion into the local economy in 2023, 13% higher
- Tourism generated more than \$107.5 million in taxes, a 26% increase
- The tourism industry employs 20% of Napa Valley with an estimated 16,000 jobs
- 95% of all visitors indicated they are likely to return

“One of the many positive benefits of these strong economic results is how they directly impact Napa Valley residents’ quality of life. Visitors pay a Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) on every overnight hotel stay. These dollars go directly to our local governments’ general funds to help pay for public safety, libraries, parks and recreation, road repair and more to support a high quality of life for locals.” explained Emma Swain, chair of the board of directors for Visit Napa Valley.

The visitor-paid TOT accounts for 75% of Calistoga’s general fund budget, 65% of Yountville’s, 25% of the city of Napa’s, 20% of St. Helena’s, 6% of American Canyon’s and 6% of unincorporated Napa County’s general fund budget.

The TOT collected from overnight hotel guests in Napa County in 2023 totaled \$69 million,

\$14 million more than what was collected in 2019, prior to the pandemic.

| | 2012 | 2014 | 2016 | 2018 | 2023 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total visitors to Napa Valley (millions) : | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 3.7 |
| Visitors staying in Napa Valley hotels or motels (thousands) : | 857 | 951 | 1020 | 1200 | 1000 |
| Visitors staying in private homes in Napa Valley (thousands) : | 125 | 166 | 158 | 199 | 199 |
| Day trip visitors to Napa Valley (millions) : | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| Total visitor spending in Napa Valley (billion \$) : | \$1.4 | \$1.6 | \$1.9 | \$2.2 | \$2.5 |
| Spending by visitors staying in Napa Valley hotels, motels or inns: (billion \$) : | \$1.03 | \$1.17 | \$1.32 | \$1.55 | \$1.66 |
| Direct spending on group meetings, weddings & social events (million \$) : | \$188 | \$194 | \$196 | \$267 | \$292 |
| Spending in Napa by visitors for food and restaurants (million \$) : | \$301 | \$367 | \$438 | \$480 | \$541 |
| Jobs supported by Napa visitor industry: | 10,498 | 11,776 | 13,437 | 15,872 | 15,582 |
| Napa Valley visitor industry payroll (million \$): | \$300 | \$332 | \$387 | \$494 | \$508 |
| Taxes generated for government entities in Napa Valley (million \$) : | \$51.7 | \$64.2 | \$80.4 | \$85.1 | \$107.5 |
| Tax revenues generated per Napa household: | \$1,041 | \$1,304 | \$1,604 | \$1,726 | \$2,146 |
| Visitors in Napa Valley on an average day: | 13,409 | 15,019 | 16,922 | 18,857 | 18,306 |
| Visitor spending in Napa Valley on an average day (million \$): | \$3.8 | \$4.5 | \$5.3 | \$6.1 | \$6.9 |
| Annual visitor spending per Napa resident: | \$10,027 | \$11,741 | \$13,376 | \$15,760 | \$18,771 |

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FALL HOLIDAY DINNER & CELEBRATION **LAKE BERRYESSA SENIOR CENTER** **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2024**

Potluck/Appetizer Social Hour: 5:00pm - 6:00pm

DINNER 6:00pm

Please bring an Appetizer to share during the social hour or a Dessert if desired. The Lake Berryessa Senior Center relies solely on the community's generosity and its' invaluable volunteers.

Please join us and your neighbors for a fun filled Festive Fall Holiday Dinner

provided by the Senior Center!

Lake Berryessa Senior Center
4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road
Napa/ Lake Berryessa
RSVP, questions or want to help out?
707 363-6992

November Horoscopes

Aries (3/21-4/19): While good things come to those who wait, it's starting to seem like your childhood friend who got sucked into the computer screen might be gone for good.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): You've heard the advice thousands of times since you were a child, but today is the first time you will finally embrace the words "shut the hell up."

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): Your luck will take a turn for the worse this week when a meteor obliterates all human life.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): While it's true that women love a man in uniform, do not get over-excited about your new career at Hot Dog On A Stick.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Steer clear of shadowy figures who threaten you with knives, guns, or other weapons—they may intend to do you bodily harm.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Remember to always listen to your heart. If your heart can't handle the strain, then listen to your spleen.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Plants may be out to get you today, so look to buying some kind of weed-killer. Avoid spraying weed-killer into loved ones' eyes.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Cats can eat mice but can't dogs also? This kind of nonsense querying that comes from an older person than you, will start to grate today.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): This is your last week on Earth. Soon, you'll be going to space, where you will collide with a satellite and die.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Unrelated incidents may cherry bobsleigh rambunctious you today. Get used to seeing bruises over the next few days as you and furniture begin not seeing eye to eye.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Ensure your blood stays within your system today by not venturing further than your refrigerator.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Expect a sense of nervous anticipation in the air as your motorcycle ascends the rickety wooden ramp facing the abandoned quarry.



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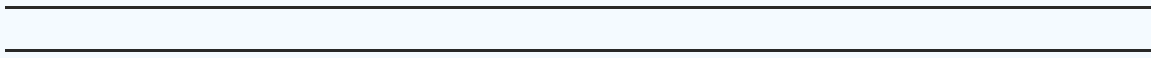
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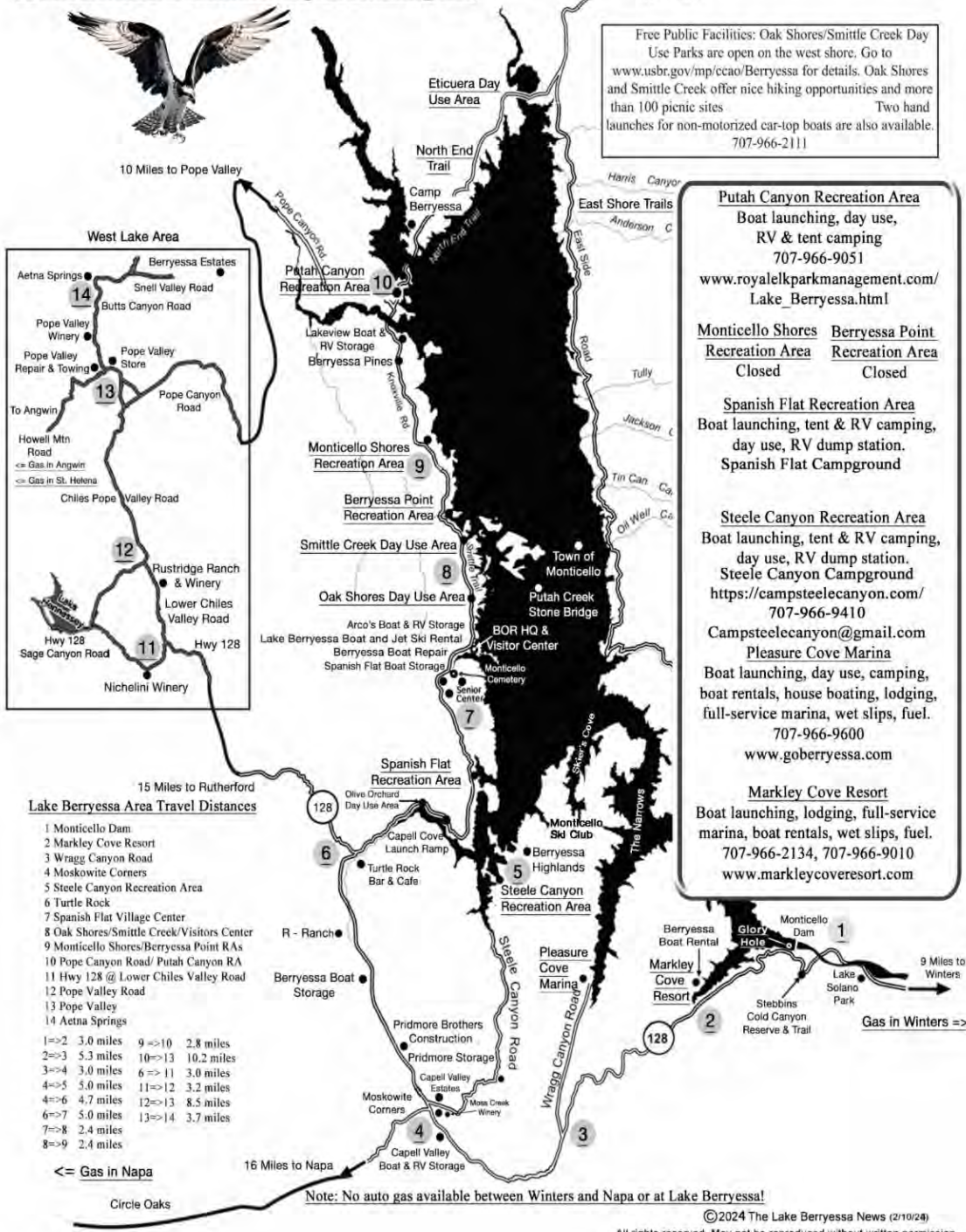
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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

To BLM Knoxville OHV & Recreation Area
34 Miles to Lower Lake



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The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands Drive | Napa, CA 94558 US

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Lake Berryessa News

November 24, 2024

Happy Thanksgiving



Glory Hole Watch 2025 (11/24/24)

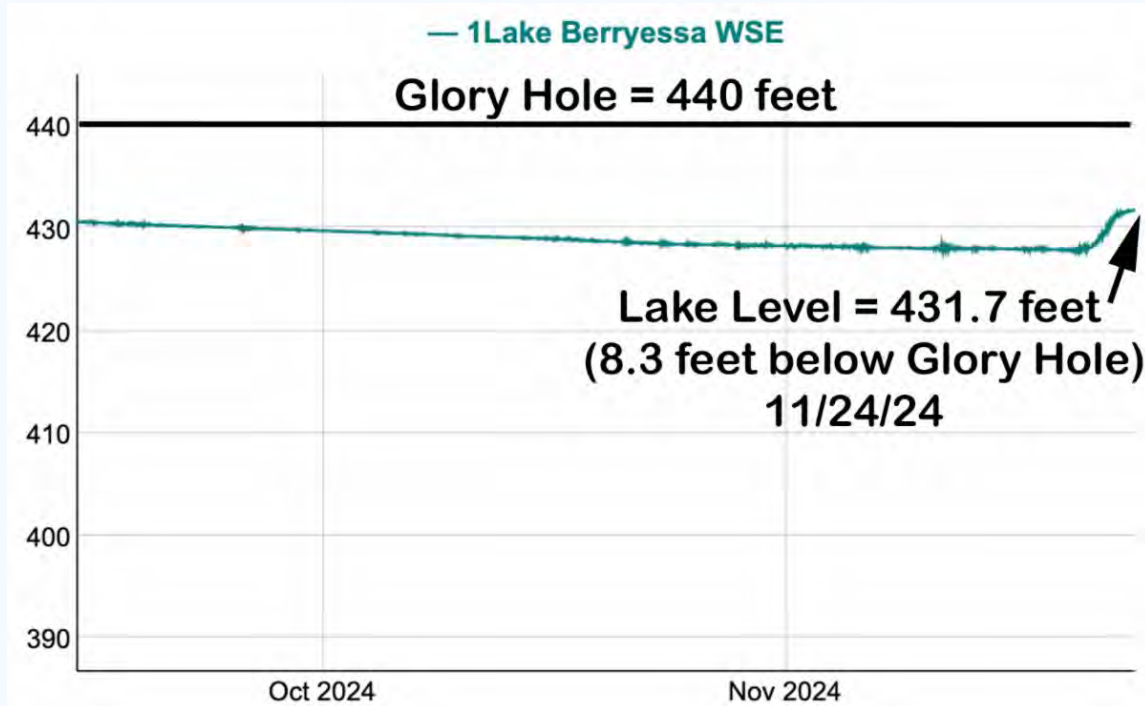
Glory Hole Watch 2025 starts off with a bang - an unusual early rainfall. Was it a bomb cyclone, atmospheric river, or the old pineapple express?

Back to the Present

Lake Berryessa Statistics (11/24/24)

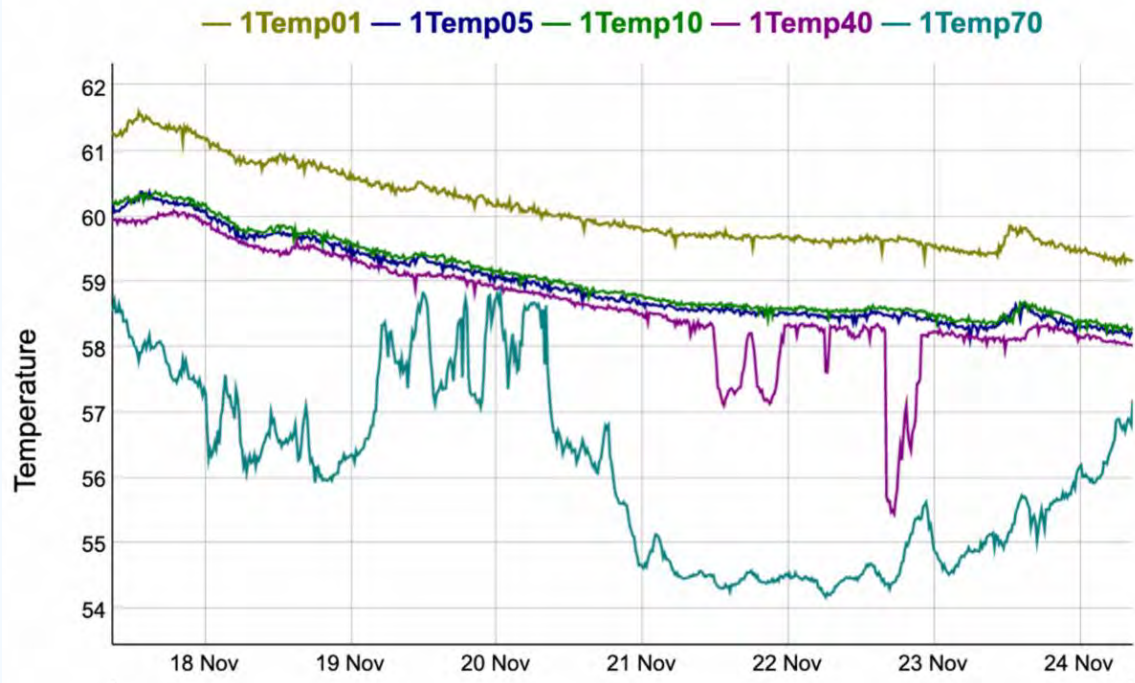
A good early season rainfall has led to a total of 6.76 inches at Monticello Dam as of 11/24/24.

The lake level has started rising from its low point of 427.9 feet on 11/19/24 (12.1 feet below Glory Hole) and is now at to 431.7 feet, (8.3 feet below Glory Hole), a 3.8 foot rise in 4 days.



Water temperature has dropped to below 60 degrees.

Lake Berryessa - Temperature



Lake output has dropped to 45 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 90 A-F (acre feet per day), the minimum required by law and contract.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake capacity rose to 90.1%.

Back to the Past

Last winter was one of the most exciting years in the history of Monticello Dam since the 11-year drought-busting rapid rise and overflow in 2017. See the drone video by Evan Kilkus at:

2/21/17: Lake Berryessa is 3.5' OVER the Glory Hole Spillway

<https://youtu.be/-iHAjOrrU4k>

Glory Hole status back in April 2024 kept everyone watching the lake level closely. And an odd new historical record was set. The lake level officially reached the closest the lake has ever been to spilling over Glory Hole without going over the edge! That conclusion was controversial to some watchers since water could be seen "dribbling" over but not officially "flowing" over in a measurable amount.

See the final report at: Glory Hole Watch 2024: No Spill, No Flow, But A New Record, 2024 will be the highest the lake level has ever reached without officially going over the Glory Hole spillway!

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Past--Issues/May-2024.pdf>

[Solano County Water Agency Glory Hole Official Statement \(2024\)](#)

The data from this season's Morning Glory Spillway levels were averaged to hourly and daily values so we could determine if we officially spilled this season.

The maximum hourly averaged value was on 4/5/2024 at 8:00pm and was 439.945 ft. This level only lasted for the one hour, all other datapoints were at lower elevations.

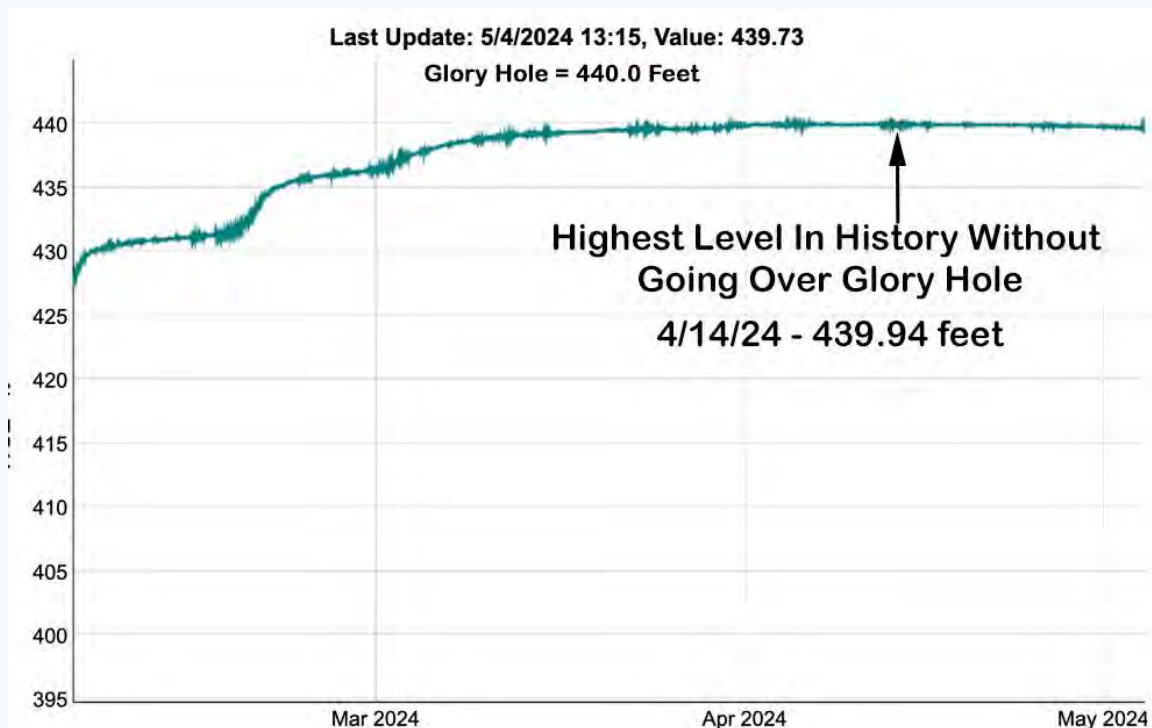
The highest daily averaged value was also on the same day 4/5/2024 and was 439.93 ft. In order for an official spill notification there needs to be enough flow into the spillway to calculate acre-ft/day so as you can see there has been no measurable flow into the spillway. Therefore, we have not “officially” spilled.

There has been some confusion on social media due to ‘spikes’ in the data that have gone as high as 440 ft, but these were all 15 minute instantaneous values. The instantaneous values have never been an issue until this year due to how close the lake has been to spilling for almost two weeks. Much of that time the level has been a half inch away from the crest. We will be changing our web pages to hourly averages for next season so that we don’t have these issues again.

As it sits right now this 2024 season will be the closest the lake has ever been to spilling without officially going over. Some of the other years that had low level spills was 2000 with a spill level of 440.33 ft, 1966 with a spill level of 440.47, and 1963 with a spill level of 440.57 ft.

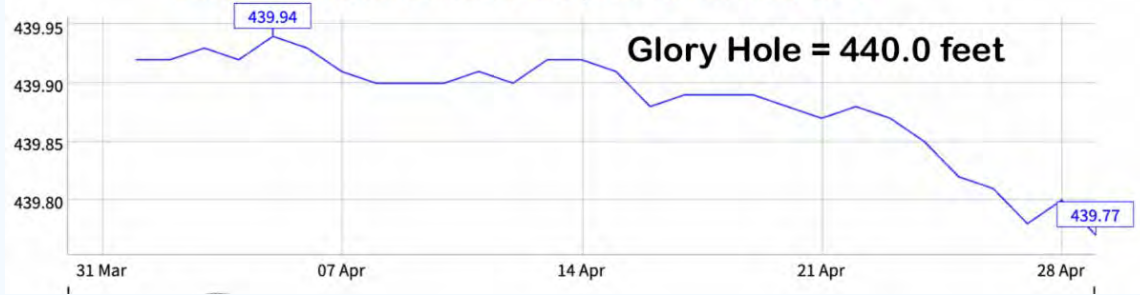
Unless we get some wet storms soon the Lake Berryessa will slowly start to recede as the warm weather starts and the agricultural season gets going. Hopefully we get another wet winter next year to fill the lake again, and if we get lucky see the spillway going like we did in 2019! Until then we can all have a great summer enjoying our full lake!

Jay Cuetara
Supervising Water Resources Engineer
Solano County Water Agency



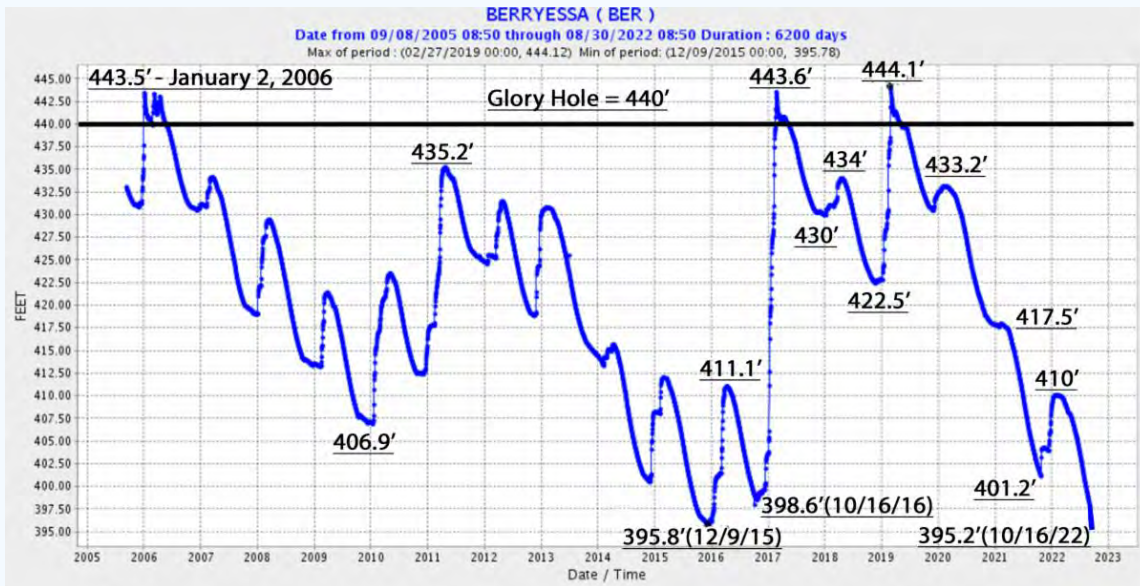
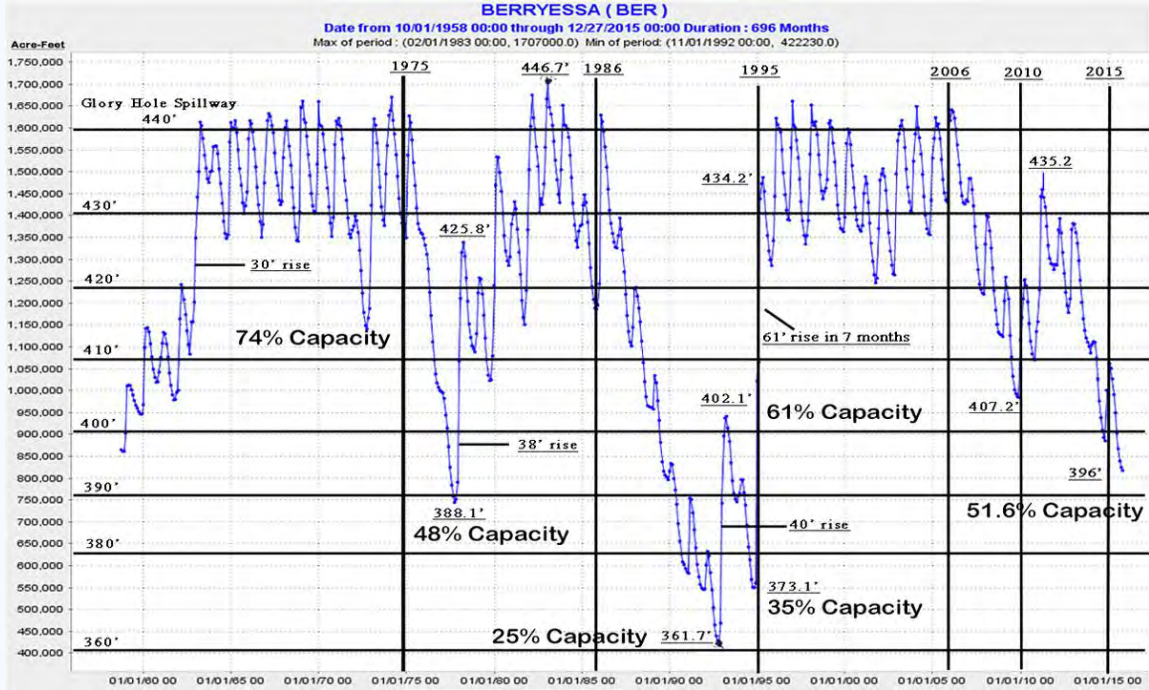
BERRYESSA (BER)

Date from 04/01/2024 00:00 through 04/29/2024 00:00 Duration: 28 days
Max of period: (04/05/2024 00:00, 439.94) Min of period: 04/29/2024 00:00, 439.77)



Average Rainfall at Monticello Dam for 27 Years = 26.45 inches per year

| | Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31) | First Rain | Total By 1/1 (At Dam) | Season Total (At Dam) |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 97-98 | | 10.77" | 46.26" |
| 2 | 98-99 | 11/10/98 | 7.18" | 23.46" |
| 3 | 99-00 | 10/30/99 | 6.5" | 26" |
| 4 | 00-01 | 10/20/00 | 4.54" | 24.7" |
| 5 | 01-02 | 10/29/01 | 15.73" | 23.38" |
| 6 | 02-03 | 11/7/02 | 19.34" | 31.6" |
| 7 | 03-04 | 10/31/03 | 12.01" | 25.64" |
| 8 | 04-05 | 10/19/04 | 15.55" | 36.36" |
| 9 | 05-06 | 9/26/05 | 17.4" | 40.56" |
| 10 | 06-07 | 10/3/06 .22" | 5.36" | 12.7" |
| 11 | 07-08 | 9/19/07 - .1" | 4.48" | 25.32" |
| 12 | 08-09 | 10/3/08 - .2" | 6.6" | 23.96" |
| 13 | 09-10 | 9/14/09 - .24" | 6.5" | 26.41" |
| 14 | 10-11 | 10/18/10 - .21" | 12.62" | 37.92" |
| 15 | 11-12 | 10/4/11 - .2" | 3.04" | 19.56" |
| 16 | 12-13 | 10/22/12 -.73" | 17.97" | 20.65" |
| 17 | 13-14 | 9/22/13 - .43" | 1.88" | 13.69" |
| 18 | 14-15 | 9/19/14 - .11" | 13.34" | 19.56" |
| 19 | 15-16 | 10/2/15 - .68" | 6.23" | 24.57 |
| 20 | 16-17 | 10/4/16 - .04" | 17.11" | 47.55" |
| 21 | 17-18 | 10/20/17 - .21" | 3.41" | 14.89" |
| 22 | 18-19 | 10/2/18 - .51" | 7.28" | 40.53" |
| 23 | 19-20 | 11/27/19 - .73" | 7.14" | 10.93" |
| 24 | 20-21 | 11/15/20-.09" | 1.92" | 9.21" |
| 25 | 21-22 | 9/10/21 - .05" | 15.84" | 18.73" |
| 26 | 22-23 | 9/19/22 - .42" | 19.13" | 41.86 |
| 27 | 23-24 | 9/22/23 - .21" | 7.66" | 28.14" |
| 28 | 24-25 | 10/29/24 - .25" | | as of 11/24/24 |



Back to the Future

Napa faces La Niña as a new rain season begins.

Will that mean a wet or dry winter?

Barry Eberling Oct 1, 2024

https://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/weather/napa-rain-weather-lake-berryessa-mike-pechner-water-supplies/article_99a0c97e-7d05-11ef-99d5-db26314ae808.html

October begins the California water year, which differs from the calendar year. A good rain season would be about 25 inches falling at Napa State Hospital to match the annual historic average. All in all, it's been two rain seasons with plenty of soaking storms. And there's the La Niña a factor. Sometimes, weather patterns signal whether an upcoming rain season might be wet or dry. Not this year.

The Climate Prediction Center on Sept. 12 predicted that a weak La Niña will develop this

fall. La Niña refers to cooler-than-average Pacific Ocean temperatures near the equator. The conditions, such as those found in El Niño years, influence weather patterns. But La Niña years for Napa County can be either wet or dry. That means this rain season comes with an indicator about as decisive as a coin flip. A National Weather Service chart shows that La Niña conditions often lead to a wet rain season to the north and a dry one to the south, with Napa County caught in a muddled middle.

Lake Berryessa provided water to Solano County cities and farms during the long, hot summer. As of October 6, 2024 the reservoir was 87% full and just 10 feet below the spillway. Another rain year like the last one could send Lake Berryessa spilling. Glory days could be here again.

The Solano County Water Agency is predicting that an average rainfall year will cause the lake to spill, but it also depends on the timing of storms. If there is sufficient time between storms for the ground to dry out, it is possible it will still not spill.

2025 is Almost Here and the 25 For 25 Program Continues

My sincere thanks to those of you who have already contributed to the future of the Lake Berryess News. But like the annoying political ads we've been bombarded with for weeks (and will soon be history), I must continue my appeal for your support for The Lake Berryessa News 25 for 25 program. This email newsletter is regularly opened by more than 400 people per issue. You are, as I am, also receiving a barrage of similar requests from worthy organizations. But please consider making a donation to your "hyper-local reporting" resource.

I challenge you to find any Lake Berryssa news anywhere. Hopefully, the many years of our intensive reporting about the latest Lake Berryessa issues will convince you of the truth of our motto, "Without The Lake Berryessa News there would be no Lake Berryessa News".

Your decision to support the Lake Berryessa News will show your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community. I'll continue to do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting Lake Berryessa.

The Lake Berryessa News has been around in one form or another since the 1970s. You can download searchable PDF files of it from 2005 to the present at <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/styled-2/>. That web page also includes some very old fun-to-read editions from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. If anyone has any old issues (or old maps other than the ones on my website (<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/photos-4>)) please let me know at PKilkus@gmail.com.

If you love Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms and want to support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program please send a donation check of \$25 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Kilkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Kilkus, 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558. You can stick crinkly old cash in an envelope with your information and send it to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My Venmo account is under @Peter-Kilkus, Paypal is Member #2051. You can email me at pkilkus@gmail.com. (Note: Your donation is NOT

Thanks, Peter



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I love the smell of cut grass. As a boy growing up in Chicago I got a lot of that sweet odor since I was in charge of cutting our grass all summer (think 98 degrees in 90% humidity.). I also love the smell of rain hitting the ground in the summer. Again, a Chicago childhood memory. But as a physicist I also want to know what causes that smell. Here are the answers as we enter into our rainy season.

The smell of cut grass is scientifically called "green leaf volatiles" (GLVs) which are a mix of chemical compounds released by plants when they are damaged, like when mowing a lawn. Key points about the smell of cut grass:

- Scientific term: Green leaf volatiles (GLVs)
- Reason for the smell: Plants release these compounds as a defense mechanism when damaged
- Chemical components: Includes compounds like cis-3-hexenal

The smell of rain is called petrichor, which comes from the Greek words *petra* (stone) and *ichor* (the golden fluid in the veins of the immortals in Greek mythology). The term was coined in 1964 by researchers at the Australian CSIRO science agency.

Petrichor is caused by a combination of factors, including:

- Geosmin: When raindrops hit dry soil, they release geosmin, an airborne compound that creates the distinctive petrichor smell.
- Volatile organic compounds: These compounds come from decomposing matter and add their own notes to the scent.
- Iron oxides: These also contribute to the petrichor smell.
- Humus: This adds its own unique notes to the petrichor smell.
- Actinomycetes: These filamentous bacteria are found in damp soil and produce spores when the soil dries out. When raindrops fall on the soil, the water vapors carry the spores into the atmosphere.

The smell of petrichor is not toxic to humans, but our noses are very sensitive to it. This is why we can smell it everywhere when it rains, even in the middle of the city.

Some people have specific associations with rainy weather that can shape their perception of the smell of rain. For example, it may call to mind pleasant childhood memories, cozy days spent indoors, or romantic moments.



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