

ROANOKE RAPIDS AND GASTON
FERC PROJECT NO. 2009, NC AND VA
Trash and Litter Control

The Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Lakes are valuable resources for the scenic beauty, recreational resources and the local economy. In order to retain this value, each of us must be aware that what we do and how we treat the lakes is important to maintain that value.

Trash Disposal: The NC Wildlife Commission and the VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries operate and maintain numerous boat landings around the reservoirs. Dominion provides several bank fishing areas. None of these facilities have trash receptacles. The intent is for any trash brought in by users is taken out by users.

Clean the Lake Day: The Lake Gaston Association sponsors an annual "Clean the Lake Day". This is usually scheduled for the first Saturday in June. Adjacent property owners, local businesses and regular users of the reservoir are encouraged to take the day to walk or float the shoreline and pick up litter. To obtain information, see the Lake Gaston website: <http://www.lakegastonassoc.com/>

Water Quality: Everyone that lives around the reservoirs or uses the reservoirs is responsible for maintaining water quality. The Lake Gaston Association's Environmental Committee has links to numerous sites that promote watershed protection. See the LGA environmental committee at:

<http://www.lakegastonassoc.com/Environment/Environ.htm>. The state of North Carolina reviews water quality within a river basin on a 5-year cycle. To view the latest Roanoke River Basin water quality report, see:

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ps/bpu/basin/roanoke>

Exotic Weed Control: The proliferation of hydrilla and other nuisance non-native weeds are a concern to adjacent property owners and the occasional visitor alike. The Lake Gaston Weed Control Council (LGWCC) is a 15 member group appointed by the county governments from the five counties surrounding the lakes. Adjacent property owners may want to clear aquatic plants from around piers and the shoreline. North Carolina and Virginia require any in-water herbicide treatments be performed by a licensed applicator. To better understand nuisance weed growth and what you can do to help, see: <http://www.lgwcc.org/>.