

**CITY OF PINE LAKE, GEORGIA
REGULAR SESSION AGENDA
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 @ 7:00PM
459 PINE DRIVE, PINE LAKE, GA 30072**

NOTE: All attendees are reminded to silence cellular phones and other devices that may cause interruption of the session proceedings.

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting – September 12, 2023

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 minutes each please

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2023-04 – To Amend Chapter 62 Public Works, ARTICLE IV – Lake, Parks, and Recreational Facilities

NEW BUSINESS

1. Contracted services for Sheep to Overgraze the Dam/Bank and Inner Walking Berm – Award Ewe Can Do It Naturally
 - a. \$10,275 - For the larger project, the dam/bank and shelf bounded by Pine Lake and Snapfinger Creek.
 - b. \$2,850 - For the smaller project, the inner berm extending into the lake itself.

REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

- **Public Comments – 3 minutes each please**
- **Staff and Committee Reports**
 - Administration, Courts, and Public Works – City Manager
 - Public Safety – Chief of Police
- **Reports/Comments**
 - Mayor
 - City Council
- **Information for “The Pine Lake News” eblast.**

ADJOURNMENT

**MAYOR
MELANIE HAMMET**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jean Bordeaux, Mayor pro tem
Tracey Brantley
Nivea Castro
Augusta Woods

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

ChaQuias Miller-Thornton
City Manager

Sarai Y’Hudah-Green
Chief of Police

Ned Dagenhard
Assistant City Clerk

Missye Varner
Administrative Coordinator

Susan Moore
City Attorney

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
425 ALLGOOD ROAD
P.O. BOX 1325
PINE LAKE, GA 30072**

404-999-4901

www.pinelakgega.net

CITY OF PINE LAKE
REGULAR MEETING ACTION AGENDA
September 12, 2023 at 6:30 PM
Council Chambers
459 Pine Drive, Pine Lake, GA

Call to Order: Mayor Melanie Hammet called the Regular Session to order at 7:03pm.

Present: Mayor Melanie Hammet, Council Members Tracey Brantley, Nivea Castro, and Augusta Woods. Also present were City Manager ChaQuias Miller-Thornton, Chief of Police Sarai Y'Hudah-Green, and Assistant City Clerk Ned Dagenhard. Mayor Pro Tem Jean Bordeaux, Administrative Coordinator Missy Varner, and City Attorney Susan Moore were not in attendance.

Adoption of Agenda of the Day

Council Member Woods moved to adopt the agenda of the day; Council Member Castro seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of the Minutes

- Special Called Meeting – August 22, 2023
- Regular Meeting – August 29, 2023

Council Member Castro moved to adopt the minutes from the August 22nd Special Call Meeting, and the August 29th Regular Meeting; Council Member Brantley seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Lake, Parks, and Recreational Facilities Policy
 - a. Revisit draft Ordinance 2023-04 – To Amend Chapter 62 Public Works, ARTICLE IV – Lake, Parks, and Recreational Facilities
 - b. Council consideration of intent to continue fishing moratorium set to expire Thursday, September 21, 2023.

City Manager Miller-Thornton noted the current moratorium is set to expire September 21st. Since the moratorium exists under emergency pretenses, the City Manager added, City Council would need to justify such an emergency continues to exist. Additionally, the current code verbiage stipulates that fishing be permitted, without restriction, in the absence of such an emergency. Following discussion among City Council and Mayor Hammet, it was determined no such emergency continues to exist. City Manager Miller-Thornton also suggested that the Mayor and Council draft more explicit language regulating fishing in the lake area. City Council Members Woods and Brantley have been tasked with consulting wildlife and public land management agencies, as well as collecting citizen input, in preparation for drafting a new city ordinance. A first read of an ordinance regulating fishing is tentatively scheduled for the September 29th Regular Meeting. No action was taken by City Council.

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New Business

- ✓ Confirmation of Appointment – Ad Hoc Committee for City Representation on! DeKalb County Stormwater Master Plan and Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)! City Council appointed Greg Zarus and Brandy Hall to the Ad Hoc Committee on! DeKalb County Stormwater Master Plan and Intergovernmental Agreement. The! Ad Hoc Committee also includes City Manager Miller-Thornton and City Attorney! Susan Moore. Council Member Brantley moved to confirm the appointments;! Council Member Castro seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- ✓ Contracted services for Sheep to Overgraze the Dam/Bank and Inner Walking! Berm – Discussion 3. Resolution R-18-2023 – FY2023 Budget Amendment
A presentation was given by the owner of Ewe Can Do It Naturally, an!
organization that “leases” herds of sheep for ecologically-conscious landscape!
overgrowth management. The purpose of his presentation was to educate City!
Council and attendees on the process of hosting these animals. No action was!
taken by City Council.

- ✓ Resolution R-18-2023 – FY2023 Budget Amendment
City Council discussed paths for funding efforts to address overgrowth in the dam!
and lake areas. Following deliberation, Council agreed to use funds from the!
American Rescue Plan Act account earmarked for dam maintenance. Council!
Member Castro moved to approve Resolution R-18-2023; Council Member!
Woods seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports and Other Business

**ChaQuias Miller- Thornton — City Manager (Director of Administration,
Courts and Public Works)**

Please refer to [the link](#) to access the City Manager’s report dated August 8, 2023. The City Manager reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyeverner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call (404) 999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

CITY OF PINE LAKE
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Chief Sarai Y'Hudah-Green — Chief of Police, Public Safety

Please refer to [the link](#) to access the Police/Public Safety report dated August 8, 2023. The Police/Public Safety reports are on file at City Hall for reviewing. Please email missyevarner@pinelakega.net to request a copy or call (404) 999-4931 to schedule an appointment to review the copy on file.

Pine Lake News Blast

Upcoming events:

Elections: On November 7, 2023, a municipal general election will be held in the CITY OF PINE LAKE. Mayor and two City Council seats up for election.

Key Dates:

08/21/2023 - First day to request a mail-in absentee ballot.

09/23/2023 - Earliest day for registrar to mail an absentee ballot.

10/27/2023 - Last day to submit absentee ballot application.

10/11/2023 - Last day to register.

10/16/2023 - Early in-person voting begins.

Other news:

Moratorium on fishing expires September 21: The City has been collecting information on lake and greenscape impact and management through research and recommendations from SEED. Many thanks to them for the Town Hall and for the trash auditing tool, currently operationalized via this link: [Join Litter Study](#)

In addition, Councilpersons Tracey Brantley and Augusta Woods are working on additional considerations and best practices in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources and a lake analysis for pragmatic and enforceable future fishing policy.

Ongoing:

Pine Lake City Council Meetings are held the second and last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber / Courthouse at the corner of Forest and Pine.

**CITY OF PINE LAKE
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Links to remember:

[City Manager's Report](#)

[Council Meeting Agendas and Minutes](#)

Adjournment

Council Member Brantley motioned for adjournment at 8:33pm; Council Member Woods seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ned Dagenhard
Assistant City Clerk



Memo

DATE: September 22, 2023
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: ChaQuias Thornton, City Manager
RE: Lake, Parks, and Recreational Facilities Policy

On 09/12/2023 Mayor and Council elected not to extend the fishing moratorium, stating that the emergency pretense under which the moratorium was established no longer exist. Council engaged in discussion regarding amendment to lake, parks, and recreational area policy.

On 06/27/2023, the Administration (Manager and Legal) presented to Council a preliminary draft of Ordinance 2023-04 as related to amendment of the City's Lake, Parks, and Recreational Facilities codified policies. The preliminary draft served to provide language that revises existing Code provisions about the lake and park areas.

The attached serves as draft form of proposed amendments to the policy – for potential first read. This draft (with comments and notes) provides amendments to the Ordinance 2023-04 draft pertaining to use, access, process, and operational procedures relevant to the City's lake, parks, and recreational facilities.

Also attached are notes (with comments) from a committee of elected officials, public safety, and residents (including anglers) that pertain to lake area policy, education, signage, etc.

Please feel free to contact the following persons, if you should have any questions or concerns regarding the information contained within the attached:

Councilmember Tracey Brantley (committee)
Councilmember Augusta Woods (committee)
Chief of Police Y'hudah-Green (committee)
City Manager ChaQuias Thornton (policy draft – administrative)
City Attorney Susan Moore (policy draft – legal)

Thank you,

CMThornton

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PINE LAKE, GEORGIA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 62 PUBLIC WORKS, ARTICLE IV - LAKE, PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF PINE LAKE CODE OF ORDINANCES; TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the lake, parks, wetlands and recreational facilities within the City of Pine Lake are central to the City's identity, activities and culture; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that such resources and other facilities open to the public be managed to preserve them and to encourage usage that is safe and is respectful of others, wildlife and the environment; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Pine Lake, as follows:

Section 1.

City Code Section 62, Article IV is hereby amended by striking the existing language and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"Sec. 62-85. - Penalties.

A violation of this article shall, upon conviction, be punishable as provided by Section 1-9.

Sec. 62-86. - Opening and closing dates of lake.

(a) The lake shall be officially open and closed for swimming each year with the opening and closing dates to be designated annually by ~~resolution~~ vote of the city council.

(b) The lake shall remain officially open for swimming during that period, unless closed for public health and safety reasons. The days and hours shall be ~~regulated~~ enforced by the ~~parks~~ police department, pursuant to the authority of Section 62-87 to coincide with the days and hours that beach managers are available.

(c) The city makes the lake available for the recreational usage of the ~~citizens and their guests~~ public and limits the liability of the city to persons entering thereon, pursuant to the provisions of the Recreational Property Act, O.C.G.A. § 51-3-20 et seq., as said act presently exists and as said act may be amended in the future, the city endorses a swim and boat at your own risk policy and the provision of a beach manager by the city does not and shall not serve to waive

the protection against liability afforded to the city under the terms of said Recreational Property Act.

Sec. 62-87. - Regulations made by parks department.

The ~~parks department is hereby authorized and directed to~~ city council may promulgate such rules and regulations from time to time as may be required to regulate the use of the lake, parks and tennis courts by all persons using the lake, parks and tennis courts in order to protect the rights and safety of the public, property of the citizens of the city, the protection of the environment or wildlife or such other interests as determined by the city council. Violation of any such rules or regulations so promulgated and published shall be deemed a violation of this Code.

Commented [CMT1]: Can the title of this section be revised, or can we delete section 62-87 in its entirety and replace with new section 62-87 with new language as proposed?

Sec. 62-88. - Use of facilities ~~restricted to city owners, residents and guests.~~

Swimming in the lake, use of the parks and tennis courts shall be ~~restricted to property owners, residents of the city and their guests~~ open to members of the public. Minors under the age of _____ must be accompanied and supervised by an adult over the age of 17.

Commented [CMT2]: Can the title of this section be revised, or can we delete section 62-88 in its entirety and replace with new section 62-88 with new language as proposed?

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Sec. 62-89. - Concessions.

The concession operation shall be placed under the supervision of the administration department. The administration department is hereby authorized to contract with a third party to run the concession stand upon such terms and conditions as it deems best. ????

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Commented [CMT3]: The city does not operate a concession stand at the lake. Can we delete?

Sec. 62-90. - Beach house.

The beach house shall be placed under the supervision of the administration department and shall not be used or lighted without its approval and consent.

Commented [CMT4]: In accordance with facility/rental use and fee regulations of the city. Should the clubhouse be added?

Sec. 62-91. - Reservation of facilities.

Existing city parks shall not be used by any group, individual or organization without first filing an application and obtaining a reservation approval through the city clerk's office.

Commented [CMT5]: This language is very vague. It almost seems as if any person a "city park" needs to file an application to use the park. Maybe there should be language regarding exclusive use/private use of the facilities requiring application approval.

Sec. 62-92. - Fishing; hours permitted ~~and license required.~~

The lake shall be open for fishing each day during daylight hours only, from sunrise until sunset. Fishing in the lake shall be catch and release only and must be done in a manner that will not injure other wildlife or their habitat. Upon any charges brought under this section, the officer or official bringing such charges shall note the time of the offense on the citation or warrant. [To be addressed by recommendations from SEED.]

Commented [CMT6]: Is there a required issuing authority? Is the requirement for State License/Local License/etc?

Commented [CMT7]: Committee is asking that language be added that no fishing tackle or line be left behind.

Sec. 62-93. - Use of boats.

Row boats, kayaks, paddleboards and canoes will be allowed on the lake during daylight hours only. All motorized boats are hereby prohibited.”

Sec. 62-94. - Swimming

Commented [CMT8]: There are restrictions for swimming outside of the swim area unless a waiver of liability is signed. Should there be codified language regarding? I have attached copy of the waiver?

Section 2. The various clauses and subsections of this ordinance are intended to be severable. Should any of the provisions of this ordinance be deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is the intent of the City Council that the remaining provisions remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. All ordinances and portions of ordinances in conflict with the terms of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to the subject matter of this ordinance.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective upon its approval by the City Council, signature by the Mayor, and approval as to form by the City Attorney.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____ 2023.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF PINE LAKE, GEORGIA

Mayor Melanie Hammet

ATTEST:

ChaQuias Thornton, Acting City Clerk (SEAL)

Approved as to Form:

Susan J. Moore, City Attorney

Recommended Policy from
Fishing Policy Meeting September 18, 2023
Present: Augusta Woods, Tracey Brantley, Chief Green, Ben Holst

I. Policy and Rules

A. Pine Lake Fishing Rules: in official policy language and enforceable

1. Fishing during park hours - dawn to dusk. (included in draft amendment – Section 62-92)
2. Fishing license required. (included in draft amendment – Section 62-92) (issuing authority?)
3. Catch and Release only. (included in draft amendment – Section 62-92)
4. No fishing tackle and line left behind. (attorney asked to add form of amendment to Sec. 62-92)

B. "City reserves right to adjust regulations based on environmental needs of lake and wildlife health" or similar language for official policy. Following details not needed for permanent policy, but situations that can be addressed when necessary.

1. All lake access or designated areas depending on bank erosion
2. Seasonal pauses for young fish growth

II. Educational Component

A. *How We Fish in Pine Lake* details (for educational flyer and QR code fishing info to website) Include narrative information on Pine Lake's emphasis on lake and wildlife quality and our environmental stewardship mission.

1. Dispose of all line and tackle debris after fishing.
2. Fishing license required
3. Catch and release only
4. Single rod use – one line in water at one time
5. No cast nets
6. Single hooks only – barbless encouraged
7. Use of live bait encouraged

B. Pine Lake Fishing Club

Public, fee based annual membership to support quarterly cleanup, annual fish census, and stocking if necessary. Serve as unofficial fishing ambassadors.

Question for clarity: As unofficial fishing ambassadors, will the club (itself) be officially established by the city/city council? Or will it serve as a community organization (like PLAIN?)

C. Signage

Language design with QR codes (highly recommend QR codes for multiple languages provided and will be easy to change fishing details when necessary)



Working example of QR code to our website provided by Chief Green



Example of sign that can have all general park rules and QR code for details on PL website



Artsy General Park Rules sign at prominent entry place

D. Website recommendations and QR code

1. Move Parks page from City Services section to a more prominent place as a main menu item in navigation menu for visitors and residents to easily find.
2. On website – Fishing policy and rules pdf added similar to existing Park and Beach Rules link on website OR include in existing Park and Beach Rules document
3. Available “How We Fish in Pine Lake” pdf to download
4. QR code on signs will directly link to Parks page on signs surrounding park and can be easily updated to include any needed short term or seasonal changes to park policies
5. QR code will have option for multiple languages to follow our commitment to inclusion.

III. Enforceability

A. All items listed in section I., A

(Currently enforceable under Section 62-85. Penalties. Subject to Code Section 1-9)

“Sec. 62-85. – Penalties.

A violation of this article shall, upon conviction, be punishable as provided by Section 1-9.”

“Sec. 1-9. - General penalty; continuing violations.

- (a) Whenever in this Code or in any ordinance of the city any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or any offense, or whenever in this Code or in any ordinance the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, where no specific penalty is provided therefor, the violation of that provision of this Code or that ordinance shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for six months or both such fine and imprisonment. The municipal court may fix punishment by fine, imprisonment or alternative sentencing, as now or hereafter provided by law and may impose any punishment up to the maximums specified by general law for offenses with its concurrent jurisdiction, subject to all limitations contained in the Charter of the city. Each day any violation of this Code or of any ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.*
- (b) The infliction of a penalty under the provisions of this section shall not prevent the revocation of any permit or license or the taking of other punitive or remedial action where called for or permitted under the provisions of the city's Charter or Code.”*

B. Bi-Monthly visits arranged with DNR park ranger to have a presence at Pine Lake Park and work cooperatively as a resource with Pine Lake PD on any park usage and wildlife concerns.

Memo

DATE: September 22, 2023
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: ChaQuias Thornton, City Manager
RE: Sheep Overgrazing – Dam and Inner Berm

09/26/2023 Regular Meeting, New Business, Item 1

Councilmember Tracey Brantly is asking Council to entertain the attached proposal for consideration of approval.

Contractor: Ewe Can Do It Naturally
Service: Contracted services for Sheep to Overgraze the Dam/Bank and Inner Walking Berm

- a. \$10,275 - For the larger project, the dam/bank and shelf bounded by Pine Lake and Snapfinger Creek.
- b. \$2,850 - For the smaller project, the inner berm extending into the lake itself.

Two quotes were provided. (Ewe Can Do It Naturally and City Sheep and Goat)

It was presented to the Administration that Ewe Can Do It Naturally is the only company in the area that does overgrazing as opposed to pulse grazing using sheep exclusively. The practice of overgrazing, even though it takes longer, will have the longest impact on the vegetation regrowth, without damaging the existing large trees at the base of the dam.

ITEM HISTORY

On 09/07/2023, Council Member Tracey Brantley presented information regarding contracted services for sheep overgrazing of the dam/bank between Pine Lake and Snapfinger Creek and the inner berm that runs around the swimming area of the lake. On 09/12/2023 presentation was given to Council on the process of overgrazing.

I have reached out to the City's engineer of record (Clark Patterson Lee) regarding such process and the following response has been presented:

“Not a bad idea, and there are services you can hire to do that. Dunwoody did that in one of their parks a few years ago. Keep in mind that the goats [sheep provide a similar process] will only be able to eat up about 3 to 4 feet. The vegetation that's there now is pretty tall, so you might end up with a bunch of skinny tall trees that have no vegetation from the ground to the four foot mark.

Secondly, the dam itself must be grubbed of stumps. Otherwise, the stumps and roots will rot and provide pathways for the phreatic (internal water) surface to intersect. This can erode the dam from the inside out. As long as a tree survives, it's not a critical issue, but generally speaking, dam owners should not allow trees to grow on dams and should be making plans to have existing ones removed.”

If such services are to be budgeted by City Council, a determination of the fund that will be considered for such allocation will need to be made. Options for fund allocation can be General Fund Reserve or American Rescue Plan Act dollars. I have provided funding options in the form of Resolution R-18-2023 – FY2023 Budget Amendment.

Once budgeted, normal course would be to make effort to solicit a minimum of three (3) quotes for service/purchase.

Please contact me if you should have any questions regarding the information contained within this correspondence. Councilmember Brantley can be contacted for information regarding a description of the services proposed.

Thank you,

CMThornton



Ewe Can Do It Naturally

2107 North Decatur Road Decatur GA 30033

404-944-0522

September 6, 2023

City of Pine Lake
Post Office Box 1325
Pine Lake, GA 30072

Dear City Council Members:

I hope this finds you all well. I thank you for the opportunity to bid the bank clean up project and also a quote for overgrazing the inner berm that goes through the lake. We have worked in Pine Lake twelve times over the last seven years and we have always appreciated the residents and their appreciation of the work we do and their love of our animals.

Please find here a description of the work we do, a quote for the specific project proposed at your location, costs for extra work which can be done beyond the quote, and a few before and after photos of similar projects completed in the past.

Project Description

We propose bringing sheep to overgraze the dam/bank between Snapfinger Creek and Pine Lake. Our work begins by creating an enclosure for the animals. We use natural features and t-posts with sheep and goat fence to enclose areas for the sheep. On the larger project, we would install a double row of fencing at either end of the dam/bank, one set of fences on Lakeshore Drive and one set of fences on Spruce Drive. This will secure the animals and keep the public (and their dogs) from direct contact. We will use the lake on one side and Snapfinger Creek on the other as the side barriers. There are some places along the creek where we will need to set short sections of fence to keep the sheep from crossing as well. On the smaller project, we would install a double row of fencing at either end of the berm that goes into the lake and use the lake water as the outside barrier.

You have many native plants on site, but you also have a wide variety and heavy infestation of invasive plants. We specifically noted these problem plants at the two locations - ivies, elaeagnus, cherry laurel, wisteria, Chinese privet, Japanese holly, and kudzu. You also have heavy stands of blackberry, poison ivy, poison sumac and other undesirable brush which inhibit access especially to the bench at the backside of the dam/bank and on the lake side. Our goal will be overgrazing these areas and following the animals with hand labor to remove stems up to 2" caliper. We do not recommend or employ herbicides in our work, but for an additional fee we will "paint" fresh cuts with muriatic acid which kills the roots while not harming other biologicals.

We expect this project will take two to three months with 25 animals on site and livestock dogs. We understand that this is a long process, but we advise that the results are worth some patience. The invasive plants did not get there in a short time. It takes time to get them out.

How It Works

The first phase of our work is completed by the animals and we propose to keep the animals on the property as long as it takes to overgraze the English ivy and other vines on the project sites. Sheep are great at defoliation. They eat for almost twenty hours of any day and they consume more foliage per pound and a much wider variety of foliage than goats. Plus, sheep are grazers so they pull when they eat, whereas goats are browsers and nibble instead of pulling. The net effect is that sheep do more long-term damage to unwanted ivies and vines especially. Most importantly, sheep will not chew the bark off your established trees or eat the buds on smaller trees the way goats will so we can let them stay on a property after the greens are gone during an overgrazing period. During this time, we feed hay and grain daily during this time but the sheep keep pulling on the vines and stems. On your project, we will put 20 - 25 sheep and I would expect the job to be completely overgrazed in two to three months depending on weather. The timing for this project is especially good as many of our native plants - shrubs, trees, and wild flowers - will soon go dormant during this time and the sheep will ignore them while feasting on the invasive plants.

We will check the flock and dogs every day. The work will progress at a slow and steady pace while the sheep are on site and one day you will realize there is nothing green on the ground anymore. We will also provide dietary supplements and veterinary care for the animals as needed.

As the sheep near completion of their work eating the greens on the ground, phase two of the project will start. Animals alone cannot complete the clearing work that is needed on your property. To that end, we send in laborers with machetes to cut all invasive stems 2" in diameter and less. As we lay the tops down on the ground, the sheep will consume the greens they are now able to reach. We will also cut all the vines at the base of the trees to ensure the ivies in the trees die. All of this work is included in the initial quote.

If you want, this is also the time to chainsaw the larger privet shrubs and unwanted trees on your property. When they are laid down, the sheep will defoliate the tops and this is good for the sheep and a great way to make the clean up a lot easier. See rates below. You may also want to consider removing your larger cherry laurels, cleaning up your alder trees, etc. We are available for all of that at the day rates quoted.

What the City Will Need to Do

We will post signs and prepare an FAQ for the city. We ask only that you forward this to your residents and advise them of the three basic rules for watching urban sheep:

1. Do not feed the sheep.
2. Keep dogs fifty feet away from the sheep.
3. If you see something that concerns you, call us. We are nearby and will come fast. Taking care of the sheep is what we do. If you have a question, call. If you have a concern, call.

What Is Included

In short, the quote I present today includes the following:

- 1) Delivery/installation of perimeter temporary fencing as noted above and repair/patching any existing fences to ensure the sheep remain contained;
- 2) Delivery of sheep and care of same through the time required to overgraze the area identified. We do not designate a set number of days for the project as the goal is *over-grazing* so the sheep will eat as many vines as possible while being nourished with hay and

grain that we provide. For this reason, the timeframe to complete the project must be flexible. We do have one hard rule for the protection of the animals - the sheep are moved when they no longer have anything green to eat in the enclosed area and have been eating only hay and ground vines (without leaves) for three weeks;

3) Machete or chainsaw cutting all invasive vines/shrubs under 2" in diameter and cutting vines off of tree trunks; and,

4) Removal of fence and animals at the end of the project. Note that we do not remove manure. Sheep manure will generally deteriorate and be reabsorbed as fertilizer in a few days. Moreover, sheep manure is pH neutral and not particularly pungent. We will use a blower to clean off all walks to leave them clean.

What Is Not Included

To be clear, this quote does not include the following:

- 1) Cutting invasive or non-invasive stems/trunks that are greater than 2" in diameter;
- 2) Removal of all ivy or vines - Neither sheep nor goats nor any other animal can eat wood or woody stems, they do not pull all the roots or stems from the ground, and they do not haul off brush and pile it up or take it off site, so this quote specifically does not include transfer of cut brush to the curb or haul off of cut brush and other debris from the property, pulling or otherwise removing remaining roots or vines from the ground or trees, or any guarantee of a bare earth condition at the end of the project.
- 3) Removal of all vegetation in the fenced areas. Sheep and goats do not eat some plants, including azaleas, camellias, vincas, Virginia creeper, buckeye, yew, most mints, and a few other species. As noted they will eat *most* of the vegetation in your designated areas, especially the ivies on the ground and on the trees.
- 4) Protection or preservation of any particular plants within the enclosed areas. If you want particular plants preserved or saved, we can provide labor to do that at the costs listed below.

Your Quotes

For the larger project, the dam/bank and shelf bounded by Pine Lake and Snapfinger Creek, the quote is \$10,275.

For the smaller project, the berm extending into the lake itself, the quote is \$2850.

Extra Work We Can Do

As noted, the city may want extra work beyond what is quoted above. We are happy to provide that work and we recommend it on your project. Specifically, we recommend removal of the cherry laurel and privet stems that are larger than 2" and haul off same and cutting back many of your alders and a few other small trees. We are happy to take directions if you are able to mark the trees you want removed. We also recommend pulling kudzu vines and digging out the crowns. Finally, given the location of these sites, we recommend raking and hauling out whatever stems are cut so they do not end up in the waters.

Costs for our workers is as follows:

- Six hours of chainsaw operator - \$850
- Seven hours of brush chopping, vine pulling, hauling, stacking, etc - \$400
- Brush/trash haul off per load (loads average 2 tons each) - \$450

All piece work is documented each day. We will not begin any piece work without prior express approval.

As for haul off of brush, logs, etc, we are not certain what arrangements are available between the city and county, but we highly recommend DeKalb County Sanitation for brush removal. The service is professional, comprehensive, and inexpensive for homeowners. If it or something like it is available to the city, it would certainly be much less expensive than hauling the brush out by the trailer load.

How to Proceed

Please accept these terms by replying ACCEPT via text message or email. On receipt, we will prepare our standard contract and forward for approval. A copy of our insurance policy will be forwarded at that time as well. We have several hundred animals available for work so we could start as soon as tomorrow.

Council Members, I think you will find that Ewe Can Do It Naturally will do a great job clearing your ivy and other invasive plants. Most importantly, we will do it all in a healthy, non-invasive way that will protect your berms, banks, waterways, and soil and all the native wildlife you have living there even as you reclaim and restore these areas for safe public use.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call or text. I will be happy to review the quote and our procedures with you again.

All the best,

John

John Wierwille
Owner/Shepherd