

## **Silting In: Why, and what can we/others Do?**

Echo lake is silting in because that is what lakes in GA and elsewhere do. It is part of a natural progression.

Nearby, the following lakes have all but disappeared: Little Echo Lake, Greely Lake (now a swamp), Simmons lake (under re-construction with a porous dam), and Doreen Lake (part remains). Echo lake, the heart of our little community, needs attention. It adds substantial value to our community.

Effective action is possible. Many other homeowner groups in our area have taken up the dredging needed to maintain their property values. Silver Lake is a poster child for success (<https://silverlakeassoc.org/activities/>); It has been dredged and is being maintained. Flair lake, which is close to ours, will be dredged; the homeowners have already given tens of thousands of dollars for the job. Murphy Candler lake in Brookhaven will be dredged (<https://www.brookhavenga.gov/parksrec/page/murphey-candler-lake-dredging>).

There are others in the state and nearby: In 2016, the City of Augusta submitted applications to dredge and perform other work in Lake Olmstead, Warren Lake, Hiers Pond, and Lake Aumond. Highland lake in Alabama will also be dredged. This list could go on and on.

Silting is natural, but it is not beneficial, and it has a real cost to us. Dredging and restoring has been a recognized necessity and successful strategy for many communities. We, like so many others, can do this.

2/1/2021

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