

TOWN *of* CARY

2019-2020 State Legislative Agenda Legislative Advocacy Position Statement

Topic: Jordan Lake

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The Town of Cary is committed to being a good steward of our finite natural resources by preserving and protecting the environment. From open space preservation to 100 foot stream buffers to stormwater best management practices, Cary has a long history of taking effective, science-based action within our own community to help protect the region's drinking water supply and key recreational amenity – Jordan Lake.

Cary supports the state's existing Jordan Lake rules, which are a result of years of stakeholder input and, ultimately, a balanced compromise with real potential to make a positive, meaningful and lasting impact on the lake. The Town has proactively implemented Jordan Lake nutrient management strategies in our jurisdiction, including nonpoint source stormwater runoff rules consistent with those delayed by the state. The Town is also an active participant in regional stakeholder discussions and planning efforts being facilitated by TJCOG to equitably protect Jordan Lake.



Further delays in implementing a comprehensive and equitable watershed management strategy for Jordan Lake could result in water quality that has the potential to negatively impact some or all of the lake's uses. We have experience in treating the water from Jordan Lake to provide drinking water to our customers – including Cary, Apex, Morrisville and the Wake County portion of RTP – under a range of water quality conditions; however, implementation of a pro-active nutrient management strategy for this stressed ecosystem is needed to mitigate future drinking water treatment challenges and increasing associated costs, as well as adversely impacting the lake's other uses such as recreation.

We believe that a science-based approach to managing Jordan Lake's water quality will have a net positive benefit for our citizens and for the communities in the watershed. We look forward to working with other stakeholders and state officials as we chart a course for the future of the Jordan Lake watershed.