



www.LakeRalphHall.com

JANUARY 2022

PROJECT UPDATE

*Lake Ralph Hall is a special place (a natural place, a quiet place, a hospitable place)
both for people and for the environment, assuring a reliable water supply for generations to come.*

Lake Ralph Hall 2021—A Year of Progress



Columns are going up to support the future SH 34 Bridge over Lake Ralph Hall.

The past year has been one of incredible progress on Lake Ralph Hall. Since Upper Trinity's groundbreaking ceremony last June, significant activities have occurred on both the State Highway 34 bridge and clearing for the Leon Hurse Dam. Upper Trinity's contractor, Flatiron Constructors, Inc., has placed approximately 100 beams (of the 371) needed for the new bridge to span the lake. Granite Construction has completed clearing of about 500 acres of land and started constructing the embankment that will become the Leon Hurse Dam. Additionally, the Upper Trinity Board last month approved \$12.5 million in contracts for design of a 32-mile conveyance system needed to move water from the lake into Upper Trinity's existing system, along with associated support, administrative and maintenance facilities. We are very grateful for the support of our partners—the City of Ladonia, Fannin County and Upper Trinity Members and Customers—who have made this progress possible.

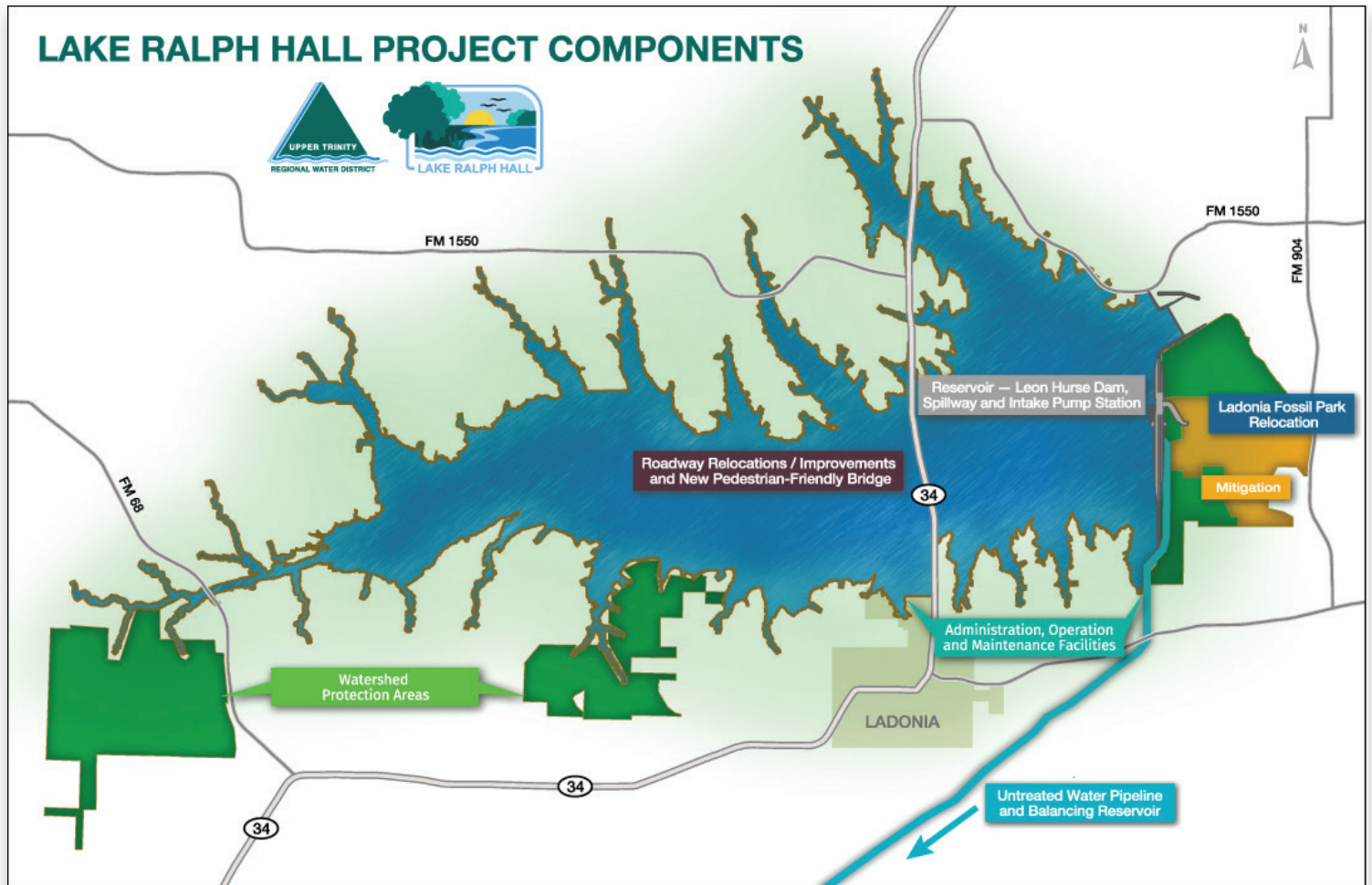
In 2022, the pace of construction for the Leon Hurse Dam and Hwy 34 bridge projects will increase, leading to a dramatically new look. Design of certain lake facilities, including the raw water pump station and pipeline, will wrap up, with construction starting shortly thereafter. Late this year, certain environmental improvements are scheduled to begin as part of the overall mitigation plan for the reservoir. District staff also intend to work closely with the city and county as they strive to finalize the comprehensive land use plan and zoning regulations for the area around the new lake.

As we anticipate these exciting developments, we also remember that it is thanks to the foresight of many before us that this lake is becoming reality.

Larry N. Patterson
Executive Director
Upper Trinity Regional Water District



PROJECT COMPONENTS **UPDATE**



Reservoir, Leon Hurse Dam & Spillway

Constructing a 2.3 mile-long dam, intake pump station to pump water into the untreated water pipeline and spillway to release excess water back into the North Sulphur River.



- About 85% of the dam site is now clear. Around 50 construction workers have been onsite each day, clearing brush and getting ready for work on the dam.
- Preliminary work on the dam embankment has begun. Four local contractors have been hired to install boundaries around the construction site.
- Crews began work on a slurry trench to keep water from seeping under the lake's future dam.

◀ *Clearing the area for the Leon Hurse Dam.*

Roadway and Bridge Improvements

Constructing a new pedestrian-friendly SH 34 lake bridge, relocating part of FM 1550 and improvements and closures to various county roads.

- Large beams continue to arrive, and crews are laying them on top of the concrete bents to form the new roadway.
- Flatiron continues to form and pour additional support structures needed for the new bridge.
- Crews have begun to pour bridge decking.



Administration, Operation and Maintenance Facilities

Building facilities for the lake's day-to-day operation, management and maintenance facilities.

- Last month the UTRWD Board of Directors selected Halff Associates to do the planning and design for all the lake facilities.

Pipeline

Installing a 32-mile underground pipeline and creating a balancing reservoir to provide water to Upper Trinity's water system for treatment and delivery.

- UTRWD continues the process of acquiring the necessary land for the pipeline and balancing reservoir.
- This past month the UTRWD board selected a number of designers and construction managers for the pipeline and associated components. Black and Veatch Corporation was selected to design segment one and Jacobs Engineering Group to design segment two of the pipeline. AR Consultants will also be helping with cultural resources. Archer Western will be overseeing construction of the pump station, and Jacobs Engineering will do the final design for the balancing reservoir.

Mitigation/Watershed Protection Areas

Returning a portion of the former North Sulphur River to its natural, meandering path. Leaving other areas in their natural condition to protect water quality in the lake.

- UTRWD is reviewing proposals for a full service provider to complete this work.
- The temporary fossil park continues to welcome visitors from all around. Flatiron recently addressed several erosion issues along the walkway to the riverbed.

SPOTLIGHT

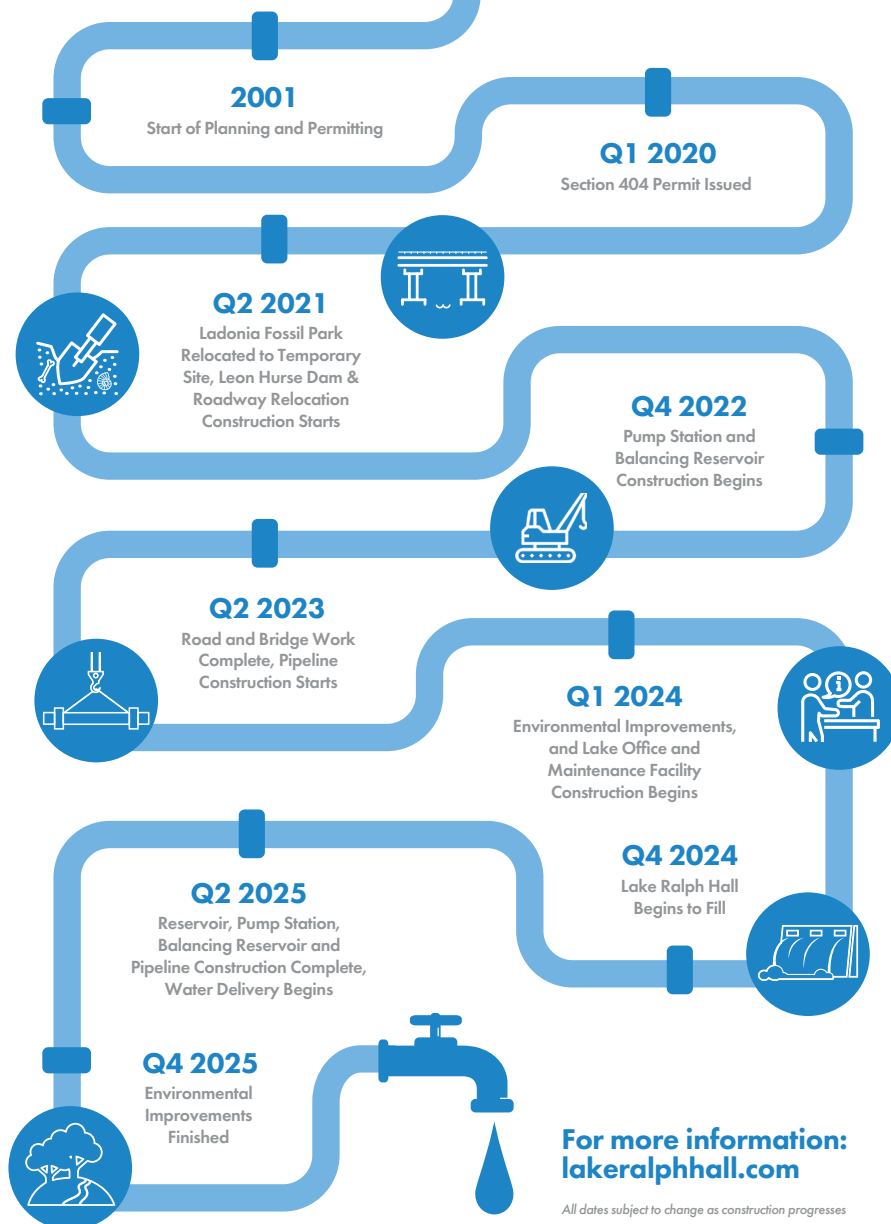
Making Lake Ralph Hall Water-Tight

Ever wondered why water doesn't just seep underneath a dam? A slurry trench—only 3 ft. wide but nearly 60 ft. deep in some areas—explains why. Crews began work on it last month. As the trench is dug, it is filled with highly water-resistant materials including bentonite, sand and gravel to form a kind of underground wall. This wall will be around 23 times less permeable than the regular soil and foundation materials, keeping water from seeping out of the future lake.



Lake Ralph Hall

Project Schedule



For more information:
lakeralphhall.com

All dates subject to change as construction progresses