



www.LakeRalphHall.com

NOVEMBER 2021

# 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.*

## Clearing the Way for Leon Hurse Dam



*Area cleared for the southern end of the Leon Hurse Dam.*

Work is beginning on the Leon Hurse Dam for Lake Ralph Hall. When finished, the dam will be 2.3 miles long and include both a spillway (to release water into the North Sulphur River), intake structure and pump station (to move it through the pipeline that can carry it to treatment).

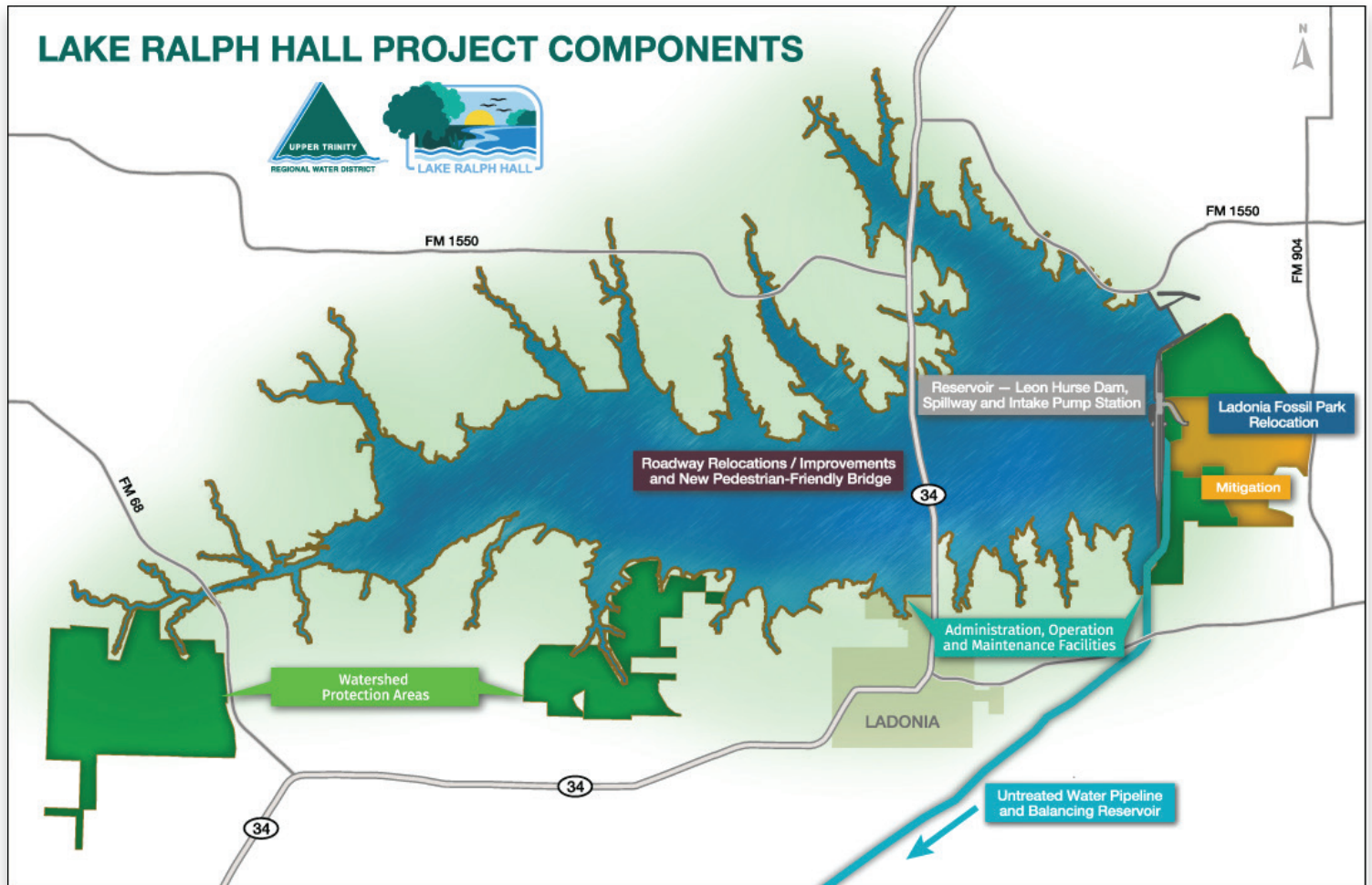
So far, crews have removed grass, brush, trees, fences, etc. from around half of the 600 acres needed to begin building the dam. After clearing is completed, Granite Construction

will be working to move dirt to create the embankment. The Leon Hurse Dam was designed by Freese and Nichols. Construction is scheduled to finish on the dam near the end of 2024. Read more at <https://lakeralphhall.com/construction/project-components>.





# 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.*

- Construction on the dam began with the reservoir's groundbreaking on June 16, 2021. Work continues to clear the dam and spillway construction areas.
- Granite Construction is planning to start work on the dam's embankment next month.

## 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 will begin pouring the bridge decking soon.

◀ Laying beams to hold up the bridge.



## Administration, Operation and Maintenance Facilities

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

- Procurement is ongoing to select a firm to design these 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.
- Final selection of a design consultant is expected soon.

## 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.



Credit: Cheryl McClure

### SPOTLIGHT

## A New Way to Celebrate Fossil Day

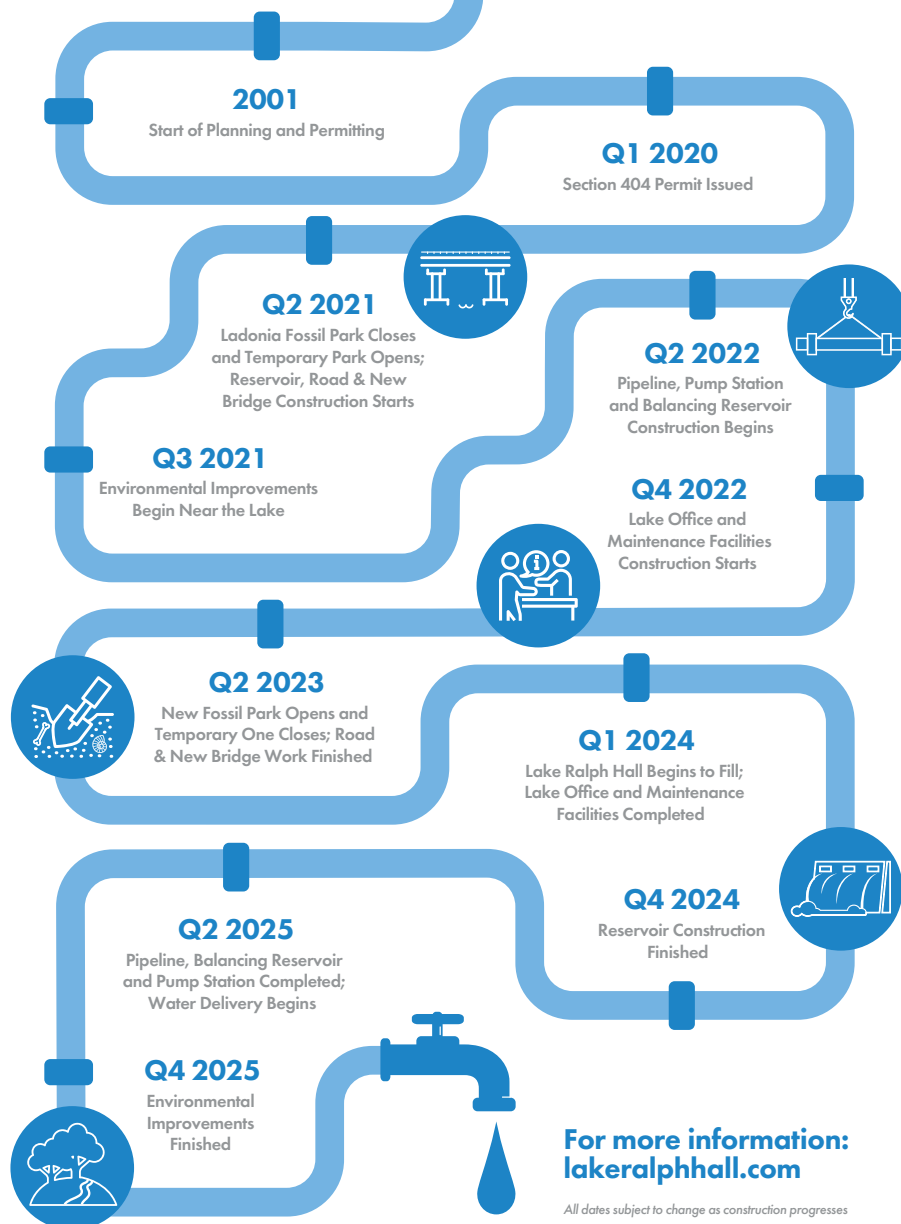
Ladonia locals recently celebrated Fossil Day in style at the new and improved temporary park location. October 13th was declared National Fossil Day in 2010 by the National Park Service. This year, representatives from the Dallas Paleontology Society, local geologists, fossil enthusiasts and local food vendors all showed up to make this Fossil Day one to remember.

“We had a hundred cars parked at one point, maybe 300 hundred people and well over a 100 kids,” shared Cheryl McClure, who helped organize the festivities and serves as an admin for the [Ladonia Fossil Park Facebook Group](#). She added that the temporary park’s, “parking and access made it work so well for us to meet there.”

The fossil park’s recent relocation for construction of Lake Ralph Hall has provided fossil hunters with easier access to a whole new section of the riverbed. The new, temporary park opened this summer and will remain open until the reservoir is completed and a new, permanent fossil park can be created downstream of the lake’s dam.

# Lake Ralph Hall

## Project Schedule



For more information:  
[lakeralphhall.com](http://lakeralphhall.com)

All dates subject to change as construction progresses