

## **Jordan Lake Rules Unfunded Mandate**

First, I would like to say that I don't believe that the Jordan Lake rules as written are fair, I don't believe that they will do what they are intended to do and I don't believe that they will be cost effective.

The rules are a broad brush. They don't attempt to find the real sources of the pollution in Jordan Lake. They ignore the fact that the water from the Haw River arm of the watershed remains in the extreme southern portion of the lake for only a few days and they grossly underestimate the prohibitive costs of these rules.

These rules should not be adopted as written.

But the point I would like to make is this:

Local governments in the Triad should not be forced to bear the costs of these rules. If the state of North Carolina believes that these rules are necessary to clean up Jordan Lake, then the state should be willing to pay to implement them.

The most modest estimated cost of these rules is nearly \$1 billion. But no one in the private sector or among local governments believes that is even close to the real cost. The real costs to taxpayers will be in the billions, according to professionals who have studied these rules.

I believe the burden should be on the Division of Water Quality to demonstrate to the legislature why taxpayers should spend billions of dollars on these rules.

If our lawmakers in Raleigh are convinced, then the state can foot the bill.

Ralph Doggett