



Dear Geist Reservoir Conservancy District Property Owner,

We hope this letter find you well and enjoying everything that Geist Reservoir has to offer. This letter is to ask for your signature to the attached petition to form the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District.

Why form the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District? It's a great question, with many answers. To name a few:

- Creating a reservoir conservancy district allows property owners to have input on the management of the reservoir. While there are dozens of beneficial reasons to operate Geist Reservoir as a reservoir conservancy district, the core rationale comes down to maintaining this tremendous community asset.
- Geist has had more than its fair share of troubles in recent years. Zebra mussels, invasive species, algae blooms, prop strikes, boating accidents, and the like all create challenges that need long-term solutions.
- People have posited that Indianapolis should take over the reservoir, or Fishers, or that Citizens Energy and Marina Limited Partnership should take on the responsibilities. The reality is—none of those entities are taking on this responsibility. And without proper maintenance, Geist will continue to decline. Sediment will continue to reduce the amount of usable lake area, and algae blooms will become more common and potentially become toxic.
- The Geist Lake Coalition, who is sponsoring the effort to create the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District, has operated with limited funding based on voluntary donations for years, and many feel it's time to establish a governing body and financial resources to adequately maintain the reservoir and help preserve it for the good of our community
- Previously in 2019 and 2020, over 1400 signatures were collected to form the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District. Due to the passage of legislation to create a Reservoir Conservancy District, we are required to collect new signatures.

The attached petition is the first step in creating the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District and the start of a process to create a structure through which the homeowners around Geist can speak with one voice. It will create an equitable and sustainable revenue stream to allow for the restoration, preservation, and protection of the reservoir.

Attached to this letter you will find a draft copy of the updated petition that will be filed with your signature, once we collect the required 30% (Approximately 1,200) signatures. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us at info@geistconservancy.com for more information or please visit www.geistconservancy.com for answers to your questions.

We are a vibrant lake community. And with your support, we can enact long-term, sustainable solutions for the benefit of current and future community members.

Please follow the below instructions to complete the petition!

1. Please reference the last page of this mailing, a single page labeled:

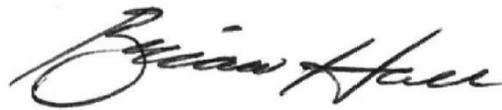
“Signature Page (counterpart) - Petition for the Establishment of the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District”

2. With someone other than yourself (a witness) watching you, Sign the Signature Page and fill in the corresponding information. Please print CLEARLY. This helps us to match your signature with your property. Also, we would appreciate it if you would fill out the included contact form to make it easier to connect with you as we go through this process.
3. Have the person that witnessed you sign the petition complete their name and sign their name in the Witness section.
4. Only 1 Signature page is allowed per property. If your property is owned as a married couple, only 1 of you needs to sign.
5. Place the original petition signature in the included envelope to be returned. In addition, if you would like to scan and email us your petition, you may do so by sending to info@geistconservancy.com; however, please also return the signature page to us via mail.

We thank you in advance for your support, and as always, welcome any questions or concerns!



Cory Peter
President and Board Member



Brian Hall
Past President and Board Member



Keith Mathews
Aquatic Weed & Algae Chair and Board Member



Ed Villanyi
Lake Cleanup Chair and Board Member

PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
GEIST RESERVOIR CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

We and each of us, are freeholders within the territory described in Exhibit A attached hereto who desire, and hereby petition for the establishment of a “reservoir conservancy district” pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-24 *et. seq.*, Ind. Code § 14-33-2, and Ind. Code § 14-33-2-4, in and encompassing said territory, and state as follows:

1. That the reservoir conservancy district is established and created pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-24 *et. seq.*
2. The name for the district shall be the “Geist Reservoir Conservancy District” (the “District”).
3. The territory, substantially as described in Exhibit A but which may be amended from time to time prior to the establishment of the District, is to be included in the District.
4. Pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-24-6(1)(A) and (B), the purposes of the District shall be as follows: (1) developing forests, wildlife areas, parks and recreational facilities in connection with beneficial water management, and (2) operation, maintenance and improvement of works of improvement including but not limited to Geist Reservoir.
5. The necessity for accomplishing such purposes are as follows: (a) the territory spans portions of three counties, which creates difficulties for any one of the counties to carry out the purposes of the District; and (b) an entity is required which is capable of and responsible for directly overseeing, financing and carrying out the treatment and maintenance of Geist Reservoir as a recreational facility in connection with beneficial water management.
6. The boundaries of the District will encompass part or all of Geist Reservoir which is located partly within a consolidated city.
7. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the surface of the reservoir located within the boundaries of the District is owned by a utility governed by a board of directors for utilities under Ind. Code § 8-1-11.1-3.
8. Establishment of the District will be conducive to the public health, safety, or welfare.
9. The costs and damages of and to be paid solely by the District for treating and maintaining Geist Reservoir will probably be less than the benefits received in the District.
10. This Petition is not conditioned upon either a grant of federal or state funds.
11. Maintenance, repair and operation of the works of improvements necessary for (1) developing forests, wildlife areas, parks and recreational facilities in connection with beneficial water management and (2)

operation, maintenance and improvement of works of improvement including, but not limited to Geist Reservoir, shall be paid for by both an annual levy of special benefit taxes and an assessment on any land found to be exceptionally benefitted; or by another method provided by statute, all as the Court may order in its approval of the district plan.

12. There shall be nine (9) directors of the District, one elected from each of the nine (9) areas described in Exhibit B.
13. The District shall have all powers provided by applicable statute, whether in effect now or in the future, and in accordance with any agreements that the District may enter into with any commercial licensee or utility owner, as those terms are defined in Ind. Code § 14-33-24-1 and Ind. Code § 14-33-24-5.
14. Further details regarding the operations of the District shall be set forth in the district plan.
15. As shown on the signature pages attached hereto as Exhibit C, this Petition exceeds the signature requirements outlined in both Ind. Code § 14-33-2-2 relative to the District as a whole, and Ind. Code § 14-33-3-1 relative to the municipalities included within the District.
16. Following the posting of a bond pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-8, proper notice being given pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-14 to the appropriate parties and by the required means pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-12, Petitioners request a hearing by the Court in conformance with Ind. Code § 14-33-2-11 to determine whether the Petition bears the necessary signatures and otherwise complies with the requirements as to form and content pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-16.
17. Upon a finding by the Court that this Petition meets the statutory requirements, Petitioners request the Petition be referred to the Natural Resources Commission pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-17 for further hearing.
18. The most land in the District is located in Hamilton County; accordingly, this Court has jurisdiction over this Petition pursuant to Ind. Code § 14-33-2-1.

WHEREFORE, Petitioners pray that the Court find that this Petition meets all statutory requirements for filing, that this Petition should be referred to the Natural Resources Commission for hearing, that upon receipt of the findings of the Natural Resources Commission the Court enter its Order establishing the District as proposed and for all other relief just and proper in the premises.

Signature Page (counterpart)

Petition for the Establishment of the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District

By signing below, I hereby certify that:

- I am a freeholder within the proposed Geist Reservoir Conservancy District;
- I received a copy of the Petition for the Establishment of the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District (the "Petition"); and
- I support the establishment of the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District in accordance with the Petition.

I hereby respectfully request that the Court conduct a hearing and thereafter issue an Order forming the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District.

Owner Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____

WITNESS:

I hereby certify, under the penalties for perjury, that I circulated the above Petition for the Establishment of the Geist Reservoir Conservancy District and each of the parties who are named hereinabove executed the Petition before me and represented they are a freeholder in the proposed District.

Signature: _____

Printed: _____

Contact Form

Owner Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip: _____