

Long Branch Lakes Gets It. Community Gives Back From What It Was Given

By Ideal Living Magazine

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Long Branch Lakes is utilizing what's already there for sustainable, responsible stewardship to the land many have come to enjoy for many years and will enjoy for many years to come.

Spencer, TN - On an early November morning, while strolling along the hillside in Long Branch Lakes' Equestrian Village, Developer Edmond Cash points out some of what he called Autumn Olive Berries. What was not known to many, but known to Mr. Cash was that the berries can be used to make jam and jelly. Being ever skeptical, Susan Caruso (Director of Marketing) plucks a couple of berries with Mr. Cash for an on-the-spot taste test, which leaves her mouth full of tart sweetness. A few days later, Mr. Cash sends a crew out to pick a bushel, contacts a local jelly maker, and "A Taste Of Long Branch Lakes" was born.

This is just one of many ways Mr. Cash and the 4,500 acre Long Branch Lakes is utilizing what's already there for sustainable, responsible stewardship to the land many have come to enjoy for many years and will enjoy for many years to come.

One of the larger undertakings, was utilizing two of the original barns from The Singleton Dairy Farm (now part of Long Branch Lakes), and refurbishing them to be the centerpieces of the 1,000 Acre Equestrian Village. Rather than tearing down to make for new structures, Mr. Cash and his partners Rick Klewein and Andy Cash worked with Lorri Hayward of Hayward Designs, LTD to preserve the essence of the original structures and used much of the original barn wood in the interior of the storage barn.

Surrounding the dairy farm was acre after acre of grazing pasture, which has now been converted for the diets of horses rather than dairy cows. The hay is an orchard grass and clover mix, giving the mature and younger horses higher amounts of protein and other nutrients, which cuts down on their need for grain. Not only is the mix monitored for nutritional content on a regular basis, what is not used for Long Branch Lakes is distributed to local farmers to use as feed for their livestock.

But it's not just the large projects that make the property so "giving". It's the smaller one too. Trees that have to be cut down on the property to make way for roads, etc. are being used as light poles throughout the development. Land that has to be cleared for three planned lakes will be timbered, and logged for lumber to use in the region. Lakes already on the property are replenished with indigenous fishes and carefully monitored for water quality. This monitoring along with fish feeders placed throughout the community ensure a thriving ecosystem.

Call it a conscious effort to use the land you are given, or just call it common sense. Either way you look at it, Long Branch Lakes gets it.

For more information on Long Branch Lakes and their initiatives, or to request photos and future interviews, visit www.longbranchlakes.com or call Susan Caruso at 931-316-1487.

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