

# State park

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with funds to set up park facilities.

The site will undergo a facelift of sorts this summer and fall, Weaver said. All paved areas and boat ramps will be repaved, and the swimming area will be enlarged and improved.

Hunter, who still sits on the Lake James State Park Advisory

Committee, said everyone involved with the park is hoping the effort to acquire additional land is successful.

"We've got to make sure that we have areas set aside for all the public to enjoy," he said.

Weaver is hopeful as well.

"It's going to be important to the ecosystem to preserve some land around the lake before it's all

developed," he said.

Park officials have already seen firsthand the visual impact of unchecked development. Directly across the cove from the swimming area the shoreline is crowded with homes, and few trees remain.

"I'd rather have seen it stay trees," Weaver said. "Once you get it built up, it's over with then."