

Autumn Woods Update on the Lakes Improvements--Notice 4

The repairs to our lake system had been held up a bit recently due to the unseasonably high amounts of rainfall over the last couple of months; resulting in high lake levels (we received July rainfall amounts in January). The lake levels have begun to recede and the grading contractor has resumed his work. The secondary drainage pipes have all been completed, except for a couple locations remaining. They will also continue sodding the graded lake banks. The last step in the improvements involves planting native grasses in a rough/transitional zone and then wet littoral plants are being installed water ward. The upper 3 feet of the plantings (above control elevation) is also receiving pine straw to help prevent weed growth and is not susceptible to floating away like other mulches. The northern lakes in the community have been planted. The existing bulrush plants have been stubborn to die off and will be harvested beginning next week. On Nature Preserve Court, the exfiltration system has been installed and they will begin the regrading the rear lot swales in the coming week. The contractor will also desilt many of the storm pipes and lake interconnect pipes in the community, which has not happened in many years, if ever.



Figure 1: Picture to the left depicts a completed lake with 2ndary drainage, regrading, sod and plantings.



Figure 2: Picture to the right depicts the perforated pipe and rock trench for the exfiltration system behind some of the homes on Nature Preserve Ct.

A few questions that have come up: **1)** It only seems like a few inches of fill have been placed and this seems like a waste of money? Our 20 lakes covering more than 40 acres of water surface also have more than 5 miles of shoreline. In some areas there is minimal or no grading and in other areas we have more than 1 foot of vertical drop on the lake bank. The vertical drop is one of the reasons we were cited by the SFWMD in 2011. The intention of the grading is to restore things to an acceptable standard and should blend into existing conditions. Addressing this now is important to saving us significantly down the road. We are not alone in facing this issue. As some of our lakes are approaching 20 years, this maintenance is needed. Another nearby older community is paying nearly \$6,000 per household to correct their lake banks. **2)** I don't live on a lake and do not feel the assessment is fair? Every property in this community drains into the lakes and they are the flood control system serving the entire community. We all benefit from these lakes as we do from the other infrastructure in this community that we pay equally into (i.e. irrigation, roads and sidewalks) that are the responsibility of the master association to maintain. **3)** What do I do if I have other concerns, or questions about the work being done? Please contact our Property Manager Tony McHugh at 596-9634, or tmchugh@resortgroupinc.com to answer any questions, or concerns that you may have.



Figure 3: Ditch along Nature Preserve Ct that will be regraded and filled in partially to comply with slope standards.