

Autumn Woods Update on the Lakes Improvements--Notice 5

The repairs to our lake system are nearly complete. The grading work is now complete. The secondary drainage pipe work is complete as well. They have sodded the graded lake banks. The last step in the improvements involves planting native grasses in a rough/transitional zone and then wet littoral plants. The native grasses and littoral plants are being placed in the graded areas to help stabilize things as a first priority. They will also be planted around the areas not graded, so the entire perimeter of the lakes will have similar plantings. The grasses are a mix of Muhly, Dwarf Fakahatchee and Cord grasses. The littoral plants will have a mix of Spike Rush, Soft Rush, Arrowhead and Canna.

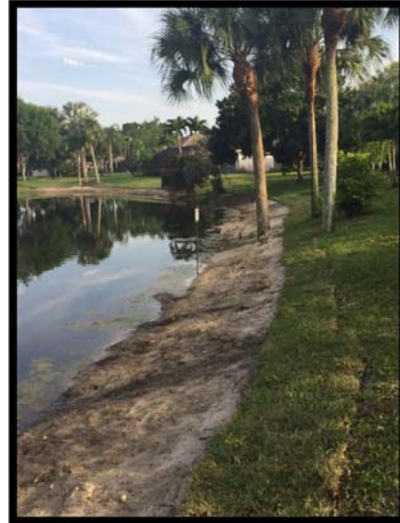


Figure 1: Picture to the left depicts mature dwarf Fakahatchee Grass that grows 2-3 ft in height and spreads 2-3 ft.
 Figure 2: Picture to the right depicts a graded and sodded lake bank that is ready for plantings.

A few questions that have come up: **1)** Will the lakes restoration measures address the algae blooms that we experience in most of our lakes? No, not immediately. The lake restoration project is intended to directly address the violations noted by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) relating to lake bank slopes and wash out areas. However, the native grasses and littoral plants once they grow in will do a double duty of holding the lake banks intact and also absorb many of the nutrients that cause algae blooms. **2)** What is being done to address algae blooms and the overall appearance of the lakes (i.e. floating debris)? As part of an effort to improve the lake water quality, the Master Board is planning to install aeration in all 20 community lakes. Proposals have been received and an aeration company will be selected soon.



Figure 3: In the background, graded and planted lake bank and in the foreground existing sod area that will be planted with grasses and littorals, so the entire lake bank will be planted with native grasses and littorals.

This work will involve running electrical services to the aeration compressors. In addition,

board is reviewing the lakes maintenance contract to see if alternative, less toxic and more effective treatment procedures would make sense.

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 4: Floating island is a water quality improvement technique being considered for the lined effluent lake on the left as you enter the community from the main gate.