

## Autumn Woods Update on the Lakes Improvements--Notice 6

Great news to report, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) has determined that the improvements completed by our community have put us in compliance with our permit. Their only qualifying statement is that we need to complete the plantings to help stabilize the lake slopes, which are well underway. Once completed, the entire perimeter of our lakes, totaling more than 5 miles will be planted with native grasses and littoral plants that once grown in will stabilize the lake banks and absorb nutrient loadings from stormwater run-off. Additional water quality improvements have been approved for the lakes. The team of Stahlman (our irrigation contractor) and Vertex have been selected as the vendor to provide aeration for all 20 of our community lakes. The aeration system will consist of electrical compressors, air hoses and diffusers that will improve the oxygen levels in lakes, reduce stratification, and circulate the water to reduce temperatures from the bottom up. The system will take several months to install and once in operation, will take several months to become fully functional. In addition, a new lake maintenance company (CES—Collier Environment Services) has been selected to maintain the community lakes and they will begin maintenance in July. CES is the same company that is responsible for planting the lake banks. Two floating islands have been installed by CES in the effluent lake in an effort to address the high nutrient loadings of this lake.

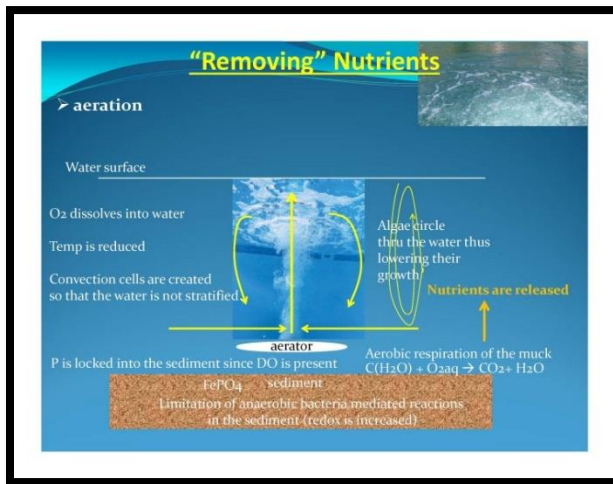


Figure 1: Picture to the left depicts how aeration can benefit lakes by helping to remove nutrients.

Figure 2: Picture to the right depicts a floating island installed recently in the effluent lake (on the left as you pass thru the main gate to the community).



**A few questions that have come up:**

- 1)** When will the plantings be completed? Littoral plants will not be placed til the beginning of the rainy season. The upland and rough areas will be sprayed and planted in the coming weeks.
- 2)** Why are the sprinklers spraying the lake banks? During the dry season, supplemental watering of the lake banks is needed to keep the plantings alive. Stahlman has adjusted the sprinkler heads and changed spray nozzles with greater capacity due to the increased spray pattern. The water will spray over the lakes in the wet season as well when the water level are up.
- 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](mailto:tmchugh@resortgroupinc.com) to answer any questions, or concerns that you may have.

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.