



Spring Edition Board Meeting Highlights

Meeting held at Christopher’s home at 494 Black Ironwood, on 1/20/2022. Chairman commented on the lovely Christmas decorations in Long Leaf. Secretary’s report was reviewed and approved. Treasurer’s report discussed and approved.

Community concerns: possibility of metal roofs in Long Leaf. Board to investigate and advise at future meeting. Maintenance report: 3 water meters for Stratford Rd median. Only one needed. Possible change to bahia grass for ease of maintenance. Discussion of volunteers pruning crape myrtles in future, instead of paying someone. New business: 2022 budget reviewed and approved. Treasurer looking into alternate insurance coverage, since premium went up. Fall festival budget set for \$1200. Activities TBD. Little library approved, to be installed on Black Ironwood. Yard sale scheduled for March 12. Old business: Covenant revisions – only 84 ballots received, not sufficient to establish a quorum. Next board meeting set for April 14, 6:45pm, at Christopher’s home. Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

.....Key Information.....

- POISON CONTROL800-222-1222
- W VOLUSIA CO POLICE, FIRE & EMS386 254-4657
- Duke Energy800-228-8485
- VOLUSIA CO ROAD & BRIDGE386-822-6422
- Report pot holes, drainage issues, signs & mowing
- VOLUSIA CO ANIMAL CONTROL386-248-1790
- VOLUSIA CO CODE ENFORCEMENT386-736-5925
- In residential areas, motor vehicles may not be parked in the front yard except on driveways.
- W VOLUSIA TRANSFER STATION386-423-3862
- For recycling and household hazardous waste
- WATERING DAYS (before 10am)/Daylight Saving Time...
- Even house # Thurs & Sun; Odd house # Wed & Sat
- Eastern Standard Time...Even house # Sun, Odd house # Sat

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Chinese Proverb

Happy Spring. Visualize for a moment: we experience a slight shift in the matrix, the Mandela Effect strikes us, and we wake up in a reality with the Berenstain Bears, no Genie Movie with Sinbad as the star, and even worse, no Longleaf Plantation Tree Canopy! We will pause briefly for those who are not familiar with the concept to google, “Mandela Effect.” In this dark, alternate reality, we remember and yearn for a beautiful neighborhood with flourishing trees, but instead we find ourselves living in a DR Horton community with nearly every natural tree missing.

This moment is not as far as we may think from reality. This could happen 10 – 20 years from now if we don’t collectively do something about it. Many of our trees are of various species that live only about 50 to 60 years. Given the age of our community, a large number of these trees that have graced us with their beauty will no longer be with us in the next 15 years. While a tree canopy that we see in DR Horton neighborhoods likely will never exist here, our canopy will be reduced significantly if we don’t do something now.

For this reason, it’s time for us, as a community, to collectively implement a cautious and conservative tree removal agenda, and an aggressive replanting effort if we want this community to in any way resemble its current state. For this reason, our board unanimously voted that going forward, where our ACB has voted “no” to approve tree removal, in order to override that decision, our ACB will only accept a written opinion for removal from a TRAQ certified arborist who is not an employee of, and/or does not have a financial or contractual relationship with the tree removal company performing the services. While this was a difficult decision, we feel it was a step in the right direction to help preserve our tree population and to lock out unscrupulous vendors.

To accomplish the objective of replanting, we invite all residents and members of our association to join us in participating in Deland’s Arbor Day tree giveaway on April 16, 2022 between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There is a form attached to this newsletter that you may print to reserve and obtain free trees for replanting in our community. Because we are serviced by Deland Water utilities, we are eligible for this giveaway. If everyone took part in this giveaway and planted two of these free trees, we could easily replace 5-10 years of tree removals.

I would like to take a moment to thank Cynthia Olson and William Heck of 789 Torchwood. The prior owners of this property removed a large amount of trees on this lot and did not replant. Cynthia and William have recently planted two live oaks, a Magnolia, and a Palm tree that will not only increase the value of the property, but also one day add to our tree canopy. Let’s look to Cynthia and William as shining examples of how we, as homeowners, can both individually and collectively contribute to the aesthetics of this community that is the envy of all who see it.

The board has recently established a relationship with Brent Saulsbury, a forester for the State of Florida, who has graciously agreed to help us with a blog on our website committed to trees. He also advises that he has a relationship with a vendor who can provide trees at a significantly reduced wholesale price to residents of our community. More to come on that when we have more information.

I’d like to thank you all for anything you can do to help maintain the exceptional community standard of this beautiful community.

Jeff Morris

Jeffery Morris
Chairman, Longleaf Plantation Homeowners Association

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SPRING GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE TIPS

The weather has been changing from a bit of rain and cool temperatures to long periods of dry and warm days and nights. Some of this is attributed to our typical weather pattern, some to changes in climate. Whatever the cause, gardens, landscape, and caretakers that are flexible and adaptable will fare better with the coming changes.

The weather is often dry this time of year. It is good to check the irrigation system either yourself or have an irrigation professional do it. Make sure the system is putting out enough water. Anytime the system runs, it should be wetting the soil deeply to a depth of 10 to 12 inches at each run. This is ½ to ¾ of an inch of water per application for most sandy soils.

The irrigation system should also cover the zone with water from one head to the next. Different types of plants must be on separate zones. Turf zones should not water shrubs or flower beds. As the landscape changes with additions and removals, the irrigation system must change with the plantings.

Buy a rain gauge and install it on your property where it collects any rain without interference from roofs, gutters, or downspouts. Record rainfall amounts and use those records and personal observations to determine when the landscape needs additional irrigation.

May and April are when the last winter vegetables and those that must be grown frost-free are planted. For late spring gardens in central and south Florida, vegetables include beans – bush, pole and Lima, melons – cantaloupe and watermelon, cucumbers, peppers, and summer squash.

Start summer veggie garden seedlings now in protected locations where the young plants can be kept moist but not wet. Crops that will take the summer heat include okra, black-eyed peas, sweet potatoes, Everglades tomatoes, and Seminole pumpkins.

As the weather gets warmer, pests appear more frequently in the garden and landscape. A daily visit to the garden with an eye peeled for plant growth changes and a perchance to look underneath leaves will help spot pests before populations become too large to control. Commercial pest control managers call this type of inspection scouting.

While scouting or inspecting the landscape, look for beneficial insects such as ladybugs, praying mantids, or assassin bugs. These critters are a gardener's best friend by eating many of the pests causing problems. When beneficial insects are sighted, make conditions as favorable as possible for them, avoid spraying pesticides that will harm them, and check on control progress before making any other control decisions.

CENTRAL FLORIDA HERB GARDENING TIPS

Most herbs fizzle in the heat, rain and humidity of summer, but we are still in the good growing weather. **October through May** is herb growing time in much of Florida. It's time for favorites of basil, chives, coriander, dill, parsley, sage, sweet marjoram and thyme that like the moderating temperatures.

Herbs grow best with full sun and light, well-drained, moisture-retentive, fertile soil with plenty of organic matter incorporated. For a continuous supply: Sow seeds of ones that rapidly run to seed, coriander and dill for example, on a fortnightly basis throughout spring and summer

Ever wondered what herbs we can grow in the Florida garden? I love spices and I know I have had the same thought, so I did some research. There are tons of herbs we can grow here in Florida, almost too many to list. Plants love our climate here. Instead of listing every herb that we can possibly grow here I'll just go over the top ten most popular and easy to grow herbs in Florida.

In Florida we can successfully grow all of these herbs:

- Basil
- Cilantro
- Dill
- Lemon Balm
- Mint
- Oregano
- Parsley
- Rosemary



MOM'S FAMOUS MACARONI SALAD

This salad is a winner for family cookouts and gatherings. This is a double recipe, so you can half it for a small family.

- 2 boxes elbow macaroni
- 1 ½ T sugar
- 1 pint Hellman's Mayonaise
- 3-4 T Key Lime Juice
- ½ small onion – minced (use juice of onion only.)
- 2 whole celery hearts
- ¼ T sea salt
- 2 lbs Colby Jack cheddar cheese
- Skim Milk (used to thin the dressing)

Cook/drain macaroni previous night. Coat with butter, and cover/chill overnight in fridge. Cube into tiny cubes the 2 lbs of cheese. Same for the celery- very small dices. Combine cheese and celery with macaroni. Now the dressing! Put one pint of Mayo in quart size mixing bowl. Thin to desired consistency with skim milk, and add sugar, garlic powder, key lime juice, sea salt, and the juice from the minced onion. Stir, add ingredients and taste (over and over again) until you get it right. Pour over the macaroni mixture, and mix thoroughly. Yum!!

The City's Annual Tree Give Away is scheduled for April 16th. Please read the information below. More information can be found at www.deland.org.

2022
City of DeLand and DeLand Breakfast Rotary Tree Give Away
1102 S Garfield | DeLand FL 32724 | Phone: 386-626-7195 | www.deland.org

Thank you for your participation in the City's Tree Give Away. Please arrive between 8:00 am and 11:00 am on **Saturday, April 16th** with a completed copy of this form indicating your tree selections. Please enter the facility on the Amelia side and follow the signs to the Give-Away area. **Trees are limited to residents within the DeLand Utility Service Area.** Please bring proof of residence. If picking up trees for another person, please bring a written request and copy of the other person's proof of residence. There is a limit of **three trees per residence (MAXIMUM SIX TREES PER VEHICLE)**.

Name (Please Print): _____
Address: _____
Email Address: _____

While we hope to be able to provide you with the exact tree type that you would like, please note that selection and quantities are limited. Quantities and types of trees are subject to change without notice. The following trees are currently available this year:

Live Oak	Wild Olive
Locust*	Winged Elm
Persimmon	Yaupon Holly
Sand Pine*	

*Indicates less than 50 trees available.

Please fill in your contact information and write the number of trees for each type that you would like. **Please be sure to bring this completed form with you to the Tree Give Away.**

Thank you for your interest in the Tree Give Away Program!



YARDS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Yard of the Month Winners! Thank you for helping to make our neighborhood beautiful! Remember, only paid HOA members are eligible for this award, so if you'd like to be considered, make sure you've sent in your annual dues of \$100. And be a good neighbor and consider nominating a yard you love by calling Teri or John Christopher at 386-956-8895.



February
Robert and Freda Mulkey
1030 Torchwood



March
Nikki and Chris Bridegroom
514 Black Ironwood

Save Water in Your Home...

Amount of Water Used for Common Activities
When using non-water conserving plumbing appliances and practices

- Brushing Teeth**
3 gallons per minute
- Shower**
40 gallons per 10 minutes
- Bath**
20 gallons
- Toilet**
25 gallons per day per person
- Clothes Washer**
48 gallons per load
- Dishwasher**
14 gallons per load
- Landscape**
25 to 50 gallons per minute
- Hosing Driveway**
150 gallons for every 15 minutes
- Car Washing**
100 - 160 gallons



By replacing the following six devices with water conserving models, the average family (2.64 persons) could easily save 93,424 gallons of water per year!

Savings with Water Conserving Devices:

- Toilet**
Old flow rate: 5.0 gallons per flush
Water-efficient model: 1.6 gallons per flush
Flushes per person per day: 5
 ● Gallons saved per person per day: 17
 ● Gallons saved per person per month: 517
 ● Gallons saved per person per year: 6,204
- Bathroom Faucet**
Old flow rate: 3.0 gallons per minute
Water-efficient model: 1.5 gallons per minute
Average daily use per person: 6 minutes
 ● Gallons saved per person per day: 9
 ● Gallons saved per person per month: 274
 ● Gallons saved per person per year: 3,288

- Kitchen Faucet**
Old Flow Rate: 3.0 gallons per minute
Water-efficient model: 2.0 gallons per minute
Average daily use per household: 15 minutes
(When dishes are hand washed)
 ● Gallons saved per house per day: 15
 ● Gallons saved per house per month: 456
 ● Gallons saved per house per year: 5,472

- Showerheads**
Old Flow Rate: 4 gallons per minute
Water-efficient model: 1.5 gallons per minute
Average daily use per person: 10 minutes
 ● Gallons saved per person per day: 25
 ● Gallons saved per person per month: 760
 ● Gallons saved per person per year: 9,120

- Clothes Washer**
Old Flow Rate: 48 gallons per load
Water-efficient Model: 18 gallons per load
Average daily use per person: 1
 ● Gallons saved per person per day: 30
 ● Gallons saved per person per month: 912
 ● Gallons saved per person per year: 10,944

- Dishwasher**
Old Flow Rate: 14 gallons per load
Water-efficient Model: 4.5 gallons per load
Average daily use per person: 0.1
 ● Gallons saved per person per day: 1
 ● Gallons saved per person per month: 30
 ● Gallons saved per person per year: 360

Know your watering days			
	Homes with odd numbered or no addresses	Homes with even numbered addresses	Nonresidential properties
Daylight Saving Time	Wednesday and Saturday	Thursday and Sunday	Tuesday and Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

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