

Dear neighbor,

As Chair of the board of the Naples Reserve Community Development District's Board of Supervisors, I wanted to bring you up to date on events involving our lakes and storm water management – the two key areas for which the CDD is responsible. Because many of these issues overlap with the responsibility of the HOA, President Heidi Devlin and I are in frequent communication to determine areas of responsibility and find solutions that are efficient and least costly to property owners.

For further information about the CDD and the board's recent minutes and future agendas, refer to its website at www.naplesreserveCDD.net. For further information about the HOA, refer to its official website at www.naplesreserveHOA.com.

DOWNSPOUTS. Many of the shoreline erosion problems we have experienced are a result of poorly drained downspouts from roofs. In addition, chlorine from overflow pool spouts is killing the grasses. To protect from further damage, we are recommending lake-front property owners extend their drain spouts directly into the lake by burying PVC pipes from the down spouts and into the lake. Many of you have already done this. Attached is a schematic of the installation and recommended vendors. If you are not having any erosion problems, this installation is optional but still encouraged. But for those properties where we see erosion issues resulting from improper drainage, we will ask that you correct it. Property owners will be required to submit an application to the Design Review Committee, which has final approval. Details to come.

CRANE POINT AND BIMINI SHORELINE. In the next week or so, work will begin to regrade the shore banks at 10 properties in Crane Point and at 12 properties in Bimini. Equipment will be moving between properties at CDD access easements to regrade, add fill and place sod on the disturbed area. The plan is to create a more gradual slope that is accessible to lawnmowing equipment. The land was properly graded by the developer, but became out of compliance during construction.

WEED TREATMENT. Our lakes are still below normal levels – as much as 4-5 feet – and this has allowed weeds to proliferate. Normally, high water removes dead weeds along the exposed lake bank, but lower levels mean they do not wash away naturally. CDD crews have been spraying weeds along the shoreline and feel they have them under control. We hope that lake levels will return to normal after the rainy season ends.

LITTORAL GRASSES. As you know, the county requires that a certain percentage of our shoreline be planted with vegetation that is a part of what is called the "littoral shelf." These littorals are good for the health of the lakes and protect shorelines from storm-related erosion. If anyone is interested in more information, I have a power point to share.

These littorals naturally expand along the shoreline and farther into the lake, especially lakes that are shallow and especially when water levels are low. Because of the many benefits from these littorals, the CDD board is disinclined to remove them at the request of a property owner. However, we are currently reducing their coverage in areas where the growth is excessive and considering unique exceptions.

SWIMMING. Because the CDD is responsible for the lakes, I remind residents that swimming in them is not permitted. There are plenty of HOA rules that prohibit this activity, but be forewarned there are also CDD rules that apply.

GIS MAP. The CDD web site now has a GIS map that allows the CDD, the HOA and property owners to identify lots, ownership, storm water drain locations and more. It is very helpful to the CDD board, but the maps could help you determine, for instance, whether that propane tank you want to bury is in a CDD easement that would require prior approval. You can find a link on the home page of the CDD website. Using the “layer list” in the upper-right corner, you can layer in lot ownership, drainage pipes, littoral shelves and more. www.NaplesreserveCDD.net.

Tom Marquardt, Chair, NR Community Development District