



RIO PINAR CHRONICLES

Answers on the “Weird Weir”



We now have clarity around the weir (or dam) on the Pinar Canal between Brighton Woods and the Rio Pinar Country Club. This was not installed by the country club, but rather by county and water management officials, according to the Commissioner’s office.

The weir was reviewed by Orange County’s Pinar Flooding Project team and deemed a positive improvement to canal flow. It will remain part of the larger flood mitigation plan moving forward.

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Rio Pinar Flooding Project Update

Since our last newsletter, the county has completed a second, more in-depth survey of the east and west berm heights. The results confirmed that the east side of the Pinar Canal is approximately 1.5 feet lower than the west side. We’ve posted the full survey on our website at www.riopinarca.com for those who want to follow the county’s progress.

In a recent update, Orange County project representative Eduardo Avellaneda shared:

“Today we had the opportunity to meet with the contractor and their team and are awaiting the final contract [...]. We also have details of the connections from the canal to the wetland on the west side of the canal which we are likely going to construct with in-house crews. We are also scheduling video and cleaning of pipes along Pinar Drive, as well as removal of sediments on the canal itself.”



bit.ly/rpca-fb



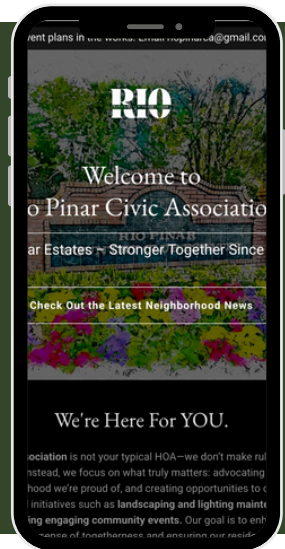
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April 2025

THE RPCA WEBSITE IS LIVE!

Your new hub for neighborhood news, upcoming events, and membership info is now online.

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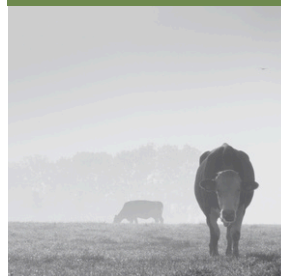
Madeira Entrance Update



While removing the old traffic light poles behind our neighborhood signs, a county contractor accidentally damaged the entrance sign—leaving cracks and broken brick.

We’re actively working with the county and Commissioner Uribe’s office to ensure the sign is repaired and the remaining poles are removed as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, this setback has delayed our plans to move forward with landscaping improvements at the Madeira entrance—but we’ll keep pushing for a full resolution.

A Community Rich in History



Originally, our area was mostly sprawling cattle ranches and grazing lands. The transformation began in the late 1950s with the establishment of the Rio Pinar Golf Club, which became a centerpiece of the community and marked the area's shift from rural to suburban living.

On the 1955 US Geological Survey (USGS) topographical map, the eastern end of Lake Underhill Road was here, at Chickasaw Trail. Even in 1960, the region was sparsely populated, with only 7,176 residents in all of east Orange County. However, the development of infrastructure, such as the East-West Expressway, spurred growth and made the area more accessible.

Last year, WKMG Channel 6 News aired a piece about the history of the 32825 area, and Rio Pinar in particular. It can be seen here: <https://www.clickorlando.com/news/local/2024/03/02/32825-a-look-at-the-growth-history-of-the-zip-code-in-east-orange-county/>