



Marsh Lakes News

April 22, 2025

Hi Everyone!

I hope you had a great Easter weekend. The weather certainly cooperated. Here is a quick look at some of the issues your Board of Directors is managing right now. As you might expect this time of year, maintenance occupies much of the agenda.

Last month I discussed two problematic trees in the Common area near some Villages homes. We did get a third arborist report that confirmed the pine tree should really come down, while we can take a monitoring approach to the cherry tree. So look for that pine tree to come down in the next few weeks.

Pool season has started up again. The new umbrellas are installed in the Estates, and some replacement furniture is at the Villages. We did a power-washing last month but with so little rain, and still a lot of pollen, some of the grunge has returned. We're working with the power washing firm to come back for a touch up.

Remember last September when we thought the whole neighborhood was going to wash away? We've started looking at the drainage issues along the main roads in the Estates, and it's clear that many of the front-yard ditches and culverts have filled in over time. We had folks from County road and storm water maintenance out, and they are willing to help us get our drainage system back in operation.

But to do this correctly, there will need to be some significant work done in many of your yards. John Lohr will put together an assessment to identify where the majority of work is required. Then we'll reach out to each impacted homeowner to discuss the matter. Nobody will be digging in yards without the owner's knowledge, but in some cases there will need to be some compromise. All we ask is that each resident does their part to ensure we have the proper drainage to handle the storms that we know Mother Nature can dish out.



The Gators won the NCAA Men's Basketball tourney! And it seems many of them have chosen to celebrate in our lakes and ponds. I remind everyone that alligators are a

natural part of landscape and they should be treated with respect and caution. However, if you are having an issue with a larger (4 foot+) gator that you feel is threatening, you can call the Gator hotline at 866-392-4286 for help.

I wrote last month about some fixes to the website (<https://www.marshlakesamelia.com>) and those all seem to be working well. I've noticed several new registrations, as well as people resetting their passwords. I want to remind registered users about the Policy Guru: Marsh Lakes AI that I added as well. This service can provide quick answers that you may have about Covenants and other HOA policies. Our attorneys insist I remind you that AI is not infallible, and you may get erroneous answers. This recently happened to me when I was researching an issue. So if you get an answer that doesn't seem right, please let me know. I am gradually training it on these sorts of things to improve search results.

And now to a section I'll call The Blotter. We occasionally have issues where people run afoul – knowingly or not – of some of our Covenants. In the spirit of education and communication, I'll use this section to remind folks about these topics in order to foster neighborhood peace and harmony! Only two this time:

- Per Section 3.16 of the Covenants, no gasoline powered vessels are allowed on any of our lakes except for those used by contracted lake maintenance personnel. Electric trolling motors are permitted. These lakes are for fishing, birding and mostly human-powered water craft so we ask that everyone respect that.
- The trash bin at the Tennis Court parking lot is for casual use by dog-walkers, tennis and pickle-ball players, pools goers, etc. It is not to be used as a disposal bin for household garbage. All residents should have their own sanitation contract to handle their household refuse.

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025 from 3pm to 5pm. The usual communications will go out before then, so if you have any items you'd like to add to the Agenda please contact me or any Board member so we can get that included.

Thanks!



Jeff Schlueter
President, Marsh Lakes HOA