



Rivendell Ponds & Preserves Management Program. Protecting Our Preserves. Keeping Ponds Healthy and Vibrant.

By the Rivendell Ponds and Preserves Committee.

[Woodlands Word – December 2023]

PRESERVES Management Plan

Rivendell has 115 acres with 14 Wetlands & Upland Preserves.

- As a key part of our stormwater system, preserves and buffer areas must be left alone. Any activity beyond a homeowners' property line is considered an incursion. Do not plant, build, cut or remove any vegetation, or deposit yard waste in protected areas. Incursions are monitored regularly and violations enforced. Incursion remediation costs everyone.
- Vital maintenance also involves wildfire mitigation & ecological mowing to clear perimeter paths, grates, weirs, and bubblers, as well as treatment and removal of invasives, such as cattails, that block outflow structures, causing flooding.
- Ongoing preserve management actions include: removing invasive plants, and inspection & correction of incursions in preserve & buffer areas.



PONDS Management Plan

Rivendell has 23 Named Ponds with 65 acres of Open Water.

- Our HOA is responsible for the maintenance of the Stormwater Detention System that controls flooding, including all ponds, preserves, wetlands, shorelines, and community common ground.
- Erosion is visible on most pond shorelines. It is being managed by installing "**Rivendell Natural Shorelines.**" Now codified in our Covenants, 3-foot LMZs (Low-Maintenance Zones) are installed, while aquatic plants are being planted in phases with a goal to surround each pond with beneficial native vegetation.
- Our HOA landscape contractor keeps LMZs trimmed to a rounded height of 8-12 inches for a neat & uniform look. Plants are emergent, shoreline FL native species that help absorb nutrients, reduce runoff and control erosion.
- Transition from toxic herbicides to healthier options in the management plan for algae control and invasive plant growth.
- **Benefits:** Stabilize shoreline banks. Filter excess nutrient runoff. Improve water quality. Avoid costly remediation. Enhance wildlife habitats. Keep property values strong.



Homeowners' & Residents' Important Role



**Your Address = Watering Day
(As of January 1, 2023.)**

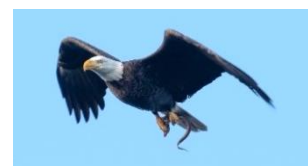
- Ends in 0 or 1 = Monday**
- Ends in 2 or 3 = Tuesday**
- Ends in 4 or 5 = Wednesday**
- Ends in 6 or 7 = Thursday**
- Ends in 8 or 9 = Friday**

- Reduce water usage where possible. Only if needed, irrigate on your assigned day and not between 10am – 4pm. Sarasota County issued a new watering schedule as of January 2023 - refer to chart for your Watering Day. Inspect/maintain good working sprinklers, heads, and rain sensors.
- Follow Sarasota County guidelines for responsible fertilizing and irrigation. Respect the nitrogen-phosphorous fertilizer ban between June 1 – Sept. 30. Do not fertilize within 10 feet of any preserve, pond or any hardscape surfaces. Reduce use of nitrogen/phosphorus fertilizers year-round. Iron-based fertilizers are an effective alternative.

Your Actions Make a Difference! – Thank You!

Keep our community healthy and beautiful. Enjoy the abundance of wildlife and experience harmony with nature while strolling around our community.

If you can, get involved! Lend your talents - volunteer on a committee or for activities that interest you. Meet neighbors. Keep Rivendell a special community for all!



Click here to visit the Ponds & Preserves website at <https://www.rivendellcommunity.com/ponds>.