



2022 Rivendell Ponds & Preserves Management Program

By the Ponds & Preserves Committee

[Woodlands Word - January 2022]

PRESERVES Management Plan

Includes: 14 Wetlands & Upland Preserves covering 115 acres.

- Preserves and buffer areas should be left alone – any activity beyond homeowners’ property lines is considered an incursion. Do not plant, build, cut or remove any vegetation, or deposit yard waste in protected areas. Incursions are monitored and will be enforced.



- In agreement with Sarasota County, the HOA (RCA) is responsible for managing upland buffers surrounding each preserve and the “conserved buffer” bordering Oscar Scherer State Park (OSSP) and require regular maintenance and inspection.
- Ongoing management actions include: removing invasive plants, inspection & correction of incursions in preserve and buffer areas, plus installing signs to mark preserves boundaries as needed.
- Other maintenance includes wildfire mitigation & ecological mowing and clearing perimeter paths, grates, weirs, and bubblers.



PONDS Management Plan

Includes: 23 Named Ponds with 65 acres of Open Water.

- Our HOA is responsible for maintaining the Stormwater System, pond and shorelines, and community common-ground.



- Erosion is visible on Rivendell pond shorelines and being managed by installing “Rivendell Natural Shorelines” around all ponds shorelines. The 3-foot LMZs (no-mow zones) are installed, while aquatic plants are being planted in phases.
- 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 to help absorb nutrients.
- Reduce use of toxic herbicides to inhibit algae growth.



Benefits: Stabilize shoreline banks. Filter excess nutrient runoff. Improve water quality. Avoid costly engineered remediation. Enhance wildlife habitats. Keep property values strong.

(PS Remy photos)

Homeowners’ & Residents’ Important Role - Thank You!



- Follow Sarasota County guidelines for responsible fertilizing and irrigation. Respect the fertilizer ban between 6/1 – 9/30. No fertilizer within 10 feet of preserve, pond or any hardscape surfaces.
- Reduce use of nitrogen/phosphorus fertilizers. Iron-based fertilizers are an effective summer alternative.
- Reduce water usage where possible. Only if needed, irrigate on your assigned day (Tuesdays for even house numbers, Thursdays for odd - before 10am or after 4pm). Inspect and maintain good working sprinklers and rain sensor.



(Bob Frank wildlife photos)

Take pride in Rivendell. 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!

Your Actions Make a Difference!

