

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

March 2015

Visit our Website at www.moodyrivercdd.net for meeting schedule, agendas, minutes of meetings, etc.

Did You Know?

The CDD encompasses approximately 320 acres.

The CDD owns and operates 21 storm water lakes encompassing 37.4 acres, 25 wetland/preserves encompassing 45 acres

The CDDs own and operate the primary drainage pipe and control structure system which connects the aforementioned lakes and wetlands and serves to receive, store, treat and convey storm water runoff during storm events.

Each CDD is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors. The Board members are residents of the Moody River Estates Community.

DEAR RESIDENT,

You are receiving this newsletter as our records indicate that you are a resident of Moody River Estates and we would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Moody River Estates Community Development District (CDD) and what it does for you.

WHAT IS A CDD?

A CDD is a local unit of special purpose government that is established pursuant to Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes and by local County Ordinance. The CDD was established by County Ordinance in November 2004. The CDD is governed by a five (5) member elected Board of Supervisors (the "Board"). (see the side margin for names and titles) Additionally, as a small local unit of special purpose government, the CDD hires several professional administrative consultants to serve part time in what would typically be a full time capacity in a larger unit of government. These specific consultants provide Management/Accounting, Legal and Engineering services.

CDD's are very common in this area, There are currently over 575 CDDs in existence throughout Florida. The original developer established the Moody River Estates CDD with an initial purpose of issuing tax exempt revenue bonds to finance the community's basic infrastructure during development. During the development of the community and as infrastructure was completed, the CDD acquired potable water and sewer facilities, which it in turn conveyed to Lee County Utilities. It also acquired, operates and maintains, the storm water management system, which includes the lakes, wetland / preserves and the interconnecting pipes and control structures.

The CDD collects non ad valorem assessments that are a part of your County property tax bill each year, to offset the annual repayment obligation of the bonds and to also fund the ongoing operations and maintenance of the aforementioned infrastructure the CDDs continue to own and operate. The CDDs ownership and operation responsibilities for the infrastructure will continue in perpetuity.

For more information on how Community Development Districts are created and operate, you may view Chapter 190, under the Florida Statutes section, at www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.

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Meet Your Board of Supervisors

Terry Pye
Chair

Jeff Berry
Vice Chair

Ilse Mayer
Assistant Secretary

John Teckorius
Assistant Secretary

Elizabeth Keeler
Assistant Secretary

WHAT IS THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM?

The CDDs storm water management system is comprised of 21 lakes, totaling 37.4 acres, and 25 wetland/preserves, totaling 45 acres, the interconnecting pipe work, between the lakes and wetland/preserves, and the control structures.

The storm water management system is maintained to meet very strict permit requirements through the use of licensed contractors, who specialize in lake and wetland/preserve maintenance. The lakes are constantly monitored and treated as needed, on a bi-weekly basis. In this regard, the CDD has a 20 foot lake maintenance easement (LME) around the perimeter of every lake to provide for access by the maintenance contractors. If you live on one of the community's lakes please be sure to keep this easement (generally the first 20' along the immediate edge of the lake) free of obstructions (fences, excessive amounts of shrubs and trees and other fixed structures) The wetland/preserves are reviewed and maintained to be free of State recognized exotic and invasive vegetation on a semi-annual basis.

Lake bank erosion can be a very serious issue for a community as the cost of restoring lake banks, can be significant. The planted littoral shelf areas, installed and maintained by the CDD, help to protect against the negative influences of storm water run-off and wave action which can erode exposed lake banks.

Storm water lakes fluctuate between the dry and wet seasons with the lowest water levels typically being realized in April and May and which can be 1 foot, or more, lower than the normal lake level or Control Elevation. When, for water quality purposes, a storm water lake includes a planted littoral shelf then there is an area along the perimeter of the lake that has a flat or up to an 8:1 sloped area to 2 feet below the Control Elevation. This area is intended to support the installation and management of beneficial aquatic plants. As indicated earlier, the beneficial aquatic plants are an effective means of erosion control along exposed lake banks as their root zones will hold and stabilize the soil and minimize negative effects normally associated with water run-off, especially during times of low water levels, as well as natural wave action. An equally important benefit of the aquatic plants includes their ability to passively improve the water quality, through their absorption of fertilizers, chemicals and other impurities that run-off of lawns, golf courses and roadways during storm events. Additional benefits include providing habitat for fish and birds as well aesthetic benefits, particularly during the seasonal blooming periods.

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As stated earlier, part of the CDD's storm water system includes the interconnecting pipes between the lakes and wetland preserves. The CDD periodically inspects and cleans these pipes, however, it is VERY important that **your** neighborhood association[s] recognize that the CDD's primary drainage system is not all-inclusive. The neighborhood associations within Moody River Estates have a similar responsibility to inspect and clean their individual systems that would include, but not be limited to, the roadside collection boxes and pipe work from these boxes to the lake or wetland/preserve system. If your association has questions or needs clarification, please have them contact CDD Management at the number located at the end of this newsletter.

YOU CAN HELP KEEP OUR STORMWATER SYSTEM CLEAN

By ensuring that your landscaper does not:

- Fertilize between June 1st and September 30th (the rainy season). With the heavy rains of summer, most of the fertilizer during this period will find its way directly into the lakes and can lead to excessive algae blooms.
- Dump or blow grass clippings into the lake, wetland or conservation areas. As grass clippings decompose, they release high levels of phosphorous and nitrogen (key nutrients in fertilizer) which leads to algae blooms and water quality degradation)
- Damage or remove beneficial aquatic plants along the edge of lake. These plants stabilize the lake banks and absorb fertilizer run off thus improving the water quality in the lakes.
- The catch basins and associated pipe work, lead directly to the lakes, so please take the bags home with you.
- Dump or discharge any other foreign items or fluids into the lake or roadside gutter or catch basin system.

THE WILDLIFE

Moody River Estates is home to all sort of wildlife including a pair of nesting Eagles, Wood Storks and Osprey. Please be very respectful of the Wood Stork and the Eagles. Observe and enjoy from a distance. Additionally, please be aware that Moody River Estates is home to alligators, some of which can be rather large. They will generally keep their distance. However, if they are being fed by humans (which is against the law), they will associate humans with food and may lose their natural fear of us. Therefore, we ask that you refrain from feeding them as it could possibly lead to their being removed and destroyed by a licensed alligator trapper.

If you should observe anyone exercising one of the aforementioned "do not's" or if you should have any questions regarding the CDD, please contact the District Manager's office at (239) 498-9020.