

TO: ALL LOST LAKE GOLF CLUB/DOUBLE TREE POA Friends & Neighbors

FROM: Members of the Lakes, Irrigation and Storm Water Management Committee

When communities like ours are built, a master plan is developed which incorporates “retention ponds” (which we commonly refer to as “Lakes”) that are part of an overall “Irrigation Drainage System” throughout the entire planned development to handle run-off of rain from homes, driveways, streets, sidewalks, parking lots, and grass areas around our homes, common areas, and the golf course. This is accomplished by an intricate system of interconnected piping that acts much like the plumbing systems in our homes. Occasionally, these lines can get plugged and not function as designed, causing back-ups and many other potentially bad and/or unhealthy problems.

We’re guessing some of you don’t know that all the water that runs off our roofs, down our driveways/sidewalks into the street gets fed right into our “retention ponds” (i.e. Lakes) via the gutters leading to the drain grates located in all our streets. In addition to all rain water (good water), any/all water from our outside hose bibs also ends up in the retention ponds, along with anything else that may get rinsed down the gutter with this water (leaves, soaps, fertilizers, cleaning chemicals, etc.), some of which can contribute negatively to the health of the ponds, affecting the quality of aquatic life that lives there (fish and plants), eventually resulting in unwanted events and unhealthy pond water (fish kills/midge flies). Remember – our irrigation system is fed from this water source, so this water ends up on our lawns and plants, and when these ponds are “sick”, can result in foul odors being detected from our sprinklers at times.

I’m sure everyone who lives in our community is very proud of how nice it looks and how well it is maintained. Those items most visible (landscaping, home exteriors, streets/sidewalks) are easy to see and are the first to get attention and dollars to keep looking good. But others are not so easy to see and can get forgotten or neglected when it comes to keeping healthy and in good working order.

Some HOA neighborhoods in Lost Lake (and adjacent common areas) of our community are approaching 25 years in existence. The above “plumbing system” has been seriously neglected and recent water testing of our retention ponds has shown our water quality is below standards. We need to address these issues if we want to preserve the natural beauty of the property, maintain a harmonious environment, and enhance the investment we have all made in Lost Lake.

Your Board has appointed a committee (the Lake Revitalization Committee) to look in to both issues - keeping the “plumbing system” working as originally designed and improving the quality of the water in our ponds. To the first issue, of properly maintaining the overall

Irrigation Drainage System, several actions are being considered with a roll out “Plan of Action” to address these issues in phases. The second issue of improving our water quality, “aeration systems” seem to be the accepted best practice solution to keeping water in retention ponds healthy by introducing more oxygen into the water which supports all aquatic life.

The Board thought it would be good for all owners to better understand the irrigation and drainage issues facing our community so you are better informed on the reasons behind upcoming maintenance of and future improvements to the Irrigation Drainage System of these “common property” areas of Lost Lake.