

## *Tesoro Community Development District (CDD) Note*

### **Q2 2025**

It has been an interesting year so far for Tesoro and the Tesoro CDD. The weather has proven somewhat different for us and that has changed our planting schedule, and we are tackling some big projects.

### **Plantings**

Last year we planted in April and had high rainfall in May into June followed by nothing until late July, which negatively affected these plants. We had planned for plants to go into lakes around April this year. To confound us, when Native Lands approached the suppliers, we were told the plants were not ready as they had not had sufficient rain to grow to a reasonable size. We delayed the planting, and this work started in late June which is much later than we expected. We hope this will result in more robust plants that will root and continue to grow.

Our inspections of the plants that rooted and grew after last year showed that groups or clumps fared far better than individually spaced planting, so this year we did the plantings in clumps, so they have more protection. We hope this will improve the number of plants that survive. So far, these two changes appear to have given a good crop of plants.

The size and number of our lakes means we have an enormous area of barren lake edges to plant so this is an ongoing process. To give a dimension, the Lake that Fascino Circle encompasses, which had no plants initially, is around half a mile long as we plant around 4-6 plants per foot length. This is a substantial number of plants so we will be doing this for many years to come.

### **Algae in Water**

The weather has changed from a windy, dry May / June to a still July / August which has been really hot with occasional heavy rain. Added to this weather, the rain causes run-off of nutrients from our gardens and the golf course which all create ideal conditions for Algae to grow in our lakes. The algae have emerged from the mud and water and is visible in some of the lakes (not all). We regularly spray this to keep it in check, but we are only allowed to spray periodically and to utilize the correct spray solutions for our environment, which are limited by Florida and the manufacturers to only a limited number of times. However, we will continue to do this work to keep the algae in check so our lake waters are as good as hot South Florida allows.

### **Retention ponds**

There are multiple different designs for the preserve areas, lakes and waterways depending on the topography. All have one aim which is to take water from the residential lots and the golf course and slowly filter this through retention areas, lakes and waterways to allow natural cleaning of the water before it is discharged into the St Lucie River. The east side has a number

of retention ponds which are the primary capability to slow rainwater flow from the lots. Some of these need improvements so they do provide the desired retention and slowing of the flow in deluge conditions. We are currently planning this remediation for the 2 ponds adjacent to Calmo, where a large number of homes have been built and these add to the runoff due to the roof areas and hard standing.

The other retention ponds will be improved as and when the runoff is expected to increase so we do not detract from clearing projects.

## Major projects

The water that flows over the weir wall (City of Port St Lucie structure) at the Hole 10 T-box is the start of what is called Winter's Creek and this flows all the way from this northwest part of Tesoro to the northeast and into the St Lucie River. Over the years a jungle has grown there and the first piece of clearing has been completed. This took some 6 weeks with a follow up period and opened out this area dramatically. This is a major project and is extremely labor intensive and time consuming, but the results are really impressive. Over the coming years we will open up this entire waterway to the point of its joining with St Lucie River, but obviously we do not have the money to perform this all in one year. Here are the before and after photos to compare:



In Q3 we will be tackling some more of the growth along the waterway that extends from the north of the lake alongside Caldo which is one of the last waterways to be reopened on the East-side lakes.

## Issues

### Water from lakes

Please be aware that taking water from any lake or any discharge of water from your property into a lake or waterway is not allowed. The only exception is the rainwater piped from your roof if piped to your lot boundary. Please be aware that all our waterways and lakes, and the

surrounding areas, are under permits and we have legal agreements with the City to protect and maintain the water in the lakes.

### **Access to CDD areas**

If you feel you need any access to the CDD areas or to have growth cut that might be in the CDD area, please drop us a note and we will see that it is within the CDD permits and then advise what can and cannot be done. Access to CDD areas is by registered companies legally contracted to the CDD as their representative contractors.

### ***CDD Board of Supervisors***

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