



LAKE DAVIS

Water Matters

VOTE
All ballots must be in
RDD offices by June 1st
See Inside

Ranger Drainage District Newsletter, Florida Statutes Chapter 298 - Orlando, FL | Spring 2022



Dear fellow home and landowners within the Ranger Drainage District.

We continue to see growth in our District which means we have many new neighbors, and we welcome each of you. Some may not be aware of the District so my intention for this newsletter is to shine a light on what we do, in short.

This past year we were able to focus on the maintenance of the drainage system. In addition to our regular maintenance, we installed driveway culvert pipes at approximately 130 locations for new construction or other uses.

This year we anticipate much of the same. Added to our day-to-day activities we continue to navigate through these complicated times e.g., tighter guidelines, economic impact on supply and demand and other obstacles.

We will continue to strive to improve and to serve the best interests of you, the landowners by performing quality work and keeping taxes low.

I hope that you enjoy reading this annual newsletter.

Best Regards,

Dave Mauck

President, Ranger Drainage District

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS 2022 ISSUE

- We Are Lighting Up The District
- New To The Area?
- Wetlands
- How Can You Help Keep Costs Down??
- If You Observe Any Of The Above
- Easement Vacation Request
- VOTE! 2022 Ballot
- Keep The Water Flowing
- Irrigation Lines
- Landowner Reminders
- Voting for RDD Board of Supervisors
- Notary Services Discontinued
- Our Wonderful Wildlife
- Permits
- Questions

WE ARE LIGHTING UP THE DISTRICT

Due to the continued growth within our District and the concern for safety, the District is continuing to work on our lighting program.

Phase I was implemented in 2016 along the east side of Bancroft at each one of our canals. Phase II was completed in 2021 with the locations for lighting to be on the west side of Dallas Boulevard at each Canal crossing and 3 lights installed at the intersection of Dallas Boulevard and Starry Street.

We are pleased to notify you that we are currently working on Phase III. This phase will include lighting on the east side of Dallas Boulevard at each Canal crossing, at the curve on Dallas south of Peabody Street, most north end of Dallas Boulevard, east end of Oberly Parkway and the intersection of Bancroft Boulevard and Starry Street. We hope to have this project completed by the end of the summer.



NEW TO THE AREA?

New construction continues to thrive within the District and that brings new homeowners.
Some may not be aware of what Ranger Drainage District is or what we do.

About the Ranger Drainage District, known as RDD:

RDD is an independent taxing district that was created in 1970 under the provisions of Chapter 298 Florida Statues.

The specified purpose of the district is to preserve the land from flooding.

For this, the District has constructed a series of canals and secondary easements that provide drainage for the Wedgefield Development.

The District:

- Covers a total of 10.38 square miles
- The RDD team are responsible for mowing and maintaining
 - 17 miles of main canals
 - 28 miles of secondary easements
 - 73 miles of roadside mowing
 - 6 miles of Miami curb
(dirt and grass only where homes do not exist)
 - 6 retention ponds with additional ponds in The Reserve
 - 174 canal structures
 - Aquatic spraying
 - Roadside swale clean out
 - Slope mowing
 - Driveway culvert installation among other maintenance needs

RDD is not responsible for mosquito control, trash pick-up, street signs, roads or potable water/sewage.



General Manager, Mrs. Dawn Mullins, oversees the field and office employees and acts at the direction of the Board.

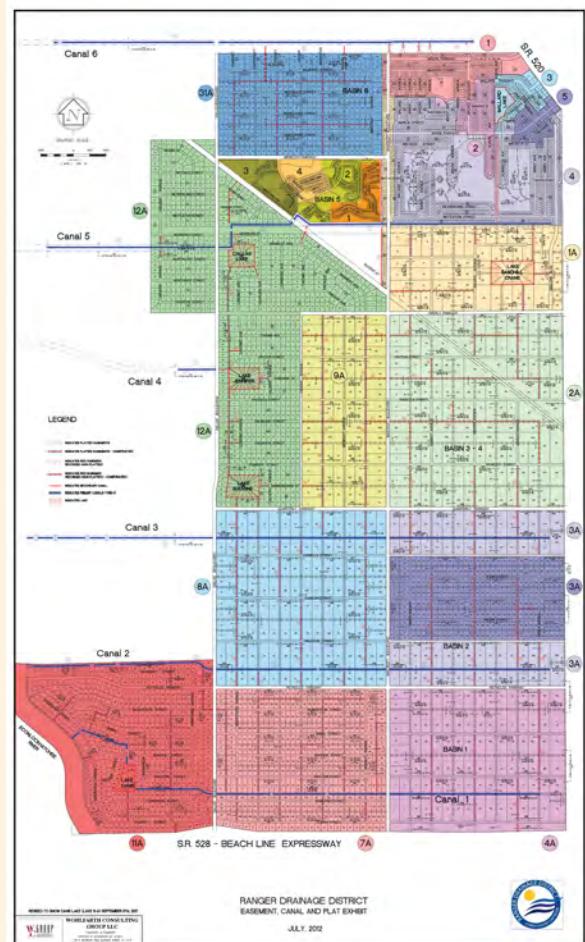
The District Office is located at 19950 Nugent Street, just south of Nettleton St. off Bancroft Blvd.

Currently, a three-member Board of Supervisors governs the District. Each supervisor is elected for a three-year term, and each year one of the supervisors stands for election. Please use the ballot included here to vote.

The Board of Supervisors adopts rules that apply to all lands within the District. These rules cover many items but are all related to the drainage system and how water flows within the development. For example, the Board requires

- each new home construction has a Driveway Permit
- all builders submit a lot grading plan to the District for approval. Lot grading plans must conform to lot grading standards as outlined in the proposed grading plan
- that no permanent structures are placed in swales or drainage easements

All property within the District is subject to the rules adopted by RDD. No property owner is exempt from District authority.



WETLANDS – What Are They and Why They Matter

The mission of the Ranger Drainage District is to implement the provisions of Chapter 298 Florida Statues, in a manner that ensures proper stormwater management within the boundaries of the district and to operate with a continued commitment to education and outreach to its residents and landowners.

Roadside Swales Filter Our Water

Roadside swales are an essential part of the drainage system. They help filter the pollution from the water before it enters the drainage system. Remember, all our drainage eventually enters the Econ River.

If you live in an area where there are swales and no curbs, the swales must be kept clear. You may not plant trees, shrubs or flowers within the swale area. If you do, and the drainage is impaired, or the District must do work in the swale area, RDD will remove the plant material and will not replace it.

When you mow your lawn, maintain your swales along your side yard and in the front. If you let the

grass grow up, the swale will not function to drain off the rainwater.

If you have a pipe under your driveway, make sure you keep it clean and open. Trim out the grass around the pipe so you can see the bottom of the pipe.

Expect your front swales to hold water after a heavy downpour for up to 72 hours. If you experience standing water for longer than 72 hours, contact the District Office. There may be some corrective action that can be taken.

Our Water Matters

A reminder to landowners that many areas within the District are considered by the State and other local agencies as wetlands.

The District encourages anyone who is planning to do any clearing or building to contact the State Department of Environmental Protection, Orange County Environmental Protection Division and the Army Corps of Engineers to see if any part of the property is considered to have wetlands.

RDD does not have any jurisdiction over wetlands.



HOW CAN YOU HELP KEEP COSTS DOWN??

What can landowners do to help the District cut costs? We often get this question, so we included the items that represent the greatest cost avoidance opportunities for the District. Yes, the costs could be avoided! Here are the major contributors:

- Four wheelers and 4x4 vehicles driving on the banks, easements and even in the bottom of the canals leads to repair and reseeding costs as well as potential fines.
- Vehicles in the canals can pollute the canals. When dealing with this, RDD may have to treat the canal with expensive chemicals and perform additional water quality testing.
- Vandalism of posted signs and gates.
- Trash dumping including yard waste. The District spends a great deal of time and money cleaning up after those who dump on the canals and easements.



IF YOU OBSERVE ANY OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE CONTACT ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AT 407-836-HELP (4357)

- Unauthorized use of the canal easements has resulted in both repair and legal costs to the District.
- Interruption of daily work. If you have any issue with work being performed, please contact District office at 407-568-5502.
- Unnecessary lawsuits to the District.
- Planting trees and shrubs either in the swale area (estates) or between road and sidewalk (city).
- Excessive use of pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides (weed killer). Remember, what and how much you place on your lawn eventually lands in our District canals. Excessive nutrients in the canals leads to additional growth and water quality issues. In light of the Federal regulations, we need your help more than ever to maintain our water quality.

CANAL EASEMENTS

There are easements constructed along each of the District canals for maintenance purposes. These easements provide rights to the District for maintenance purposes; however, they are constructed along private property. Driving along these RDD maintenance easements is strictly prohibited.



EASEMENT VACATION REQUEST

All properties within the District have at the minimum, a 6-foot side yard easement and an 8-foot rear easement. Some properties have larger easements depending on the location. All easements were put in place for utilities and/or drainage purposes. No structure of any kind is to be placed within the easements.

An easement vacation request can be submitted to the District for review. You'll find more information and a request form on the RDD website: www.rangerdrainedistrict.com. However, in addition to fees and approval by the District you must also contact Orange County for the same review.



RANGER DRAINAGE DISTRICT BALLOT FOR ELECTION 2022

VOTE
All ballots must be in
RDD offices by June 1st

1. To vote for a candidate for Supervisor for a three-year term (term expires in June 2025)

Mike Nolan Abstain

Write-in Candidate: _____

2. To vote on the issue of compensation to be paid to the Supervisors for District work as permitted pursuant to Florida Statutes and the previously adopted District Compensation Policy (a maximum of \$50.00 a day):

For Supervisors' compensation Against Supervisors' compensation
 Abstain

Enter date of signing:

Sign name as it appears on Deed:

Print name as it appears on Deed:

Print name of any co-owner on Deed: _____

Please return this ballot one of two ways (1) Mail completed ballot to the District office at 19950 Nugent Street, Orlando, FL 32833 or (2) in person at the annual meeting at the Ranger Drainage District Office on June 1, 2022. All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 1, 2022.

NOTICE OF ELECTION: June 1, 2022

Annual Meeting & Election: Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Ranger Drainage District Office, 19950 Nugent Street, Orlando, FL 32833

At this meeting, an election will be held to fill one Supervisor position on the Board, for a three-year term.

All District land owners are entitled and encouraged to vote in the election.

Please return the enclosed ballot one of two ways: (1) Mail completed ballot to the District office at 19950 Nugent Street, Orlando, FL 32833 or (2) in person at the annual meeting at the Ranger Drainage District Office on June 1, 2022. All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 1, 2022.

For absentee ballots, please return the completed ballot to the District office no later than June 1, 2022.

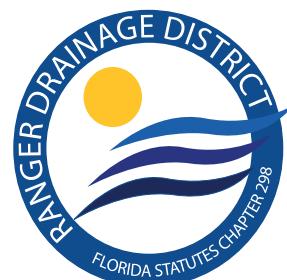
This ballot is only effective for the June 2022 election.

Candidates:

The following candidates are running for the open position on the Board of Supervisors:

Mike Nolan

text about mike



KEEP THE WATER FLOWING BY KEEPING SWALES, DITCHES AND CULVERT PIPES FREE OF GRASS AND OTHER BLOCKAGES



IRRIGATION LINES SHOULD NOT BLOCK THE RIGHT OF WAY

Make sure when installing your irrigation lines, they are not within the road right of way. The District cleans out the swale area from time to time and if an irrigation line is in the way it will be removed and not replaced.



Driveway pipes and the swale area in front of each residence is the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain. We continue to experience many areas where grass or other obstacles are blocking water from flowing through the pipes. Keeping the grass away from the pipes and your swale area clean is critical to the functionality of the storm water system.

LANDOWNER REMINDERS

- All fences and most structures in the Ranger Drainage District require permits. The permit process allows us to work together to protect the deeded easements that RDD utilizes to perform its maintenance. When fences, structures etc. are installed without permits along the property borders, they typically are in violation of the dedicated easements. These obstacles make it very difficult and, in some cases impossible, for our equipment to navigate the limited space safely. We continue to work hard to keep District costs down and appreciate your help.
- A driveway pipe is required from the District when accessing land within the District.
- Silt Fencing must be installed around all areas of the property that have been disturbed.
- Excessive use of pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides (weed killer) placed on your lawn eventually land in the District canals. Excessive nutrients in the canals lead to additional growth and water quality issues.
- Fishing in District canals and lakes is limited to persons who either own the property that they are fishing on or have written permission from the property owner at the site where they are fishing. Access to the site is limited to that property owner or that property owner's guest who must have written permission. Mallard Lake, however, is open for fishing to the landowners of the District. Mallard Lake can be accessed from Maxim Pkwy only along the RDD easement.



DETAILS ON THE
NEXT LAKE DAVIS
EVENT WILL BE
POSTED SOON

VOTING FOR RDD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Every year the Board holds public hearings and adopts a budget to cover the anticipated expenses for the following year. The actual budgeted expenses are divided out over the taxable land of the district. Once the budget is approved, your proportionate share is calculated by the acreage and placed on your tax bill and collected along with your property taxes by Orange County.

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of each month with the agenda posted on the RDD website prior to the meeting. Minutes for each meeting are posted following board approval.

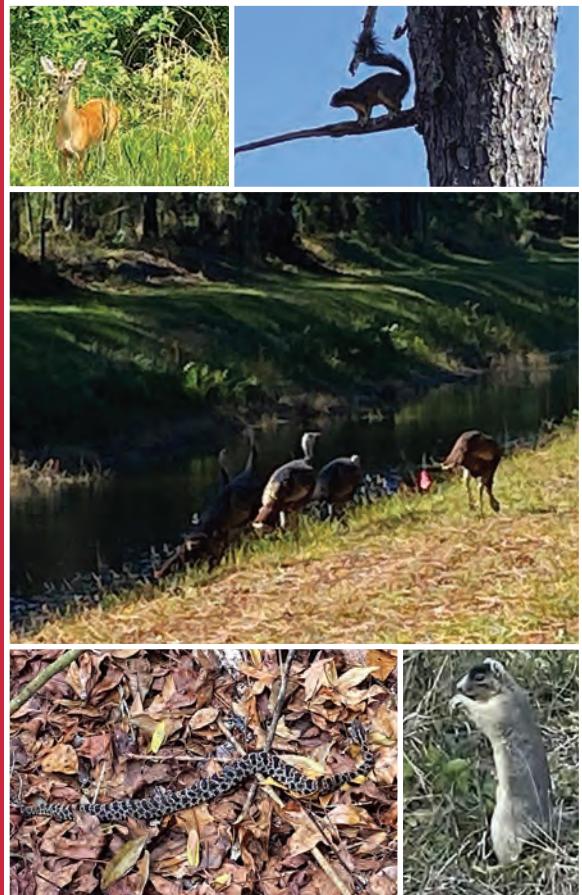
www.RangerDrainageDistrict.com

NOTARY SERVICES DISCONTINUED

Due to the increased demand of notary services, effective February 1st the District discontinued this service.

Check your homeowners association newsletter for available notaries in the area.

OUR WONDERFUL RDD WILDLIFE



PERMITS

- Any property within the Ranger Drainage District boundaries must follow the criteria necessary for application which is outlined on the permit form.
- Additionally, please be aware that most construction projects (including driveways, new structures, swimming pools etc.) require a permit from RDD.
- RDD has a cooperative agreement with Orange County that requires the District to review and issue permits prior to the county permit. Therefore, it is imperative that you apply for your permit with RDD first then file with Orange County.
- Application and permit fees vary. Please contact our office at **407-568-5502** for more information. Allow three business days for processing of all applications.
- In addition to our permit you may need a permit from both Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). For more information, please contact them directly.

Learn more at RDD's website,
www.RangerDrainageDistrict.com



Ranger Drainage District
19950 Nugent Street
Orlando, FL 32833
rangerdrainagedistrict.com

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the Board and its role or any topics you see in this newsletter we invite you to contact us, complete contact information is below:

Dawn Mullins, General Manager: dawnmullins@rangerdrainagedistrict.com

Robin Smith, Administrative Assistant: robin.smith@rangerdrainagedistrict.com

Wanda Tucker, Administrative Clerk: wanda.tucker@rangerdrainagedistrict.com

The Ranger Drainage District Office is located at
19950 Nugent Street, just south of Nettleton Street,
off Bancroft Boulevard. Our office hours are
Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The District office phone number is
407-568-5502.

Board meetings, downloadable
applications, a district map,
important updates and much
more are posted on our website:

RangerDrainageDistrict.com

