

LAKE DAVIS

# Water Matters

**VOTE!**  
All ballots must be received at RDD by June 7!  
See inside.

Ranger Drainage District Newsletter, Florida Statutes Chapter 298 - Orlando, FL | Spring 2023

## PREPARING FOR MAJOR STORMS

Dear fellow home and landowners within the Ranger Drainage District,

Hurricane Ian made landfall in Central Florida on September 28, 2022 and left behind approximately 13 inches of rain on already saturated ground. This rain event, in combination with the summer rains, gave us a total of 53 inches at the end of September.

Over the past several years the District has focused on overhauling and improving the system to prepare for major storms. Every canal, pipe, easement and lake within the District was touched and evaluated in some way. Lake Davis was constructed to aid in additional storage and the redirection of stormwater from Abalone Boulevard to Canal 6. A total of more than \$6 Million in upgrades.

Based on the amount of rain Ian left in a very short time the new system proved to function very well. Within a few hours of the storm passing, water had receded significantly. District staff and engineers were onsite to evaluate the area.

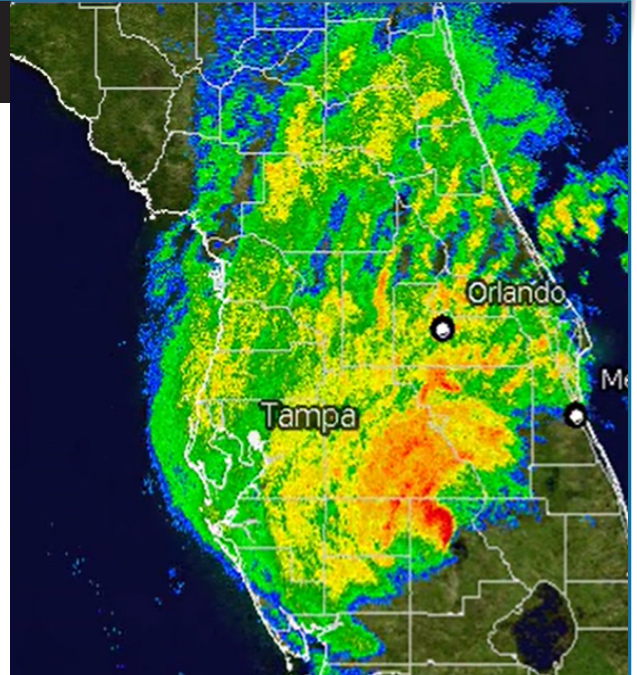
While the system functioned as designed, RDD continues to strive to improve any way we can. We are currently looking at two areas: the Intersection of Maxim Parkway/Bancroft Boulevard and Canal 5. We plan to make a few minor adjustments in both locations that will provide significant drainage relief.

Lastly, I would like to thank our RDD staff for their daily commitment to hard work and excellence in maintaining the drainage system.

I hope you enjoy this annual newsletter "Water Matters."



*Dave Mauck  
President, Ranger Drainage District*



*Hurricane Ian making landfall  
August 28, 2022*

## WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS 2023 ISSUE

- Vote by June 7, 2023 - Return Ballot Inside
- Master/Interlocal Agreement
- Driveway Pipes
- Lighting
- Front Swale Maintenance
- Unpermitted Pipes
- Want to Help?
- Lake Davis Family Fishing Day
- A Changing of the Guard
- Friendly Reminders
- Questions and Resources

# LAKE DAVIS FAMILY FISHING DAY EVENT 2022

Lake Davis Family Fishing Day is held annually in memory of the District's first Manager, Cecil Davis. Cecil dedicated over 28 years of service to the District and was instrumental in obtaining FEMA funding to construct Lake Davis which was a requirement of the District by SJRWMD to construct. Cecil's hard work saved the taxpayers over a million dollars.

This year our 5th Annual Lake Davis Family Fishing Day event was held on Saturday, November 5th. The perfect weather and beautiful lake drew in 160+ residents. Everyone enjoyed fishing, the farm animals, looking at District equipment, free hot dogs, chips, lemonade and prizes! A great time was had by all who attended.

Our heartfelt appreciation to all of our Sponsors who make this annual event possible.

## LAKE DAVIS FISHING DAY SPONSORS

- Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.
- Moore & Company, C.P.A
- Rick Wohlfarth, Wohlfarth Consulting Group
- Wilson Way, Wohlfarth Consulting Group
- Florida's Professional Screening
- Gil Comeau, Edward Jones Investment
- Brian Cottrell, Brown & Brown Insurance
- Laura Bennett, Bennett & Company
- Tiye Goodman, Lawnshaper Inc.
- Environmental Research & Design, Inc.
- Brown & Brown, Inc.
- Paul Mason, Nutrien Solutions
- Rob & Debbie Goderis, Goderis & Sons, Inc.



## FRIENDLY REMINDERS — CONTINUED

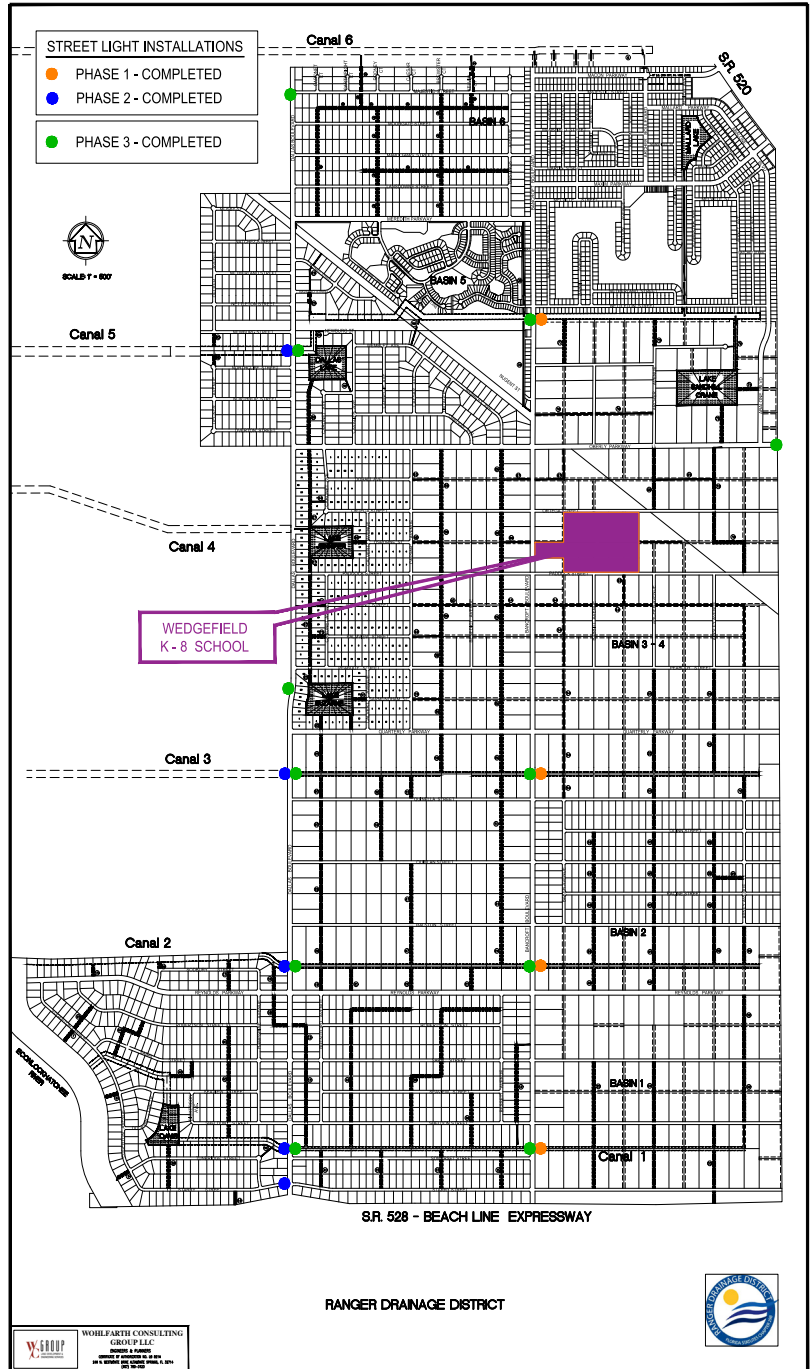
▶ Fishing in District canals and lakes is limited to persons who either own the property that they are fishing on or have written permission from the property owner at the site where they are fishing. Access to the site is limited to that property owner or that property owner's guest who must have written permission.

▶ Excessive use of pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides placed on your lawn eventually make it to the canals. Excessive nutrients in the canals lead to additional growth and water quality issues. We need your help to maintain our water quality.

# PHASE III STREET LIGHTING

In our newsletter last Spring we mentioned the Phase III street lighting project was underway. In this publication we can report that the street lights have now been installed!

The map identifies the locations of lights which are primarily at the major canals. Any other lighting throughout the District that you may see would have been at the direction of Orange County.



Street Light Locations as of Spring 2023

## FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- ▶ All fences and most structures require a permit from the District. 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 line, 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.
- ▶ When the natural ground is disturbed for any reason a silt fence must be installed to prevent run off. Notify the District office for more detail on this requirement.
- ▶ Mallard Lake is open for fishing to the landowners of the District. Mallard Lake can be accessed from Maxim Pkwy. only, along the RDD easement.



**Ranger Drainage District**  
**19950 Nugent Street**  
**Orlando, FL 32833**  
**[rangerdrainagedistrict.com](http://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@rddfl.com](mailto:DawnMullins@rddfl.com)  
Robin Smith, Administrative Assistant: [RobinSmith@rddfl.com](mailto:RobinSmith@rddfl.com)  
Wanda Tucker, Administrative Clerk: [WandaTucker@rddfl.com](mailto:WandaTucker@rddfl.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.  
The District no longer offers Notary Services.

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

**[RangerDrainageDistrict.com](http://RangerDrainageDistrict.com)**



# RANGER DRAINAGE DISTRICT BALLOT FOR ELECTION 2023

**VOTE!**  
All ballots must  
be received at RDD  
by June 7!

1. To vote for a candidate for Supervisor for a three-year term (term expires in June 2026)

Dave Mauck       Gary Mittan       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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 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 7, 2023. All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 7, 2023.

## NOTICE OF ELECTION: June 7, 2023

**Annual Meeting & Election: Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 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 landowners 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 7, 2023. All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 7, 2023.

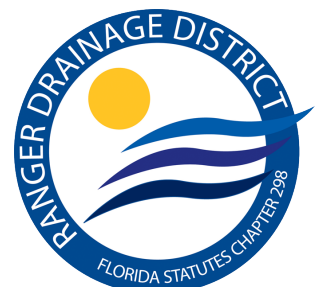
For absentee ballots, please return the completed ballot to the District office no later than June 7, 2023.

This ballot is only effective for the June 2023 election.

### Candidates

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

- ▶ **Dave Mauck:** "I am seeking re-election to the RDD Board. My focus will continue to be to serve the best interest of the landowners by keeping costs down and to find better and more efficient ways for RDD to perform its work."
- ▶ **Gary Mittan:** "As your voice on the Board of Supervisors, I'll work hard to control costs and spend your tax dollars responsibly."



## A CHANGING OF THE GUARD



*Pictured left to right: Russ Beyersdorf, Terry Lewis, Dave Mauck and Mike Nolan*

The District is saying goodbye to our legal counsel of more than 23 years, and saying hello to a new legal counsel, both are from the firm of Lewis, Longman and Walker, P.A.

After serving the District as legal counsel for over 23 years, Terry E. Lewis (second from left) of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. has retired. Mr. Lewis expressed his gratitude to the Board and the District for allowing him to serve as counsel for a large part of his career. The District is grateful to have had Mr. Lewis' expertise and guidance over the years. We wish him much happiness and enjoyment in this next phase of his life.

Terry and his wife plan to continue doing what they enjoy the most and that is traveling, playing golf and spending time with friends and family.

The District would like to welcome Mr. Seth Behn from Lewis, Longman and Walker P.A. as our new legal counsel. Seth has worked side by side with Mr. Lewis for the past few years to become acquainted with our District.

Seth's practice focuses on land use, environmental law and governmental affairs. He assists clients with complex land development matters and helps them navigate through the government approval processes. With a background in Urban Planning, his work often focuses on zoning entitlements, riparian rights, and real estate.

Prior to passing the bar, Seth worked as a Senior Land Use Planner at Lewis, Longman & Walker and the law firm of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. He has also worked as a planner at the local planning firm Land Design South, and was a Planning Intern for the City of Miami Beach.

Seth is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association, and is member of Leadership Palm Beach County's 2016 class.



*Seth Behn*

The District is pleased to welcome Seth to our team.

## DRIVEWAY PIPES

Driveway pipes are installed at the roadside swales. These pipes are critical to the functionality of the storm water system. There are many locations throughout the District where grass and debris are blocking water from flowing through the pipes. As a reminder, the maintenance of keeping the driveway pipes clear is the responsibility of each homeowner or landowner.

As a reminder, if you are experiencing washouts on the side of the concrete slab around the culvert pipe some low maintenance ground cover may help. One possible solution would be to plant Asiatic Jasmine. This plant will stand up to the Florida heat and is easy to maintain.



*Wrong*



*Right*

## MAINTAINING YOUR FRONT SWALE IMPACTS FLOW



*Wrong*



*Right*

Roadside swales in front of each home are the responsibility of the homeowner to maintain. If this area is overgrown, water cannot flow freely. Upon request various swale locations throughout the District have been cleaned out/regraded and the elevations have been reestablished.

It's crucial that each homeowner maintain the swale by mowing and or weed whacking to keep the area free of obstruction.

## WANT TO HELP?

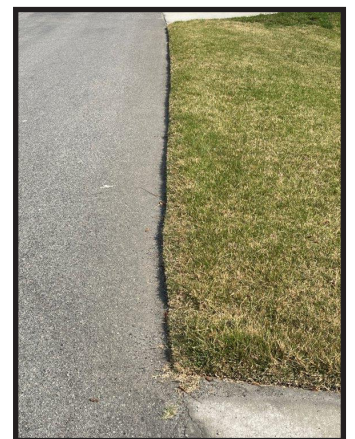
Keeping the grass edged along the road is another way to help with the drainage.

This allows the water to flow down the roadside faster and into the drainage system.

*Not good for water runoff*



*Preferred edging*



# MASTER/INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH ORANGE COUNTY

Since the creation of the District back in 1970, many written and “hand shake” agreements with Orange County have been made in respect to who is responsible for certain tasks within the Ranger Drainage District. Throughout time leaders of different departments from Orange County have come and gone and through this transition the duties of each agency became blurred. This past year the District Manager, Engineering Firm and Legal Counsel met and identified duties required of the District in accordance to our operating permit known as the Plan Of Reclamation.

We are pleased to report that an agreement was reached between the District and Orange County within a timely fashion and we now have what we call a “Master Interlocal Agreement” that identifies the responsibility of each agency. The District continues to work closely with Orange County to provide efficient services to our community. With that being said, below is a summary of those duties:

## RANGER DRAINAGE DISTRICT

- Maintenance of all primary and secondary canals, flow-ways, lakes and associated water control structures within the District easements
- Maintain and maintenance-grade as necessary all open grassed swales within the County rights-of-ways
- Driveway culvert installations
- Removal of trees, vegetation or other debris within the primary and secondary drainage system
- Mow 17 miles of main canals
- Mow 28 miles of secondary canals
- Mow 73 miles of roadside
- Maintain 17 retention ponds, 11 of those located in The Reserve
- Maintain 174 canal structures
- Aquatic spraying
- Slope mowing

## ORANGE COUNTY

- Repair and maintain the County roadways
- Repair and maintain concrete valley gutters, curbs, inlets, underground drainage pipe and culvert crossings of the secondary flow ways located within the public road rights-of-way easements
- Construction, repair, replacement and maintenance of all sidewalks
- Tree and vegetation removal; trash pickup
- Clearing or removal of trees and vegetation from roadway easements that interfere with vehicular or pedestrian use of rights-of-way
- Clearing obstructions from the roadways including gutters, curbs, inlets and underground drainage piping located within the public rights-of-way
- Repair or replacement of the primary drainage system that crosses under County maintained rights-of-way
- Provide funding to the District to offset the increased cost of maintaining the unpaved roadside rights-of-way where sidewalks have been installed in the Estate-Area

## UNPERMITTED PIPES

REMINDER... any pipe installations must first be approved and permitted by the District.

**No direct runoff pipes** from any parcel of land into a retention pond, secondary easement or major canal is allowed. All water must flow to the street or retained on property.

