



LAKE DAVIS

Water Matters

VOTE!

All ballots must
be received at RDD
by June 4th!
See inside.

Ranger Drainage District Newsletter, Florida Statutes Chapter 298 - Orlando, FL | Spring 2025

PRESIDENT'S LETTER AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE



Welcome to the 2025 Spring Newsletter.

This publication aims to provide valuable information and a clearer understanding of the District's operations. Our mission is to ensure effective stormwater management within the boundaries of the District.

The District continues to monitor and identify areas that require maintenance to improve drainage and increase storage capacity. Currently, initiatives are being implemented within the city area to enhance water storage by widening and deepening the swales.

This newsletter will outline the challenges faced, ongoing maintenance activities, community outreach efforts, and other relevant information.

We hope that you find this publication to be informative. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office for additional information.

Dave Mauck
President
Ranger Drainage District



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2024 CECIL DAVIS AGRI-SCIENCE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Winner: Reagan Ramsey

Ag Teacher Jackie Gore had this to say about Reagan:

“Reagan Ramsey has been very active in Future Farmers of America (FFA) over the course of the last two years. While competing in numerous CDEs, exhibiting livestock and being an officer each year, she has shown true dedication to our program and a greater appreciation for the agriculture industry. Reagan plans to continue fostering her passion for agriculture as she transitions into high school; hoping to inspire others along the way.”

Update: Reagan is currently enrolled in the East River Agriculture Program and serving as an Officer for their FFA Chapter!”

Award Sponsors

Seth Behn – Lewis, Longman & Walker

William Capko – Lewis, Longman & Walker

Wilson Way – Wohlfarth Consulting Group, LLC

Richard Wohlfarth – Wohlfarth Consulting Group, LLC

Ajay Agarwal – Moore & Company

Tiye Goodman – Lawnshaper Inc.

Laura Bennett – Bennett & Company

Suzanne & David VanWormer – Van Wormer Homes

Brad Meyers – Leasing 2, Inc.

John & Natalie Morris



*Reagan Ramsey with Supervisor
Russell Beyersdorf*

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.
- ▶ **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.
- ▶ **Fishing in District canals and lakes is limited to** those 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 land-owners of the District. Mallard Lake can be accessed from Maxim Pkwy. **only** along the RDD easement.

- ▶ **ATV's, golf carts, motorcycles and other traffic is strictly prohibited** on RDD maintenance easements and canals. These easements are constructed on private property and are used for District business only. Anyone witnessing this type of activity is asked to report it to the Orange County Sheriff's Office Non Emergency number at 407-836-4357.



7TH ANNUAL LAKE DAVIS FAMILY FISHING DAY

The District's 7th Annual Lake Davis Family Fishing Day on February 1st drew approximately 240 people. Despite the cool, overcast weather, participants enjoyed fishing and were offered free hot dogs, chips, cookies, and lemonade. Children also had fun interacting with farm animals brought to us by Noah's Landing petting zoo.

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission educational display trailer and two officers were present. Their presence provided residents the opportunity to engage with Officers to learn more about nature and wildlife. We appreciate the Commission's expertise and the time they contributed to our event.



Honored guest, Ms. Lucy Davis

Orange County Fire & Rescue from Station 86 (Wedgfield) allowed kids to explore the fire truck and meet fire-fighters. We appreciate our First Responders' support at this event.

The District showcased its newest equipment, the John Deere Tractor/Mower. The public had an opportunity to ask questions about this essential part of our daily operations.

This annual event honors Cecil Davis, Ranger Drainage District's first District Manager, for his 28+ years of service to the landowners. His wife, daughter, and granddaughter attended to show their appreciation for preserving his memory.

If you would like to be a sponsor for this event in the future, please call the District Office at 407.568.5502 or email dawnmullins@RDDFL.com.

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

Suzanne Van Wormer - Van Wormer Homes

Robert Goderis & Sons

Laura Bennett - Bennett & Company

Grau & Associates

Lawnshaper, Inc.

Brad Meyers - Leasing 2 Inc.

Great Southern Equipment Co.



WHO IS RANGER DRAINAGE DISTRICT?

Ranger Drainage District (RDD), established in 1970 under Chapter 298 Florida Statutes, is an Independent Special Taxing District. The District focuses on preventing flooding by maintaining canals and secondary easements that facilitate drainage for the Wedgefield subdivision.

The District is governed by a three-member Board of Supervisors. Each supervisor is elected for a three-year term, with one supervisor up for election each year. The Board establishes regulations for all areas within the District, concentrating solely on the management of the drainage system and water flow.

For example, the Board requires:

- Each new home construction must obtain a Driveway Permit.
- All builders are required to submit a lot grading plan to the District for approval. The lot grading plan must conform to lot grading standards.
- The construction of permanent structures is not permitted in swales or drainage easements.

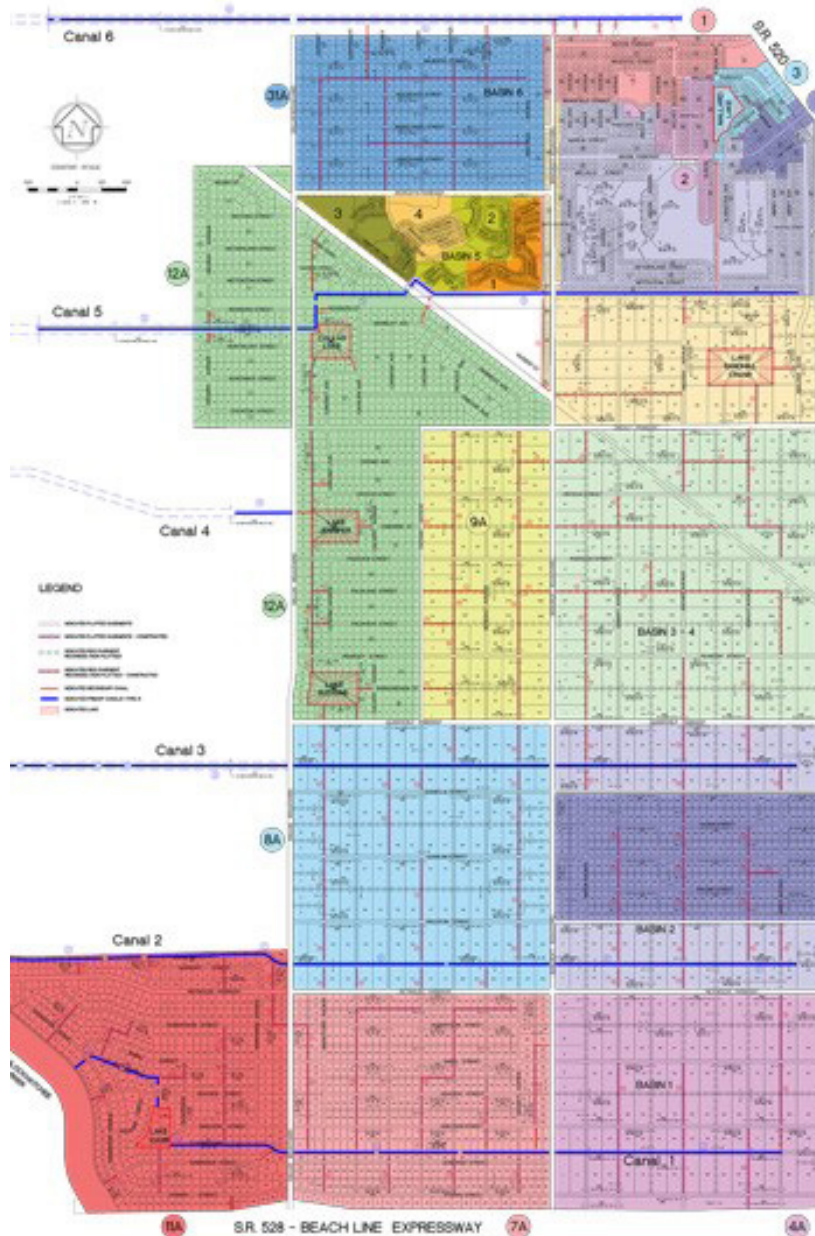
All property within the District is subject to RDD regulations. No property owner is exempt from the District's authority.

Each year, the Board holds public hearings to approve a budget for the anticipated expenses of the upcoming year. The budgeted costs are distributed across the taxable land within the District. Once the budget is approved, your proportional share is calculated based on acreage and included in your tax bill, which is collected along with your property taxes by Orange County.

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

The District Maintains ...

- 10 square miles
- RDD staff is responsible for mowing and maintaining:
 - 17 miles of main canals
 - 28 miles of secondary easements
 - 73 miles of roadside mowing
 - 6 retention ponds with additional ponds in The Reserve
 - 174 canal structures
 - Aquatic spraying
 - Roadside swale clean out
 - Slope mowing
 - Driveway culvert installation
 - Addressing other maintenance needs as they arise



District Jurisdiction Exclusions

- Repairing and maintaining County roadways.
- Repair concrete valley gutters, curbs, inlets, underground drainage pipes and culvert crossings of the secondary flow ways located within the public road rights-of-way easements.
- Constructing, repairing, replacing or maintaining sidewalks.
- Removing trees and vegetation; trash pickup.
- Removing trees and vegetation from roadway easements that obstruct vehicular or pedestrian use of rights-of-way.
- Clearing obstructions from the roadways including gutters, curbs, inlets, and underground drainage piping located within public rights-of-way.
- Repairing or replacing the primary drainage system that crosses under County-maintained rights-of-way.

KNOW YOUR EASEMENTS

The District recommends a title search before buying property to uncover easements. All properties have a 6-foot side yard and an 8-foot rear easement for utilities or drainage, but larger ones may apply. Structures are prohibited in these easements. You can request an easement vacation, but approval is uncertain and requires Orange County's review.



(Above: Before, during and after swale clear out)

IRRIGATION LINES

Keep irrigation lines out of the road right of way. The District maintains swales, any irrigation lines found will be removed without replacement.



(Above: Before and after debris removal from a swale)

ROADSIDE SWALES

Roadside swales play an essential role in drainage and in filtering pollutants before they reach the Econlockhatchee River, which is designated as an Outstanding Florida Waterbody. It is imperative for homeowners to maintain driveway pipes and swales by keeping them free of grass and debris to ensure proper stormwater management. Swales may hold water for up to 72 hours after heavy rain; if water remains longer, contact the District Office.



(Above: Before, during, and after easement cleaning)

DRIVEWAY MAINTENANCE

Driveway maintenance is the homeowner's responsibility. If you are experiencing washouts on the side of the concrete slab around the culvert pipe, low-maintenance ground cover may help. One possible solution is to plant Asiatic Jasmine. The picture below shows a location where the Jasmine was planted and it appears to be growing well.



1. Driveway pipe not maintained by owner
2. Area adjacent to driveway pipe maintained with Asiatic Jasmine
3. Swale not maintained by owner
4. Swale maintained
5. Vandalism to easement

RANGER DRAINAGE DISTRICT BALLOT FOR ELECTION 2025

VOTE!

All ballots must
be received at RDD
by June 4th!

To vote for a candidate for Supervisor for a three-year term (term expires in June 2028)

☐ Gary Mittan ☐ Mike Nolan ☐ Abstain
☐ Write-in Candidate: _____

☐ 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) present in person at the annual meeting at the Ranger Drainage District
Office on June 4, 2025.

All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 4, 2025.

NOTICE OF ELECTION: June 4, 2025

Annual Meeting & Election: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 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.

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19950 Nugent Street, Orlando, FL 32833 or (2) present in person at the annual meeting at the Ranger Drainage District
Office on June 4, 2025.

All ballots must be received by 6 pm on June 4, 2025.

For absentee ballots, please return the completed ballot to the District office no later than June 4, 2025.

This ballot is only effective for the June 2025 election.

Candidate Statements

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

- ▶ **Gary Mittan:** "As your voice on the Board of Supervisors, I will work hard to control costs and spend your tax dollars responsibly. I have been a landowner since the 1980's and have lived in Wedgefield since 1998."
- ▶ **Mike Nolan:** Mike (Steven Michael) Nolan has been a Supervisor for the Ranger Drainage District since 2012 and a resident of the Wedgefield Community since July 2006. He, his wife Susanne and son Sean moved here to enjoy the peace, quiet and natural beauty of the area. Mike is originally from Baltimore Maryland where he began his career with Western Electric Co. in 1968. He transferred to Orlando in 1983 to a position with AT&T and retired in 2001 from Avaya Communications as a manager for the payroll system development team. Mike is an active member and supporter of the Wedgefield Community. He is also a proud veteran of the United States Army.



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 would like to see in this newsletter we invite you to contact us, complete contact information is below:

Dawn Mullins, General Manager:
DawnMullins@RDDFL.com

Sophia Hollimon, Executive Assistant:
SophiaHollimon@RDDFL.com

Wanda Tucker, Administrative Clerk:
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

