

# LakeRidge Falls

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4200 LakeRidge Blvd.  
Sarasota, FL 34243

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Here are the more important stories we had this past and upcoming weeks:

**Grandparents Scam** – Like it is not enough that there are some wildlife roaming in the community, this week we also learned that there are scammers who attempt to prey on LakeRidge Falls’ residents. A few days ago, a long-term member of the community informed us that she received a call. The following is what she described:

**Person on the Line:** “Hello Grandma”

LakeRidge Falls Resident: "Who is this?"

**Person on the Line:** “it's your grandson”

LakeRidge Falls Resident: “No it's not.”

**Person on the Line:** Hungs up

The above, in its various forms, is what is commonly known as the “Grandparent Scam.” On its [website](#), The Florida Attorney General's Office describes this scam as one in which “[i]mposters pose as law enforcement officers and call grandparents claiming that a grandchild is in jail. They then demand immediate payment to bail the grandchild out of jail. In another iteration of the scam, a person claiming to be the grandchild will call saying they have been mugged or otherwise detained in another country and are in need of money to get home.”

A well-known story took place in Florida just late last year in which a Hillsborough County woman lost over \$700,000 in a “Grandparent Scam.” Based on news reports, scammers convinced an 82-year-old senior that her granddaughter is in legal trouble and thereafter tricked her to make 13 different withdrawals from different bank branches.

On its [website](#), The Federal Trade Commission provides great tips regarding “what to do if you get a call about a family emergency.” Here are those important tips:

“If someone calls or sends a message claiming to be a family member or a friend desperate for money, here’s what to do:

***Resist the pressure*** to send money immediately. Hang up.

Then:

***Call or message the family member or friend who (supposedly) contacted you.*** Call them at a phone number that you know is right, not the one someone just used to contact you. Check if they’re really in trouble.

***Call someone else in your family or circle of friends, even if the caller said to keep it a secret.*** Do that especially if you can’t reach the friend or family member who’s supposed to be in trouble. A trusted person can help you figure out whether the story is true.”

We hope you will find this information useful and wish to thank residents who share their experiences with all to learn from.

**Pump Preventative Maintenance** – LakeRidge Falls contracts each year with professional companies to perform an array of preventive maintenance work through the Association. As the name may suggest, preventive maintenance, or PM, in short, is periodic routine maintenance of the Association assets such as the pool equipment, the clubhouse air conditioning units, etc. Their main goal is to ensure all is in working order and discover and correct potential problems before they occur. This week, we had Water Equipment Technologies of Southwest Florida (WET) on-site performing the quarterly PM of the irrigation and waterfall pump stations.

During this quarterly preventive maintenance visit, WET made sure to inspect the stations' motors and pumps, verify the variance and imbalance in the systems' amperage, check the stations' water pressure and make sure there is sufficient water flowing in the systems' pipes. As can be expected, they discovered and corrected a couple of issues. The more story-worthy matter was a bad float switch on the waterfall. Without going into too many details which for sure would make you sleepy, a float switch is a small electrical device that turns the pump that fills the waterfall basin on and off based on the predetermined water level. This way, the waterfall runs on a consistent amount of water, which prevents its pumps from getting damaged. Regardless, WET tech made sure to address all three matters that were discovered. Once concluded it was said that both stations are in good operational condition.

**Mitigation Area and Ponds** – Yesterday, Eco-logic, LakeRidge Falls' lakes and mitigation maintenance company, tech was on-site performing the quarterly maintenance on the buffer surrounding the mitigation area located in the Stirling Falls neighborhood. As in the past, the tech used selective application and herbicides which are designated for those specific areas. The purpose of such maintenance work is to enhance the growth of beneficial native species and eliminate the growth of nuisance or exotic species, such as vines, to comply with the requirements set forward by the State.

The tech was also performing the maintenance on all LakeRidge Falls' ponds. This time around, the focus was on treading algae and weed growth in a handful of ponds. While the issue of the algae was limited to a couple of ponds, the issue with the weeds, mainly Torpedo Grass and Primrose, was widely spread. Therefore, and unlike most visits, the tech made sure to tread all of the ponds in the community at once. It is important to note that the chemical used for treading these types of weeds is NOT harmful to wildlife, fish, or animals as explained in the past by Eco-Logic.

**Safety** – This week we were informed that a person who seems to be a resident of the community is using the vehicle exit gate located on Lockwood Ridge Rd to gain access to the community. It goes without saying that this is a dangerous behavior that puts residents in harm's-way. We, therefore ask, erase it, demand, that you never leave or enter the community by foot or by bicycle using any of the Association's vehicles' entrances/exits. It is not safe and puts both your fellow neighbor and you at risk. Please, help us keep LakeRidge Falls a safe place to live.

As always, have a healthy and safe weekend.

Sincerely,

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