

# 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:

**Showers Before Entering the Pool/Spa** – This week, the newly elected 2023 Pool Committee met for its first meeting. Among the many new ideas and initiatives discussed, one old topic resurfaced – showering before entering the pool. Please, we understand that some feel it is a hassle or that it “does not make sense to take a shower before getting wet anyway.” However, there are really good reasons why one should shower before swimming.

A pre-swim shower helps minimize unpleasant smells and irritations. Based on professional input shared with us, when you do not shower before entering the water, you bring body substances, such as makeup or body oil, into the pool/spa. This in return triggers the chlorine... aka the issue mentioned above... in the water which reacts with those substances. The result can cause irritations and can make the pool smell, well, like a pool. While many believe that a clean pool should smell like chlorine, this is quite the opposite. A well-managed pool has no strong chemical smell. The reason why a pool would smell like chlorine is that irritants would be produced when chlorine reacts with body substances or impurities.

Please help us and our pool maintenance company in maintaining LakeRidge Falls’ pool and spa by simply taking a shower before entering the water and making sure to advise your guests to do the same. By doing so you are not only helping to keep the pool/spa clean, but you also help to eliminate possible conditions that may be unpleasant to you or your fellow neighbor. Together we can ensure the pool and spa will continue to be one of LakeRidge Falls’ great assets.

**Pond Shoreline Erosion** – As many know, the Association is dealing, as many other communities in Florida, with pond shoreline erosion issues. To better understand this matter, the Board of Directors established in 2017 a Long-Term Pond Working Group (PWG). The PWG goal was “to study and make recommendations for remediation of current erosion problems as well as a long-term plan to stabilize and or minimize future erosion in our stormwater drainage ponds.” It took the group a few years to conclude its work and in 2020 it produced a comprehensive, well-documented, and professional report. We encourage you to take a moment and read the report which is posted on the Association’s website under the tab “Special Projects.”

Based on this report and in an attempt to develop a community-wide comprehensive action plan to address it, a few test sites were initiated. The goal was to evaluate the impact of the measurements taken and their effectiveness in combating pond erosion. One of the test site projects was named Pond Project 8, aiming at evaluating solutions to two main known contributors to shoreline erosion: residential downspouts and natural drainage swales. As was shared with the community, this project was initiated in May of last year.

There are two main reasons why we are bringing this matter up today. During its first meeting, the newly elected 2023 Roads & Grounds (R&G) Committee decided to establish task forces, called crews, to survey a variety of areas and issues affecting the community, publish the findings, and thereafter draft an action plan

to address these issues. As one may reasonably assume, one of the crews established was tasked with surveying the issue of pond shoreline erosion. Therefore, you may notice in the next few weeks a group of three or more people wearing reflective vests walking behind your house. Please don't be alarmed as they are members of the R&G Committee who will identify and assess problem areas.

The other reason we bring this matter to your attention is SAFETY. Please note that some eroded areas are hidden. That is, the eroded area has grass that grew high enough to blend with the uneroded areas. As such, they create a hidden hole, which may be considered a tripping hazard. Therefore, we urge, not to say demand, that residents and their invitees stay at least five feet away from any pond's bank. Please, the safety and well-being of LakeRidge Falls residents is a top priority. Please, your attention and cooperation are extremely important on this matter.

**Walking at Night** – Staying with safety-related matters, this week a great suggestion was presented to us by a long-time member of the community. It is common sense that walking at night can be less safe than walking during day time. Therefore, it would be best if those who walk their pets at night, exercise in the cooler weather, enjoy roaming the community under the stars, etc. ensure to take a few simple safety measures.

- Please make sure to walk on pedestrian pathways, not the road.
- Always make sure to be highly visible and alert while walking.
- Have a flashlight as it helps you to see your surroundings and allows others to see you.
- Consider wearing reflective gear such as safety vests and flashing armbands.

As before, your attention and cooperation are extremely important on this matter.

**Mail Delivery** – In recent weeks, we received many complaints regarding mail delivery by the United States Postal Service. Mainly, we receive reports of mail that is not arriving or mail that is mistakenly delivered to a neighbor's house. While the Association has no recourse when it comes to services provided to individual homeowners, we did learn this week that a solution to this matter is right around the corner. Based on yet another report of one of LakeRidge Falls' long-time and dear members, Jennifer, the mail lady who had LakeRidge Falls route for many years, is scheduled to come back sometime in March after being absent for a few months. We are sure that once she resumes her old position, the issue of mail delivery will be resolved. We wish to take a moment and thank all of LakeRidge Falls members and residents who continuously kept us updated on this matter.

As always, have a healthy and safe weekend.

Sincerely,

Oded Neeman - CAM

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