

ODED'S WEEKLY REPORT

05-22-2026

BULK COLLECTION PILOT PROGRAM – If you may recall, last month we reported that Manatee County launched on May 1st a pilot bulk collection program. As reported, after the new Big Bin Advantage was launched last year, residents who want to dispose of bulk items, which used to be picked up at no charge, had to arrange, for a \$59 fee, of course, for a pickup day with Manatee County Utilities Dept. As a result, complaints from residents led County Officials to reevaluate the subject matter. On its website, Manatee County advised on April 8th, 2026, that:

“The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners has approved the launch of a Bulk Collection Pilot Program by Manatee County Utilities beginning May 1, 2026, expanding curbside bulk pickup service for residents while collecting data to help evaluate future service options. Under the pilot program, residential customers will be able to have two bulk items picked up at the curb on a predetermined scheduled regular service day once per month, for a total of 12 collections per year, with no rate changes at this time. The program will also include one annual bulk collection per property (of up to 10 cubic yards) of the same material... Certain items, including tires and white goods (appliances), as well as the annual large-bulk pickup, will require advance scheduling through the County’s Customer Self-Service Portal at mymanatee.org/css. Household hazardous waste and electronic scrap services will not change as part of the pilot program and will continue to not be collected curbside. Manatee County residents may continue to drop off these materials free of charge at the Lena Road Landfill, and the County will continue offering four remote household hazardous waste drop off events each year. More information is available at mymanatee.org/hhw.”

With the above in mind, your Board of Directors wanted to inform all residents that LakeRidge Falls’ designated day is: **THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**. We hope you find this information helpful.

HOLIDAY COLLECTIONS - Staying on a somewhat related matter, as all are fully aware Monday is Memorial Day. Because it is a County-observed holiday, all services (garbage, recycling, and yard waste) will be picked up one day later than usual for the rest of the week. This means that Tuesday collection will be on Wednesday. Normal service will resume the following Tuesday.

BACKFLOWS – This is yet another reminder that members may start receiving notices from the Manatee County Utilities Department (MCUD) reminding them about the requirement to conduct an annual certification test of the backflow prevention device. For those who may not be aware, the backflow prevention device is the standing C-shaped pipe next to the sidewalk in front of the house. The backflow is designed to protect the drinking water from being polluted by contaminated water due to reduced pressure in the county water system. For this reason, MCUD requires that all homeowners in the county perform a yearly test to ensure the backflow prevention device is operating properly.

As it does every year, the Association contracts with a Certified Backflow Prevention Assembly Service Provider to perform this task for you. We are more than happy to announce that this year the work will be conducted by, [Green Coast Backflows](#), which was highly recommended by at least a dozen members of the community. They are scheduled to start on the week of June 1st.

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Here is a quick recap of how the work would take place:



- Green Coast Backflows will inspect all 399 backflows in the community.
- Once completed, Green Coast Backflows will submit the proper forms to the MCUD on behalf of the homeowners.
 - If passed, Green Coast Backflows will install a tag on the backflow. The tag indicates the month the certification took place and more importantly that the backflow passed the certification test.
 - If a backflow fails inspection, Green Coast Backflows will place a door hanger notification at the residence with their contact information.
 - Homeowners may contact/hire Green Coast Backflows directly to discuss the type of repair needed/hire them to perform the repair. Green Coast Backflows' prices should range from \$289 to \$319 depending on the backflow's model. Or,
 - Homeowners may choose any Certified Backflow Prevention Assembly Service Provider to correct the matter.
- Regardless of the vendor selection, the Certified Backflow Prevention Assembly Service Provider should submit the proper forms with MCUD once the repair work is completed.

We wish to thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter.

PONDS – Aquatic Consulting, Inc., LakeRidge Falls' ponds and mitigation maintenance company, was on site yesterday treating the weeds, grass, and invasive species growing along the ponds' banks while carefully avoiding the beneficial aquatic plants in the Association's ponds. That said, this is the ideal time for treatment, as the lower water levels give the technician better access to the areas where these unwanted weeds, grass, and invasive species typically grow.

After these visits, we often receive questions from residents about the chemical application, its green appearance, and its potential effects on wildlife. Therefore, please note that the green color is actually a dye that is added to the chemical. The dye helps the technician to know what areas were sprayed and thus prevents repetition, over treatment, and/or a waste of the chemical. It is important to note that Aquatic Consulting, Inc. advised that both the chemical and the dye are NOT harmful to wildlife, fish, or animals. With this in mind, we hope the blessed rains will continue allowing the ponds to fill back up.

MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED – While for some Memorial Day is no more than just the last day in a long weekend sale event, to my family and me it is a very special day in which we mourn and honor the brave women and men who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. They will never be forgotten. With this in mind, please note that the LakeRidge Falls offices will be closed on Monday. We will open again on Tuesday, May 26th. If you experience a situation that falls under the scope of responsibility of the Association and which requires our assistance during the time the offices are closed, please call our "Emergency Only" line at 941-444-7090.

Have a quiet and safe weekend,
Oded Neeman, LakeRidge Falls Community Manager