

ODED'S WEEKLY REPORT

05-08-2026

THE POND THAT STARTED IT ALL –When explaining what the Enlightenment is, Immanuel Kant, an 18th-century German philosopher, wrote:

“Enlightenment is man’s emergence from his self-imposed nonage. Nonage is the inability to use one's own understanding without another's guidance. This nonage is self-imposed if its cause lies not in lack of understanding but in indecision and lack of courage to use one's own mind without another's guidance. Dare to know! (Sapere Aude.) ‘Have the courage to use your own understanding,’ is therefore the motto of the Enlightenment.

The Association’s Age of Enlightenment, or maybe better put, the Age of Reason, officially started in 2015. While the issue of pond bank erosion was noted before, a minor erosion repair that resurfaced in 2015 was triggered by a decade-long work that involved many members of the community, professionals, and scholars. Here is a short taste of how things evolved in the community.

At some point in time, a minor erosion was noted along Pond 11. In order to address it, a honeycomb ground stabilization material was installed, filled with dirt, and then sodded. A couple of years passed, and the erosion resurfaced. Therefore, Cardno Entrix, LakeRidge Falls’ pond maintenance company at the time, installed septic stones at the bottom of the eroded area, laid erosion fabric and topsoil on top of the septic stones, and installed sod on top of the erosion fabric and topsoil. To “seal the deal,” Cardno Entrix installed rip-rap stones along the bank. Well, it didn’t take long, less than two years to be exact, before the area eroded again... Please see the picture of the eroded materials during the last pond work around Pond 11.

As a result, and for several others, the Board of Directors established in late 2017 the Long Range Ponds Working Group (PWG). There were several reasons for establishing the group:

- The group “was to study and make recommendations for remediation of current erosion problems.”
- The group had to collect data, analyze the problem, and document its actions for future reference.
- The group had to draft a long-term plan to stabilize and/or minimize future erosion of the stormwater drainage ponds.

In conducting the work, the group was given access, under its written charter, to professional, engineering, or other help it may deem necessary. It should be noted that the group was composed of community members who had extensive relevant backgrounds to the subject matter.



ODED'S WEEKLY REPORT

05-08-2026

It took two and a half years of extensive and dedicated research for the PWG to publish its 63-page report. Please us QR code to read the report. One of the more important points the PWG made in the report is that it ***"...was not able to recommend a simple solution for the current problem sites with eroding banks. Specifically, runoff across berms and backyards with heavily concentrated flows of rain runoff. Burying newly installed downspouts should help, but will not mitigate existing conditions for the most part. Rip rapping may be a part of the solution, but we do not have a current test site. It may be also useful to revisit the no-mow approach. These or other solutions should be considered in the future."***



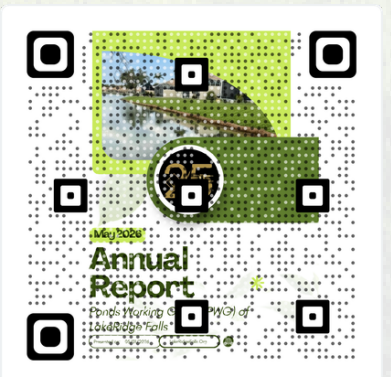
Acting on these findings and recommendations, the next few years were invested in implementing as many fiscally and operationally feasible erosion control measures. Furthermore, the various Boards of Directors and Roads & Grounds Committees continued to research the matter, meet with professionals and scholars, perform many site visits outside the community, evaluate new methods that emerge to the market, and document such efforts. More importantly, the Association started to implement several test sites, with two of them being the more well-known than the others, i.e., Pond Project 8 (riprap, burying downspout, and catch basins), and the work on Pond 14 behind the waterfall (riprap).

In early 2023, the Roads & Grounds Committee, with the blessing of the Board of Directors at the time, of course, established the Ponds Crew. In general, the Crew's task was to survey the Association ponds, identify erosions and other issues that may impact the structural integrity of the ponds, and measure the extent of the erosions along the edges of the ponds. It took this group six months of physically inspecting, measuring, and documenting the ponds, and in August of that year, an impressive and well-documented 135-page report of its findings and conclusions was produced for the Board of Directors' review. Please us QR code to read the report.



By this point, it was clear that the traditional methods were inadequate, ineffective, unimplemented, and/or prohibitive to the unique challenges the Association is facing. Therefore, a new approach took shape: the courage to use the Association's own knowledge and understanding. After all, many of the Association's members have gained valuable knowledge and experience on this subject matter by this time. Therefore, traditional methods that have proven to be unsuccessful made room for new ideas and approaches from similar applications. As a result, new methods, which use coconut nettings, coir logs, and PondTech Planks, were implemented. To ensure these new methods are documented and researched properly, the Board of Directors established a new PWG. And why is it important?

Well, the newest PWG presented its Annual Report to the Board of Directors during today's monthly meeting. It will be unjust not to allow the report to speak for itself. Please, and again please, make sure to take a look at this impressive and well-documented 66-page report using the QR code.



ODED'S WEEKLY REPORT

05-08-2026

We are certain all members and residents of this community would join us in sharing our deepest appreciation to the members of the Pond Working Group, Mr. Bob James, Mr. Dick Dorn, Mr. Lanny Weintraub, Dr. Mark Lucas, Mr. Bob Rouleau, and Mr. Warren Ferry, for their outstanding dedication and excellent work.

There is no doubt that LakeRidge Falls' members and residents are the lighthouse for many others to follow. A powerful example of what a dedicated community can achieve when striving for success. Or in the words of Immanuel Kant, LakeRidge Falls dares to know!

WATERFALL – The work was completed! Lots were written above on the issue of pond erosion. Therefore, we will let the pictures do the heavy lifting with this subject matter.



This is a good opportunity to give the Board of Directors a big kudos for a quick and swift decision to ensure the Association's beautiful and impressive waterfall remains the most impressive entry monument in our area!

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