



"Protect our Ponds"

Logo created by Turtle Rock resident, Barry Domenick

2021 TURTLE ROCK PONDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

25+ Years of Damaging Shoreline Erosion

Our pond shorelines are showing visible signs of erosion damage. Delay of erosion control will require costly engineered remediation causing hefty increases in association fees.

Algae grows faster in ponds when fed with fertilizer runoff. Using herbicides has damaging effects on beneficial plants and pond-dwellers.

Natural Shorelines show few signs of erosion and limit nutrient run off into ponds. Wildlife and fish prefer a more natural shoreline and cleaner water.

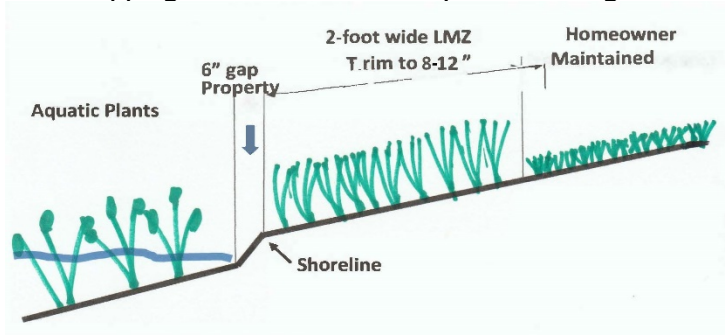
Homeowner Mitigation Plan

Shoreline homeowners are required to create a "Natural Shoreline" to protect against erosion damage by establishing approximately a two-foot (2') wide Low Maintenance Zone (LMZ) on all pond shorelines.

Grow LMZ naturally until Spring 2021 when Turtle Rock will begin its contract for trimming or use a hedge trimmer (NOT string trimmers) to maintain an average height of eight (8) inches. LMZs keep damage-causing mowers off shorelines and reduce shoreline erosion and water runoff.

Limit fertilizer and irrigation to mitigate nutrient run-off into ponds and storm-water drains, as per Sarasota County guidelines.

String trimmers or any other equipment that throw grass clippings into the ponds may NOT be used. Grass clippings create excessively harmful algae.



Flyer adapted from Rivendell Community in Osprey. To read more about their pond shoreline success, visit www.rivendellcommunity.com/ponds



Let's protect our ponds, enjoy nature in balance, celebrate our wildlife friends, and keep property values strong.

Turtle Rock Community Plan

Turtle Rock is responsible for managing our stormwater system including preserves, ponds, pond inflow/outflow structures and all pond shorelines.

Turtle Rock will:

- Establish two-foot wide LMZs on all common grounds adjacent to ponds and require LMZs on all homeowner property bordering a pond.
- Contract for buffer trimming on homeowner shoreline properties during 2021.
- Evolve our pond shorelines to imitate selected and beneficial characteristics of real natural shorelines to control erosion & fertilizer runoff.
- Install aquatic plants along certain pond shorelines to help stabilize shoreline banks, reduce erosion caused by wind-driven waves, and reduce the dependency on chemicals for maintaining water quality.
- Monitor ponds to balance desirable aquatic plants with open water and eradicate invasive vegetation.

The "Natural Shorelines" initiative will result in cost-effective management of our ponds, responsible algae control, and curtailed costs for shoreline remediation.

Benefits include reduced erosion, improved wildlife habitat, better water quality, strong property values.

For more information, contact Turtle Rock's Pond Committee at communications@myturtlerock.com