

Twin Lakes Subdivision Spring Newsletter

Community Pool

The Board of Directors work diligently to maintain the beauty of the common areas of this community, including the pool. We are pleased to announce the community pool will be re-surfaced in the month of April. This improvement should not take longer than a week to complete. Please do not use the pool or cabana during construction.

Spring Clean up and Celebration Party

Please check the website <http://tlhoa.com/mgmt> for information regarding the "Spring Clean up and Celebration Party." This special event will be scheduled after the pool resurface is complete.

Spring clean up at Home

Now is the time to get out and enjoy some fresh air, clean up those pesky leaves, wash down the house, driveway and mailbox and trim up the bushes, palm trees and grass and clean out those landscape beds.

Safety & Security

We all need to look out for each other! Please be vigilant in the neighborhood for strangers and suspicious activity. If you see anything or anyone suspicious, please call 911 immediately. Care for your neighbors and check in on them. If you have a security system in your home, be sure to use it. Vehicles should be locked when left outside of the garage and garage doors should be closed when you are inside your home. If we work together, we can create a safe and comfortable community.

Landscape Committee

The Landscape committee is always looking for volunteers. If you are interested you may volunteer on the website <http://tlhoa.com/mgmt>.

Quarterly Dues

The Quarterly dues of \$139.00 are due April 1. Make your checks payable to:
Twin Lakes HOA, Inc., 4917 Ehrlich Road Suite 104, Tampa, FL 33624

Looking for a Job

Try the state job matching site! There is a link on the website under "employment Info" under the "State of Florida Government Links" link: <http://tlhoa.com/links.html>

WEBSITE

YES! Twin Lakes Subdivision has an excellent website thanks to the hard work and diligence of our webmaster. You can find a treasure trove of information on the website including how to prepare for severe storms/hurricanes! Be sure to visit <http://tlhoa.com>

Entrance Trees – Treasurer John Pavka

Recently there have been questions about the moss killing the oak trees up front. What are we doing? Let me state, it is rarely any one thing that kills a tree. Drought, insects, disease, including fungus, all may be contributing factors. Frequently, a combination of factors helps to kill a tree, but Spanish moss is not one of those factors because Spanish moss is an air plant that takes nothing from the tree. This is unlike mistletoe which grows into the host tree taking both nutrients and water from the host.

In 2004 we replaced 8 missing oak trees courtesy of a Florida Urban Forestry Grant. Back then, we had a dead oak tree on the East side of Foggy Ridge. The nurseryman wondered about removing the 6 inch "stump" and root ball. He turned two workers loose with round point shovels, thinking that would suffice. About a foot down, they starting hitting something, which would not yield to the shovels. They ended by bringing in a backhoe.

What they pulled out was a cone shaped basket of well rusted 1 inch band iron covered by polyester burlap. It was 8 feet across and 5 feet deep. Just as intact as when it went into the ground 15 years prior. The band iron was not cut, nor removed, as it should have been. The burlap was not biodegradable, as it should have been. So the roots started growing in circles within the confinement. The tree had literally strangled itself. The very essence of root bound, stunted growth. Then the drought, or fungus, or insects finally killed it. Then we replaced it.

We have a prime example currently showing with the second Oak tree in from the sign on the West side. 16 feet tall and clearly stunted when compared to all the other oak trees.
Root bound, yes. Covered in Spanish moss, but still alive.

We wanted to replace it back in 2004 but the Urban Forestry Grant was very specific, "no replacing living trees." Yes, we could spray to remove the moss. But the spray is not cheap. It would clear the tree of moss. But the tree would not miraculously start growing again. It is root bound. Then there's that thing about Spanish moss. It does grow and it would grow back, leaving us where we started only hundreds of dollars per tree poorer.

There are few easy answers. Our current plan is that when the tree dies we will replace it with a healthier live oak. The useful life of the inexpensive Laurel oaks planted by the developers is only 50 years. So we wait.