



Placido Bayou Community Association Waterway Inspection Report

Reason for Inspection: Customer Request

Inspection Date: 8/13/2014

Prepared for:

Ms. Dietta Burgoyne
4691 Laurel Oak Lane NE
St. Petersburg, Florida 33703

Prepared by:

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Site: 1



Comments: Site looks good
Beneficial's appear healthy. No algae observed.

Site: 2



Comments: Normal growth observed
Trace algae observed.

Site: 3



Comments: Normal growth observed

This end consistently has resistant algae. Likely due to shallow nature. Recommend dredging before flow becomes impeded.

Site: 4



Comments: Normal growth observed

Selective treatment for torpedo grass amongst beneficial's successful. Will monitor for regrowth. Trace algae observed to be treated next

Site: 5



Comments: Normal growth observed
Trace algae observed to be treated on next scheduled visit.

Site: 6



Comments: Requires attention
Grass clippings observed. See recommendations/actions section for further information regarding site #6.

Site: 7



Comments: Requires attention

Large quantities of grass clippings observed in waterway and throughout community during this site inspection.

Site: 8



Comments: Requires attention

Trace grasses and resistant algae observed to be treated on next scheduled visit.

Site: 9



Comments: Site looks good

No issues at this time. Cattails decomposing at expected rate.

Site: 10



Comments: Requires attention

Planktonic algae blooming in immediate vicinity of grass clippings.

Management Summary

To the Pond and Lake Committee of Placido Bayou,

We sincerely applaud your efforts thus far to improve the water quality of your ponds located within Placido Bayou. You are on the right path to success and we believe these efforts are largely paying off as evidenced by the overall improvement seen this summer. However, to reach your final destination will require a few final steps.

First and foremost...

All landscapers will have to start being held fully accountable for their repeated violations of proper management of grass clippings and vegetative material. During our last inspection (8/13/14), we observed massive quantities of grass clippings in the roadways, flowing into drains and directly into the ponds (photos attached).

The common area landscapers (Green Scapes) mowed the entire area just prior to a heavy rainfall that washed high volumes of fresh grass clippings into the ponds. To their credit, they waited until after the rain ceased to blow what was left of the clippings back into the yards. However, the end result is continued, significant quantities of clippings directly into the ponds. This is a clear violation of Pinellas County (Ord. No. 10-06, § 1, 1-19-10) Sec. 58-479. Management of grass clippings and vegetative material which states:

"It shall be a violation of this section for any person to wash, sweep, blow or otherwise cause grass clippings, vegetative material, and/or vegetative debris to be deposited into storm water drains, ditches, drainage conveyances, surface waters, or roadway."

Secondly,

Sprinkler systems (of reclaimed water) must be properly maintained and utilized (private and community). ASI Technicians have reported seeing sprinklers watering reclaimed water directly into ponds 8 and 9. ASI Supervisors have directed the Technicians to monitor all areas of the community during regular watering hours to see if this is in fact still occurring and then notify PBCA property management of the addresses of these violations. The PBCA should dialogue further with Pinellas County Environmental and the City of St. Petersburg to request storm water inspectors to drive through Placido Bayou to further document residential violations.

If these two key issues can be mitigated to a greater degree, coupled with the plans and actions already in place, ASI believes we the Community Association will be able to achieve the goal of making Placido Bayou a true environmental showcase community for everyone to enjoy.

Recommendations/Action Items – Pond #3

One immediate point regarding pond #3. The north end of this pond is accumulating a large quantity of sediment and will likely soon, if not already, begin to block the flow of water through the drainage pipe allowing water to flow from pond #3 into pond 2 on its way out of the system. It is critical that this area be dredged out in order to stay in compliance with SWFWMD regulations. We can refer you to GA Nichols, a general contractor, to help you with this if you are interested. His information is available upon request.

Recommendations/Action Items – Pond #6**10 Point Plan for Pond #6**

1. Landscapers must obey the laws in this neighborhood and throughout the community to reduce the nutrient input. They must be held accountable and directed to change. If not, then we will all be fighting a losing battle.
2. Reclaimed water needs to be turned off completely during the rainy season around pond #6, at a minimum, if not for the entire community of Placido Bayou. Same rationale as expressed within Point 1.
3. The remainder of the giant bulrush should be removed in this pond. We agree that it would minimize disruption/turbidity in the immediate future to flush cut first and spray second, however because what we leave behind will simply decompose and add to the existing detritus we think complete removal is the best solution in this specific instance. (See Point 4)
4. The detritus on the bottom of pond # 6 needs to be removed from the system. There is 1-2 feet of muck that will not go away on its own. There are two options:
 - a) Application of bacterial enzymes and an oxidizer on a monthly basis (\$77/month additional cost)
 - b) Dredging

For a pond this small, we believe the enzymes and oxidizer are a more viable option especially relative to the challenges/costs of dredging.

5. Following steps 1-4 on October 1st, 2014 ASI recommends moving forward with the proposed planting of pickerelweed along with the rest of the community.
6. In addition to the pickerelweed, we recommend a terrestrial buffer zone (*Juncus*) be planted around the entire perimeter of this pond to help minimize the influx of all kinds of surface runoff. (Barley straw is suggested as a mulch alternative here).

Note: The *Juncus* are terrestrial plants located above the water line to be maintained by the landscapers. This is private property and a challenge so if you need me to knock and talk to each of these residences I will to receive permission if not contributions.

7. Following steps 5 & 6, we recommend retreatment of pond #6 with an 80 ppb dose of Alum. Following the initial Alum treatment we recommend consistent ultra-low dose (10 gallon) treatments of Alum monthly.
8. Water samples should continue to be taken at the regularly scheduled annual interval (October) to monitor progress.
9. Application of selective herbicide (when used properly) is the best method for managing invasive species amongst beneficial's. Manual Aquascaping is an option available to you, but perhaps best used only during the first 90 days of the planting due to its cost.
10. The last recommendation we have for the floating mat is complete removal or at least relocation ASAP to a low visibility area. Then, pond 6 will be to be the showcase pond that we all desire to it to be.





