



## ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – JULY 2022

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### News You Can Use

#### MASTER ASSOCIATION OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

The Master Association office will be closed **Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**, in observance of Independence Day and will reopen on Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. On Palmer Ranch, smaller US flags will be set out to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth of July in 1776. Have a safe and sunny Fourth of July!



#### JULY IS NATIONAL FIREWORKS SAFETY MONTH.

Fireworks and celebrations just seem to go together. Long associated with Independence Day, the use of fireworks on other holidays, such as Memorial Day, Labor Day and New Year's Eve, is on the rise. Unfortunately, a happy celebration can quickly turn painful if consumer fireworks are misused.

#### Be prepared:

- Know and follow all county and city fireworks laws for your area.
- Never use homemade and/or illegal fireworks.
- Clear away any dry vegetation and debris from the area before igniting any fireworks.
- Always have a water source, full bucket of water and/or fire-extinguisher, close at hand.
- Make sure your pets are indoors before you begin, to reduce the risk they will run loose or get injured. Animals have sensitive ears and can be frightened or stressed during a fireworks celebration.

#### While celebrating:

- Be sure those watching are at a safe distance from where fireworks are being ignited.
- Use safety eyewear, glasses or goggles, to protect your eyes while igniting fireworks.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- Do not allow children to play with or light fireworks.
- Sparklers should only be used under close adult supervision. While often considered a “safe” firework for the young, the tip of a sparkler burns at 1,200 degrees or higher, which can cause third degree burns.
- If a firework does not light or fire, let it sit for at least 20 minutes then carefully place it in a bucket of water.

#### Clean up:

- Make sure fireworks are cold before handling and place all used fireworks into a bucket of water.
- Clean up all debris.
- Be sure matches, lighters and any unused fireworks are out of the sight and reach of children before, during and after your celebration.

**STONEBROOK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB'S SUMMER SCHEDULE (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC) - FLYER ATTACHED**



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### **Everything You Need to Know About Palmer Ranch**

#### **WHAT IS THE PALMER RANCH MASTER ASSOCIATION?**

##### **What is the Advisory Committee?**

The Advisory Committee consists of up to eight (8) members. The Committee meets once a month to determine whether to suggest Board action on various matters. The recommendations of the Committee are submitted to the Board in the form of proposals for Board action. The Committee provides a written report to the Board at each Board meeting. The minutes of the Committee, as well as those of the Board, are available for inspection through the Master Association office.

##### **How does the Master Association budget for Enhancements?**

The Advisory Committee maintains a prioritized list of proposed “Enhancements” for Palmer Ranch. This list includes landscaping and other improvements. The list is prioritized as to near term and longer-term projects. Pursuant to the advice from the Master Association’s accountants, the following procedure is used to provide for future Enhancements. Each year, when the proposed budget is prepared, an estimate is made of the anticipated revenues and expenses of the Master Association. An amount is allocated in the proposed budget for “Enhancements.” At the end of a given year, if any money remains in this budget item, as well as any other budget items, those amounts are applied to the next year’s budget to be used against expenses and/or for enhancements.

##### **Where does the accumulated amount of enhancement monies appear in the Master Association financials?**

Over time, the enhancement fund has accumulated \$ 1,471,158.02 as recorded in the Master Association's financials on the most recent Income & Expense Budget Performance in the Income account numbered 500010.

##### **How does the Master Association expect to use the enhancement funds?**

Currently, enhancement funds are targeted for irrigation expenses, road striping, landscape /oak tree up lighting and turf extensions. However, the largest anticipated enhancement projects are aimed at bringing new Honore Avenue areas and the Bay Street extension up to Master Association and Community standards.

Preliminary estimates indicate that the cost of these enhancements will be well over \$1,700,000. If the plan is approved by the Board, it will most likely be completed in stages. Enhancement funds are expected to provide most of the money required. Therefore, an increase in the Master Association assessment will, most likely, not be needed.

Palmer Ranch has been described as one of the most beautiful planned communities in the United States. Realtors have told Board members that the beauty of Palmer Ranch adds to the value of every property located in it. It is the goal of the Master Association to preserve and enhance that beauty for the benefit of the entire Palmer Ranch community.



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### Q: What can I do as a Palmer Ranch resident to minimize red tide?

A: Although we still don't know what causes red tide, you can help by keeping our watershed healthy.

Red tides in Florida develop 10-40 miles offshore, away from man-made nutrient sources. Once red tide moves inshore, however, it can be fueled by nutrient pollution from urban and agricultural runoff.

Our stormwater ponds are designed to help remove nutrients and other pollutants from stormwater runoff before it empties into Little Sarasota Bay and the Gulf. But their effectiveness depends on us.

So be mindful of what you put into our watershed. The two biggest things you can do to reduce nutrient poisoning and avoid feeding red tide are:

- Don't fertilize if rain is forecast in the next 48 hours
- If you irrigate your lawn with reclaimed water, reduce the amount of nitrogen in your fertilizer by the amount of nitrogen in your reclaimed water (ask your community manager)

You can also help minimize red tide by:

- Using pesticides sparingly, and considering non-chemical treatments
- Planting native vegetation, which requires less water and produces less runoff
- Properly disposing hazardous materials such as gas, oil, paint, and unused pool chemicals.

If you live on a stormwater pond, consider creating a low-maintenance zone at the pond's shoreline, including:

- A fertilizer-free zone at least 10 feet, and ideally 20 feet, from the shore.
- A vegetation zone two to six or more feet from the shore, with turf grass or native aquatic plants, grasses and rushes, groundcovers, wildflowers, shrubs, or trees, all allowed to grow to their optimum height. For turf grass, that's 12 inches of blade height.

Low-maintenance vegetation zones can reduce nutrients by as much as 50%. Consult with your community association's property manager before making any changes to your stormwater pond shoreline.

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Shoreline without low-maintenance zone



Shoreline with low-maintenance zone

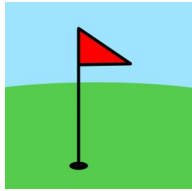


For more on how to properly maintain your stormwater pond shoreline, including a list of appropriate native plants, visit

<https://www.sarasota.wateratlas.usf.edu/upload/documents/LivingontheWatersEdgeFreshwater.pdf>.

And for more information on red tide in Sarasota County, visit the Official Water Quality Summit report at <https://www.scgov.net/home/showdocument?id=42805> and scroll to page 67. Or visit <https://myfwc.com/research/redtide/faq/>.

*Written by the Palmer Ranch Watershed / Natural Assets Committee, a group dedicated to maintaining and improving our water, preserves, and common areas.*



**Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club  
of Sarasota on Palmer Ranch  
Open to the Public!**

**Summer Schedule (Closed Tuesdays)**

- **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!**
- 18 Hole Golf Course, Restaurant & Bar
- Tee Times and Golf Packages Available
- Lunch Service: Every Open Day
- Closed Tuesday's through Summer

**Sunday: Breakfast Buffet**

9:30am-1:30pm

**Wednesday: Pub Night**

5:00-8:00pm

**Thursday: Rib Night**

5:00-8:00pm

**(Prime Rib, BBQ Ribs and Full Menu)**

**Friday: Dinner Menu and or Events**

5:00-8:00pm

- Special Events and Weddings
- Club Events and Entertain-

**Friday is Martini**

**Night**

**5:00-8:00pm**

**8.95++**



**TRIVIA  
NIGHT**

**Public Welcome!**  
**5:30 Dinner Buffet**  
**Games Follow Dinner**  
**Friday, July 15**  
**Friday, August 12**  
**Friday, September 16**  
**24.95++**

**Every other  
Thursday of the month  
PUBLIC WELCOME**

**BINGO**  
**& Dinner Buffet**  
**5:30 Served Dinner**  
**Games Follow Dinner**  
**24.95++**

**8801 Stoneybrook Blvd**  
**www.stoneybrook.net**  
**Reservations: 941-918-9595**