



## ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2022

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### News You Can Use

#### CALLING ALL PALMER RANCH SINGERS

Do you love to sing? Do you sing in a chorus or choir? You're invited to join the VillageWalk Singers as they begin preparations for a Fall 2022 concert. They will be meeting at St. Andrew United Church of Christ, 6908 Beneva Road, beginning **Monday, October 3, 2022**; practices are weekly 1:15 pm-3:30 pm, culminating in a concert on December 11. Music from their library will be provided, when possible, purchase of music may be required. Dues are \$40 for the Fall "semester."



Their Artistic Director, Jane Hunder, fantastic accompanist, Linda Lee Miller, and their Leadership Team have prepared a delightful holiday program, and are looking forward to the group's return to singing after a two-and-a-half-year hiatus due to Covid. Their ultimate goal is to have a Palmer Ranch Community Chorus with singers from the various communities within Palmer Ranch.

Interested? Call Jane Hunder at 941-350-0896 or Peggy Wells at 941-504-0464.

They hope to see many Palmer Ranch neighbors on October 3, as you lift your voices in song and share your love of singing.

"The MISSION of VILLAGEWALK (VW) SINGERS is to enrich the lives of all members who love to sing by fostering and developing an appreciation of music in a joyful, nurturing environment and to provide opportunities to share their choral artistry with the greater community."

### Sue's Grounds Corner

Palmer Ranch Watershed / Natural Assets Committee is proud to announce they have successfully created a Pond Buffer Flyer (**attached**). The purpose of the flyer is to educate residents who have no knowledge of Stormwater Ponds.

Sign Up For Our Newsletter

Do you want to hear about the news on Palmer Ranch first hand? If so, simply visit our website: [www.PalmerRanch.net](http://www.PalmerRanch.net). At the bottom of the home page, simply click on 'Sign Up For Our Newsletter.' You'll then be asked to provide your email address and first name. It's that easy!

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Palmer Ranch Master Association – Mission Statement

*'Our mission is to enhance and maintain the aesthetic quality of Palmer Ranch and to preserve the overall unique identity and sense of community'*



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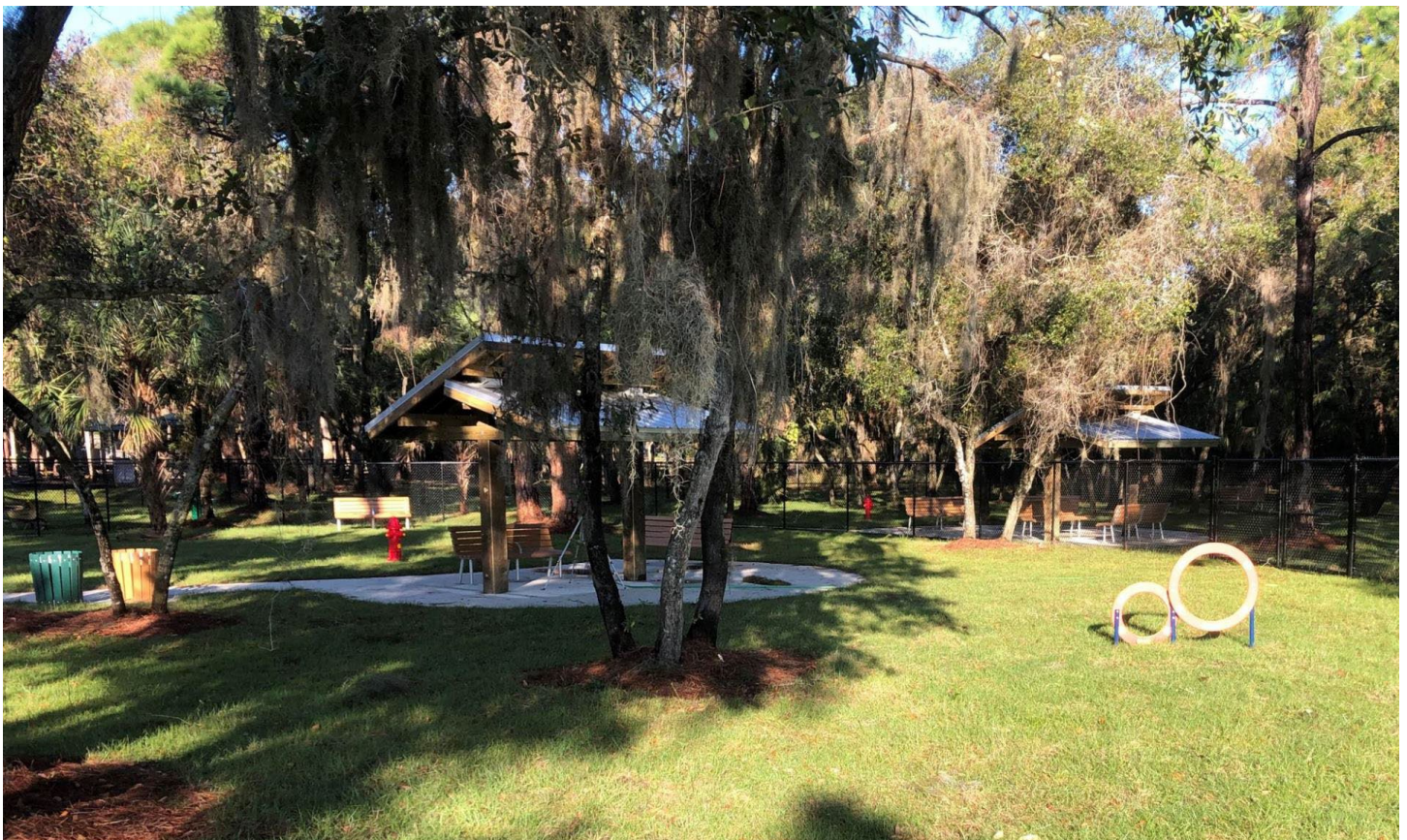
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### Bay Street Paw Park

Did you know the Bay Street Paw Park is open? Located at 300 Bay Street, the one-acre dog park constructed inside of the 19-acre Bay Street Park in Osprey is separated for small and large dogs. Both sections have dog exercise equipment, shaded seating areas and water fountains designed for both people and dogs.

The enclosed dog areas are separated from the previously existing playground and nature trails. In addition to the amenities added for dogs and their owners, additional sidewalks and parking were added to the park to ensure a safe experience for all who visit.





# Pond buffer zones add value, beauty, life



*Buffer zone with deep-rooted grasses and native Florida plants around the pond*

## ***What are stormwater ponds?***

- Man-made systems designed to imitate the role of natural Florida ponds and wetlands
- Engineered to prevent flooding
- Capture runoff from rain and irrigation – including pollutants
- Connect and empty into our bays
- Enhance property values, when well-maintained

## ***What are buffer zones (aka no-mow zones)?***

- Protected borders of vegetation around stormwater pond shorelines
- Should be at least 3 feet wide and 8 to 12 inches tall, accommodating native Florida plants
- Trimmed, not mowed

## ***Why plant buffer zones?***

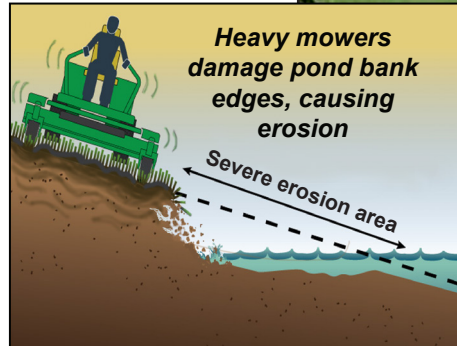
- Minimize erosion, delaying costly shoreline remediation for homeowners and associations
- Improve water quality by reducing nutrients, chemicals, and bacteria in runoff
- Add beauty by restoring habitat for wildlife and expanding plant diversity
- Increase property values



# Without buffer zones

## *Ponds erode, costs rise, values decline:*

- Daily wind and wave action erode pond banks
- Fluctuations in pond levels wash away exposed banks
- Lack of deep-rooted plants leads to faster bank erosion
- **Costly remediation required:**  
**\$150 to \$200 per foot of shoreline, or \$100Ks per pond**



*Pond with badly eroded banks*

## *Ponds become unhealthy:*

- More nutrients, chemicals, and bacteria enter ponds
- Excessive algae blooms may form – releasing foul-smelling, sometimes toxic chemicals
- Algae blooms deplete pond oxygen, killing fish and driving away birds and other wildlife
- Algaecides do not treat the causes of algae and can accumulate in a pond, causing harm to its ecosystem



*Excessive algae bloom in pond*

## *For more information on Natural Assets and buffer zones:*

- **VISIT:** [www.PalmerRanch.net](http://www.PalmerRanch.net)  
(Home> Resources> Natural Assets)
- **CONTACT: Palmer Ranch Master Property Owners Association, Inc.**  
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