

Whitewater Springs Newsletter

Volume one, Issue 2

July 2008

Starry, Starry Night

Do you enjoy the stars at night? Many of us moved from big cities to the Texas Hill Country to be able to, among other things, see the big sky at night. And Hill Country skies are typically filled with stars. But sometimes, bright lights create a haze that makes nighttime viewing almost impossible. Glows on the horizon are visible from even the small towns nearby, as well as from Austin. We can do our part by not adding to this light pollution. It's amazing how bright lights from homes here in WWS can be, even from way across the valley. Some of these lights stay on all night long. However, solar, low-voltage, or motion-sensor lighting is probably all that is necessary for security; after all, our neighbors are too far away to be able to see any intruders, even if they could get through our secure gate.

According to a recent article in the Austin American Statesman, those types of lighting, as well as light with a shade that is focused "downward on the spot meant to be illuminated, instead of outward," are more energy-efficient and more aesthetically pleasing. The Hill Country Alliance also advocates using "simple downlighting and shielding techniques that can reduce glare, light trespass (light shining on other properties) and sky glow (haze, amber or pink sky on cloudy nights). Dark sky ordinances are becoming more common" and many communities are now restricting certain types and placement of fixtures in order to reduce light pollution. Up-lighting of your house and landscaping and use of lights all around your home is not necessary, adds to light pollution, and restricts viewing of the stars on these beautiful, clear summer nights.

What can we do? According to HCA, "We can reduce light pollution by installing low-wattage, energy-efficient bulbs, retrofitting open lamps with shielding, and turning off lights when not needed. We should assess our own outdoor lighting: redirect lights and install shields where necessary. Talk to your neighbors about dark skies. Encourage builders of new developments and subdivisions to adopt a dark skies policy by installing downlighting or shielded lights."

A Near Crash

Many of our Whitewater Springs residents either know someone who has had a "near miss" when it comes to an automobile accident within our development or they have been involved in one themselves. This all seemed foreign to me until two weeks ago. My wife and I were driving the 25 MPH speed limit on Whitewater Drive on that day when at the curve right before the stop sign a white suburban was suddenly in the picture on the wrong side of the road and speeding in the opposite direction. The only thing I could do was hit the brakes. Luckily he saw us and swerved to let us continue on our way.

We both agreed that we could live with the idea that a driver could lose concentration in the development while looking at the beautiful scenery. What we can't understand is that this driver was speeding and at the same time was on the wrong side of the road.

Our roads clearly indicate that we have a 25-MPH speed limit. Let's **live** by that!

Feral Hog Trapping Project

As mentioned in the first Whitewater Springs Newsletter, we do have a feral hog problem here at WWS. They have caused a lot of damage at Pavilion Park and many other areas with their rooting and wallowing. They have even torn up some of our roads. There have been increased sightings of the hogs recently and one resident has seen as many as 15 babies and five adults at one time. According to Dan Barry, a professional hunter from Oatmeal, for every one hog you do see, there are at least five more you don't see. Dan also says, because there is no "pressure" on the hogs here (they are not hunted or pursued); they have become more bold and don't always run away from humans or vehicles. He also confirmed that they are attracted by corn set out for deer.

An article in the June 1st Austin American Statesman newspaper says that there are an estimated 2 million feral hogs in the state of Texas. Some 10% are infected with brucellosis and 20% have pseudo-rabies. This is a public health hazard.

Because of all this, we have asked Dan and his wife, Kelly, their dogs, and their ranch-hand, Jake Davis, to help us control our hogs. He will never be able to completely eliminate them, but by using traps, pens, and his Catahoula tracking dogs, he should be able to at least reduce their numbers for a while here at WWS, especially if no one puts out deer corn or feed. Last May, he and Percy Hiebner began scouting areas to place the traps. Dan understands that trapping on private property is prohibitive, but in Sections 2 and 5 we can temporarily trap since there are no homes, and this is where we suspect there is a large population of hogs. Dan will have a need to use a 4-wheel all-terrain vehicle, so you may see this being used. Because the use of such vehicles anywhere in WWS is prohibited by our covenants, the POA has given him special permission to do so. Dan will also have a temporary gate code so that he can come in to check the traps daily.

We would like all of the property owners to know what to expect. The traps are not the type

that will cause harm to anyone - they only prevent escape from the trap. You may see Dan or his dogs while they are here; the dogs will be wearing orange and black vests. They are highly trained hunting pursuit dogs equipped with radio collars so that the hunters know where they are at all times. The dogs will not harm you, your family, or your pets. Their only interest is in tracking hogs. So, if you do happen to see them on your property, just leave them alone because they are working. (As a side note: if you see other dogs without these vests hunting hogs, they are not sanctioned to do so in WWS).

Dan will be coming into WWS daily to set and check the traps and pens, and will usually be here in the early morning or evening when it is cooler and the hogs are likely to be more active. Because they will be working in common areas in Sections 2 and 5 primarily, you may not see them at all. No hogs will be killed in WWS and no guns will be used. The hogs will be hogtied and removed, alive, to be taken to be sold commercially for meat. WWS will not be charged a fee for this service. We will keep you advised on the progress of this effort. So far, 15 hogs have been captured.

Thank Goodness for Volunteers

Do you want to see volunteerism in action and have visual proof that things are getting done? All you have to do is come to Whitewater Springs. Here are just a few examples:

1. The third highest expenditure in our yearly budget is for mowing the shoulders of our roads, the Pavilion Park and the front entry way. This expenditure would be even higher if it were not for our volunteers. A number of residents mow not only the shoulders of the road in front of their house, but in some cases a good quarter of a mile or more on either side of their property.
2. Our swimming pool is maintained physically and mechanically by volunteers. Earlier this year two pumps were replaced and all the work was done by a volunteer saving us thousands of dollars. Each morning during the summer the pool is vacuumed, trash emptied, furniture straightened, and bath house is cleaned. All of this by volunteers.

3. The Pavilion area is furnished with custom-built picnic tables and things are kept reasonably maintained. All of this is done by volunteers.
4. Clearing and maintaining some of the common areas, after permission was granted, has all been done by volunteers.
5. Our roads are a never-ending project of maintenance. Even though we hire an outside paving company to do the major work, all the planning and direction of this effort is done by volunteers.
6. We are limited financially on the amount of ditch work that can be done. Silt barriers (primarily rock, of which we seem to have an abundance) is all done by volunteers.
7. Litter pick-up and, yes, we have citizens who tend to think they have a right to litter, is maintained by volunteers.
8. We have a fairly sophisticated security gate at the front entrance and the current residents take great comfort in knowing it is there. We have one of the best volunteers in the business looking after our welfare.
9. Our Architectural Control Committee works hard in making sure the integrity of our covenants is upheld. A thankless job all fulfilled by volunteers.
10. The safety of our community from the standpoint of fire is taken seriously by our all volunteer Firewise Committee. They have received Burnet County recognition for their work.
11. We are a development in fine financial standing with our utility companies, service companies and with county and state government. This can be credited to a volunteer.
12. Our website, www.wwsboa.com, is managed by a volunteer who appreciates good communications and has a background in computer technology.

We do appreciate our volunteers. They work, they give, and all of this unconditionally.

Pruning Oak Trees

Now that we are in the midst of the long, hot summer, it's now OK again to prune oaks. Remember to use Lysol or Clorox to disinfect your saw or pruner, paint the wound immediately

with latex paint (some also recommend using car undercoating), and never prune oak wilt susceptible trees like Texas red oak and live oak from February 1st through June 1st. If you hire someone to do this work for you, please, for the health of all of our beautiful trees here in WWS, make sure that you actually see them doing these things. More oak wilt info can be found at www.texasoakwilt.org. For a copy of the article on this topic previously sent in a Firewise email contact wwsfirewise@yahoo.com. And, if you are clearing any trees within 300 feet of the endangered species habitat, you must wait until after the first of August.

The Good Old Swimming Hole

One of the great summer amenities we have here at Whitewater Springs is our swimming pool. We are also very fortunate that we have volunteers who contribute their time in making sure the water meets standards that keep us healthy and refreshed as we enjoy ourselves. With this said, these same volunteers are asking us to do the following:

- Make sure that anyone under the age of 16 is properly supervised.
- No glass items may be brought inside the pool fence.
- Place your pool trash inside the receptacles provided.
- Please do not leave the bath house door propped open at any time.
- Make sure the umbrellas are lowered and secured when you leave.
- Make sure the gates to the pool areas are closed at all times.

The pool stays nice because we work at keeping it that way. Your cooperation and assistance are appreciated.

Water!

Our Most Precious Natural Resource

According to the Hill Country Alliance, groundwater (water held in our aquifers) is a major source of water in the Hill Country and one of our most valuable resources. Since 1904, ownership of groundwater in Texas has been governed by the rule of capture, which means landowners have the right to capture an unlimited supply of water from beneath their land. This rule is now subject to modification by local Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCD's), which develop management plans that can include regulating the spacing and production of water wells. A large portion of our Texas Hill Country has been designated a Priority Groundwater Management Area because we are expected to encounter critical shortages in the near future. Some local residents in our area, as well as elsewhere, did experience low and nonperforming wells during the 2005-2006 drought.

We can all do our part to help conserve water in our community. There are many simple and obvious ways to do this. Repair leaky faucets and fixtures or irrigation systems, use low water use toilets and shower heads, tankless water heaters, and replace older machines with high-efficiency washers. Wash only full loads of clothes or dishes. Washing dishes by hand uses more water. Turn off the water when shaving or brushing teeth. In some communities, virtually every drop of water that would have been wasted (while waiting for the shower to heat up, for example) is collected to be used in other ways.

We probably could all do more to conserve water in our landscapes. Water your plants with only the amount they need, use a timer so you won't forget to turn it off, and never let the water run off or spray sidewalks and driveways. Drip irrigation and soaker hoses use less water than spray heads. Xeriscaping can dramatically reduce the amount of water needed for landscapes and does not mean you can only have rocks and cactus. There are many varieties of beautiful and colorful native plants that are well adapted to our area and require very little water.

In order to have a nice lush lawn, you need deep soil and lots of water, so instead, we can use native grasses that tolerate our shallow soil and use much less water. Some of our WWS homeowners harvest rainwater from their roofs to store in tanks for irrigation.

Instead of waiting for drought conditions to require mandatory water restrictions (we are currently under Stage Two restrictions), from May 1st to September 30th, we could voluntarily adopt the LCRA watering schedule below. For more info, visit

www.lcra.org/water/utilities/drought_restrictions.html

- Water only from midnight to 10 A.M. and 7 P.M. to midnight on your designated day (to lessen waste by evaporation)
- Odd-numbered addresses water only on Wednesday and/or Saturday
- Even-numbered addresses water only on Thursday and/or Sunday
- No restrictions on hand-held hoses and watering cans during voluntary restrictions

Anyone considering installing a swimming pool should think carefully about the expected critical shortage of water in our near future. Besides, we already have the very nice, well-maintained swimming pool mentioned above, and it's never crowded. At our current water rates (which will surely rise in the future), the cost to fill a private pool would be excessive, and any additional water used by the household that month would likely cost the maximum rate of \$7.50 per 1000 gallons. Our dry and windy climate here causes extremely high evaporation rates so that swimming pool would need to have water added very frequently.

Let's all do our part to help conserve water for our future here at Whitewater Springs.

More About Recycling

The Bertram recycling tank on West Street north of the railroad tracks now accepts plastic containers with Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, as well as Nos. 1 and 2. They also now accept plastic bags

and plastic sheets, such as bubble wrap and stretch wrap. Please be sure all items are clean and dry and place them in the bins according to the posted signs inside the tank.

Firewise Corner

We are pleased to announce that Dean Dearthmont, one of our WWS Firewise Committee members, has been appointed by the Burnet County Commissioners Court to one of 5 positions on the newly formed Bertram Fire Emergency Services District (ESD). Dean was elected vice-president at their first meeting and will be very involved in the planning and implementation of the ESD. Congratulations, Dean!

Terri Whaley, head of our Firewise Committee, will be attending the “Backyards and Beyond” National Firewise Conference for 4 days in Tampa this November. Attendees from all over the US, Canada, Great Britain, South Africa and Australia will participate in discussions and learn about many fire-related topics. Participants include state, federal and local government representatives, fire emergency managers, educators, developers, landscape architects, firefighters, real estate and insurance professionals, as well as homeowners, Firewise Community representatives and others. Firewise Communities/USA is funding Terri’s trip as a scholarship grant for active participants in the recognition program.

Burnet County is currently under a BURN BAN. Once the burn ban has been lifted, remember that you are required by law to notify the sheriff before any outdoor burning.

The Dangers of Invasive Plants

Scientists estimate that invasive plants cost our economy \$35 billion a year in damages and treatment. They are introduced to our ecosystem by many means, and are spread by seed or birds, or are discarded in the compost pile, released on the side of the road, or washed downstream by rains. Once established where they have no predators or disease control, they quickly reproduce and out-compete native plant species, many of which are already in decline due to

habitat destruction. They are the number one threat to biodiversity on protected lands.

Rivers are a vital source of water for ranchers and farmers. Invasive riverside or aquatic plants like salt cedar (we do not have salt cedar in WWS - what we have is called Willow Baccharis, a Hill Country native), giant reed, hydrilla, and water hyacinth greatly reduce the flow of waters. Some plants also adversely affect the quality of water; for example, salt cedar oozes a substance which promulgates the spread of algae that eventually can kill fish. Several woody shrubs, including two species of juniper, have spread across Texas, significantly increasing the risk of fire and damaging water sources.

What can we do? Use only seed mixes that do not contain species from other regions - beware of mixes that are simply labeled “Wildflower seeds”. Use weed-free soil and mulches that are labeled “Certified weed-free”. Dispose of invasive plants carefully by bagging or burning to prevent spread. Keep an eye on new sprouts and volunteers in your landscape and control them before they mature. Most importantly, we can plant non-invasive alternatives, preferably native species, which are more adapted to the Hill Country and, consequently, use less water, need less pesticide, and are often deer-resistant.

Here are some of the common non-native, invasive plants found in Texas that have “escaped”, and a few of the many native plant alternatives:

- **Mimosa** - fast-growing (and spreading) tree that reaches 40 feet. Alternatives: Desert willow, Mesquite, Redbud (mexicana or Texensis)
- **Chinaberry** - very fast growing tree with berries loved by and transplanted by birds (no known nutritional value). Poisonous leaves and bark; very difficult to eradicate. Alternatives: Mexican plum, Redbud
- **Chinese or Japanese Privet (ligustrum)** - evergreen with dense growth. All species in this group are problems. Alternatives: Wax myrtle and Yaupon holly (although both are highly flammable), Texas sage (cenizo), Barbados cherry, Evergreen sumac
- **Chinese Wisteria** - fragrant purple flower clusters on deciduous vine from Asia. Alternatives: Passionvine, American wisteria (frutescens), Trumpet creeper, Coral honeysuckle, Crossvine

- **Redtip Photinia** - perennial shrub or tree from Japan and China. Alternatives: Evergreen, Yaupon holly, Evergreen sumac
- **Japanese Honeysuckle** - evergreen vine from Asia with fragrant flowers. Alternatives: Carolina jessamine, Coral honeysuckle, White honeysuckle
- **Nandina** - evergreen shrub from Asia. Red berries and burgundy foliage in cold weather. Alternatives: non-berrying nandinas (dwarf varieties), Autumn sage, Barbados cherry, Texas sage
- **Mulberry (Paper and White)** - deciduous tree from Asia that grows to 45 feet. Spread by seeds and fruit eaten by wildlife. Alternatives: Cherry laurel, Texas persimmon
- **Pyracantha** - evergreen from Asia with sharp spines and clusters of white flowers followed by bright red or orange berries. Alternatives: Possumhaw or Yaupon holly, Coral honeysuckle, Agarita
- **Pampas Grass** - a perennial from South America with an intense root system that out-competes neighboring plants for water. During fires, it can produce flames 30 feet high. Spread by seed up to 20 miles away. Alternatives: Big Muhly (lindheimeri), Switch grass

Other well-known invasives include non-native pines, Chinese tallow, English ivy, Paulownia, Bamboo, Russian olive, Tree of Heaven, Chinese pistache, and even the most common species of Lantana in the horticulture business (Lantana camara).

For more information on these and other invasive species, please visit www.texasinvasives.org.

We will be removing invasive species from common areas in WWS - anyone interested in volunteering to help should contact wwsfirewise@yahoo.com

Go Native!

Interested in a beautiful, low-maintenance landscape? It can be done with native plants. You will have to let go of some of the old notions of landscaping and rely more on common sense. Using native plants is very rewarding, easier, beautiful and ultimately less expensive.

What exactly are native plants? Native plants have evolved and adapted to local conditions over thousands of years. They are vigorous and hardy, so they can survive winter cold and summer heat. Once established, they require no irrigation or fertilization. They are resistant to most pests and diseases. So, native plants suit

today's interest in "low-maintenance" gardening and landscaping.

It is sometimes difficult to get away from traditional landscaping. Most of us grew up admiring a "weed" free and manicured lawn, usually with water-hungry St. Augustine grass. We do not need the big lawns we have—the less, the better. Going native emphasizes selecting the plant that grows naturally at the site. Since native plants evolved to grow under local conditions, they do not require that the site be changed. They do not need the life support of watering (except during establishment) or regular chemical product application.

What are the benefits of landscaping with native plants?

1. **Low Maintenance** - Compared to maintaining green lawns and manicured shrubbery, a native landscape is very low in maintenance. Native plants grow well together (they evolved growing along side one another). They do not need watering (except during establishment), nor do they require chemical fertilizers. They are adapted to local conditions and to local "bugs".
2. **Saves You Money – Less maintenance equals lower cost.** While the average garden requires all kinds of maintenance, the opposite is true for the native garden. Since native plants effectively take care of themselves, there is little or no maintenance and hence little or no cost. As a result, gardens which utilize native plants cost less over time. Initial installation costs are about the same, the cost savings come over time with less maintenance.
3. **Water** - To maintain a "green" look, a lawn can require thousands of gallons of water per summer to maintain. Today's water supply is a critical issue. By going native, your landscape's water needs will be dramatically reduced.
4. **Benefits Wildlife** - Native plants provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies and other desirable wildlife. As more of us use native plants in our landscaping, it will add to the available habitat for wildlife and benefit our community as a whole. "Going

Native” will also help save our natural heritage for future generations.

5. **Beauty** - Native plants are beautiful and interesting. Native plants are not limited to cactus! Many native plants produce showy flowers, abundant fruits and seeds, and brilliant fall foliage. By planting native plants, you will have a beautiful yard that is friendly to wildlife.

We encourage our Whitewater Springs neighbors to choose to “go native”. The less watering, fertilizing, and chemical control required in our yards, the more we contribute to the conservation and preservation of our precious water resources—our streams, lakes, and aquifers.

For information on native plants for Central Texas, stop by our local LCRA office and ask for their publication [Native and Adapted Landscape Plants: an earthwise guide for Central Texas](#) or visit the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center website at www.wildflower.org

Whitewater Springs Security Follow-up

In our last newsletter, we discussed how to use the control box when entering your gate code to make sure the attempt is successful. It is hoped that the information was helpful.

We continue to find that many of our property owners and residents are giving their gate codes out to other than immediate family members. Each time a code is given out, a note is included that asks that the code is not given out except as instructed. When a code is given to someone other than an immediate family member, we lose control of who may open the gate. By the way, we do have a camera at the gate, and the tape can be reviewed to determine which code was used to allow a particular vehicle to get in our gate.

Our community is billed as a gated community. If your gate code is given to contractors, casual visitors, realtors, delivery services, maintenance or service companies or other than family members, we lose the effect of having a controlled gate. Should something happen when one of these folks is here in Whitewater Springs,

having used your code to enter, you may be liable.

Anyone with a legitimate reason to visit Whitewater Springs can enter using one of the several methods set up to gain access. Visitors and service companies can call the home they intend to visit from the call box at the gate. Contractors and realtors are issued passwords to be used when they are at the call box to give to our answering service and identify themselves. If you have an ongoing requirement for a service company, they can be set up with a password to enter if you are not home when they need to enter.

If anyone has any doubt about how to handle an entrance situation, call our 24/7 answering service at (512) 756-5206 and explain your situation. The answering service will pass your comments on to the proper committee person for resolution and you will be contacted with a reply. It is best to give your email address when you have a question so that the response can be put in writing.

Update on Roads

ROADS... The contractor has completed the recycle of Crestway, Longhorn Pass and Sunset Peak (past Simmons) and Chaney's Crossing from the Pavilion to Balcones Ridgeway. The road base material on Chaney's was very poor with large rocks that had to be broken or eliminated and required numerous passes with roller and grader. They also had problems with laying down the chip-and-seal on such a steep grade. Apologies to our neighbors on Chaney's who had to put up with lots of dust and noise for many days.

We still have a portion of Whitewater Drive (around the two sharp corners) to recycle and that will probably happen within the next couple of weeks. Also at the same time we will do pothole repairs throughout the subdivision.

Ashe Juniper was also given a one-coat chip-and-seal as part of the four year maintenance cycle. As I stated earlier this should preclude any

major work on Ashe Juniper for another 10 years.

The spring spraying of all WWS roads for encroaching weeds and grasses has also been completed. High winds had prevented completing this volunteer effort earlier.

NEW LOW-WATER CROSSING...

Grading of the new road down to the base level has been completed and work has begun on excavating for the bridge foundation. Holes were drilled into the Cow Creek limestone and it was determined that there is plenty of solid rock to properly anchor the bridge. Work will continue over the next several weeks. The contractor is currently waiting on steel for foundation and bridge concrete work.

A little horse trading allowed us to get the contractor to help fill in some eroded ditches on Ashe Juniper with material from the low-water crossing excavation at no cost to the POA. Additional fill will be used on Murphy and Whitewater Dr. He was also gracious enough to help move some mulch (from the USF&W clearing work) to individual homes again at no cost.

GENERAL CLEANUP...

The new developer paid to have a good portion of the back of Section 5 shredded so that they can further determine how to develop and market the property. We used the same company to shred around Whitewater Lake and also along Westcreek and Wagon Wheel Trail south of Cow Creek. Go take a look and let me know what you think. I'm also looking for someone that would like to spray the "salt cedars" (actually dry-land willows) when they start resprouting. I've got the sprayers and the herbicide. - Bill Hiers

Promises Made-----Promises Kept

The white fence at the entry of Whitewater Springs, as well as the fence fronting FM 1174 is currently being painted. The Madison Group is doing this in addition to some other work going on in the development. The following things are also in the planning stage:

1. Professionally landscape the front entrance with low water usage, drought tolerant plants.
2. Measurements have been made and costs are being considered to line the Pavilion Pond in the park area.
3. Shredding of tall weeds and undergrowth in Section 5.

Completing these projects will certainly improve the looks of our community. We are highly appreciative of the Madison Group's efforts.

Your comments and suggestions about this newsletter and its contents are appreciated. Please send them to wwsnews@yahoo.com .

The Survey Says

Back in April the POA Team sent out a “Whitewater Springs POA Common Area Survey” form. The purpose of this survey was to give property owners an opportunity to give input on how the common areas within the development should be used now that this property is owned by the Property Owners Association. The results are listed below. Also included are the various comments that came back on the forms received:

Priority: 1=lowest priority
5=highest priority

Funding: 1=not funded
2=developer funded
3=mostly developer funded
4=mostly POA funded
5=POA funded

Your use: 1=never
5=frequently (if we had this item, how frequently would you or your family use it?)

The following numbers represent an average of the exact number the respondents placed on the survey for each category:

	Priority	Funding	Use
Additional hiking/nature trails along some areas	2.40	1.89	2.30
Addition of some rugged and/or steep hiking trails	1.68	1.17	1.62
More playground equipment in the Pavilion Park	1.51	1.97	1.17
Community Building	2.65	2.13	1.79
Native plant landscaping (low maintenance & water requirements)	3.17	2.58	1.79
Lining in Pavilion Pond to retain water year round	3.00	2.41	2.27
Run pipe from side creek to fill Pavilion Pond when it rains	2.34	1.68	1.82
Level ground in Pavilion Pond area/use as site for other activities	1.58	1.20	1.13
Fill in pond-like area on Chaney's Crossing/recreate natural creek	2.34	1.51	1.51
Walking/running track	1.48	1.55	1.48
Tennis courts	1.17	1.21	1.07
Softball/soccer fields	1.10	1.13	0.96
Basketball courts	1.10	1.10	1.00
Equestrian trails	1.00	0.90	0.79
Wildlife areas retained undisturbed where appropriate, except removal of invasive plants	3.55	2.07	2.07
Shaded fuel breaks (thinning & trimming trees, mostly Ashe juniper, shaded to eliminate grass, to stop or slow down wildfire)	3.31	2.48	1.93
Picnic and fishing dock areas at Cattail Pond	1.93	1.28	1.28
Picnic and fishing dock areas at Big Lake	3.48	2.51	3.00
Improved entrance and exit areas at front, including new fencing	4.03	2.24	2.86
Acquire lot adjoining the park for future recreational additions	1.89	1.65	1.28

Survey Comments:

Make culverts mandatory for all homes.
Put real ditches in along roads where needed.
Curb edges of road in concrete on Whitewater Drive up to the stop sign.
Irrigate trees at swimming pool using materials already purchased and in storage.
Landscape lights or other lighting around pool.
Put park benches in the pool area.
Fix A/C at pool house.
Move mailbox portico away from entry.
Make a bicycle/walk/jogging path surrounding Whitewater Lake.
Leave all common areas as natural as possible.
Thank you for desiring our input.
The pool area looks very bleak without any plants/trees.
There are miles of roads to walk already, so not in favor of a walking/running track.
The pond pavilion area would be a beautiful amenity if it had water year round.
Main entrance and front fence need a modern upgrade at the expense of the developer.
Natural areas should remain natural looking with minimal alterations if hiking trails are added or expanded.
Ditches and drainage
Clean up of common areas.
I believe any "priority rating" should be from 0 to ? so that zero priority assessments can be rated as such and not given a "false" 1 rating.
Regarding funding there should be a category for "individual funding" so that individuals would be prepared to fund their projects subject to approval of the project by the POA.
Many of the "suggestions" would require not only funding, but considerable ongoing maintenance costs which are not mentioned above. I hope the POA Team will go slow in recommending any project before fully considering owners needs and the full costs.
I would like to see some trees planted around the big lake.
More natural drainage to avoid erosion of roads and property edges.
Recreation is not a high priority. Appearance and maintenance are high priorities.
Place linings in ponds throughout WWS.
Stock big lake with crappie.
Water softener, reverse osmosis, ice maker and refrigerator at pool bath house.
Repair pump at front gate for waterfalls
Repair well at front gate for irrigation