

RC Landscape Committee Report January-April 2023

As the winter draws to a close and snowbirds begin their trek back home, the Landscape Committee has now ended their active planting and sod replacement until Fall of 2023.

The volunteer landscape committee **received 24 work orders**—recorded on the Action Log of the RC website. Of those 24 this year to date, which is down substantially from past years when the landscaping was old and diseased, we removed dead plants and replaced with fresh shrubs, planted sod to lessen the mulched area and continued to update the common areas around the condo buildings.

Some work orders are still pending due to the **drought we are experiencing in south Florida and the unusually hot winter we have had**. Heat and lack of water are not good for new plants and sod so some projects and work orders are on hold until the Fall.

Completed Projects by Landscape Committee this winter:

- Ordered and layed 6 pallets of sod in various areas around RC. Thanks to our "sod crew" who are always willing and ready to assist us with the task.
Special thanks to Jim Linker, Jim Ballard, Dan Cregan, John Mears, Chip Bellows, Sally Wollersheim, Eric Vermily, The Gills, The Gattos and Judy Agan
- Finished line of *Clusia* along the back of building 2 to complete that area
- Planted a line of *Clusia* by main water line near the end of building 10
- Planted rows of *Clusia*/*Portacarpus* around the A/C units in back of building 2 and building 4
- Cut out a large patch of "Beach Napala" by the maintenance driveway that attracts rodents and replaced with a row of *Clusia*. (As the *Clusia* grows, more of the invasive plant will be cut away to eventually eliminate the Beach Napala all together.
- Trimmed Pepper trees behind building 9 (twice)
- Trimmed and cleaned up Clubhouse circle
- Trimmed and cleaned out planted area by Clubhouse patio and grill area

- Added new annuals and flowers to Clubhouse patio pots (Thank you, Diane Ward)
- Removed diseased plants around building 11 fountain and replaced with hearty green island ficus and river rock.
- Added Clusia along roadway on side of building 11
- Worked extensively to assist Mark to fix irrigation lines due to old system
- Trimmed down mexican petunias along entrance road to encourage new and fuller growth.
- Planted shrubs around the drainage ditch behind building 12

Pending (awaiting pricing from 707)

- Landscape fabric and river rock at parking lot island in front of building 14
- River rock continued on entrance island for cohesive look

Just a reminder from past reports or information for our newest owners....

- RC cut down and removed all the Areca Palms because of the Ganoderma disease that is affecting palm trees all over Florida. This was a proactive measure on RC's part to slow the spread of this problem to the other palm trees at RC. Even with doing this we are still seeing the Ganoderma spread to some of the other remaining Palms and have to remove them once they become infected. **Because of the longevity of the spores in the soil, we can never replant a Palm tree in the same place as we removed one.** For this reason we are replacing the palms with other plants, such as the Bird of Paradise along the entrance way and the Clusia that we have planted in various areas where the Palms were removed. **Please keep an eye out for brown and dying tops to the Palms and if you see one, please contact the office so LC may become aware.**
- Also, if you have potted plants in your yard and you do not live at RC full time, please cooperate by emptying the pots and storing/securing them in your condo before you leave for your summer home.. Pots are projectiles in a hurricane.

- During the spring and summer, please be mindful of any plant or grass that is looking unusually distressed. Send in a work order and Sally from the LC will come to look to see if there is a simple solution to the issue.
- 707, RC's paid landscape contractor, will continue trimming shrubs for their spring cut. Hibiscus need to be trimmed substantially to encourage growth and fullness. 707 will get to every building and your patience is appreciated.

Enjoy your summer.... wherever you may be. Thank you for your cooperation during the winter months. See you in October.

Your Landscape Committee