

August 27, 2014

Dear Homeowner,

Your Hammocks Board of Directors and Grounds Committee have been examining the natural preserve areas surrounding our community. Many areas of our preserve have become overgrown. Low hanging branches prevent mowers from cutting. Then invasive weeds have grown under these uncut areas. Much of this is invasive Brazilian pepper and scrub bushes with endemic vines and vegetation. Where homes abut a preserve, their property and lanai screening are threatened. This encroachment will continue to consume our common grasslands unless we act.

Your Grounds Manager has contacted the Manatee County Land Development that protects local Florida environment. They support removal of nuisance or exotic vegetation in buffer areas. In some situations SWFMD can require communities to clear these nuisance areas. Any indigenous vegetation will not be cut. Once the frontage is cleared and sunlight allowed to permeate, the indigenous plants will sprout and green up.

Our contract with Valley Crest, our landscape management service, does not address the preserve. It is not part of the service they provide in their contract with the Hammocks. Thus, this work is a separate proposal approved by your Board of Directors at the July monthly meeting. In that we are an account of Valley Crest, they have given us an excellent price for two miles of frontage. Other bids have been four to five times more expensive.

Your Board of Directors has decided to be proactive in dealing with an ongoing problem. This project will commence this Thursday, August 28, weather permitting. The homes not adjoining a preserve or not having an issue will not be affected. We ask your cooperation as the work team and equipment may be traveling through some back yards.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at 941-776-8551 or at [bobbysgirl@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bobbysgirl@tampabay.rr.com).

Thank you.

June Seaton  
President, Hammocks HOA