

VWL BOARD OF DIRECTORS POLICY #2014-1

Approved on July 22, 2014

Subject: Stabilization of Pond Banks

1. We will continue the existing policy of mowing not closer than 2 feet of pond banks without bulkheads and keeping grass height between 12 inches and 6 inches height in that 2-foot zone in areas without bulkheads.
2. Non-grass plants along the pond edge, with the exception of palm trees, will be allowed to grow to at least 3 feet in height, and then shaped to have an attractive appearance that does not jeopardize root growth.
3. Volunteer palms will be poisoned and not pulled to prevent damage to pond bank stability.
4. Pond rubber barriers that have fallen in the ponds or pulled away from the banks will be removed.
5. Banks that are evidencing cave-ins will be given priority to be addressed in next year's budget cycle in the most cost effective manner, to include sloping and re-vegetating, installing bulkheads or rip rapping.
6. Plant height markers will be installed at reasonable intervals along pond banks to ensure trimming policy is maintained.
7. Residents will be encouraged to donate plants or funds to be used in their viewscape to enable this policy. Plants will be from a list established by experts, such as the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Planting approval shall pass through the Grounds Committee for review and recommendation.
8. To guarantee our ponds can safely drain during major storm events, they shall be watered down and sufficiently drained annually. Culverts will be checked to ensure they remain open. Pond and irrigation maintenance can be performed during that cycle.
9. Culverts more than 50% blocked at either entrance will be cleaned and cleared.
10. The drain gate at pond one will be tested and maintained at least twice annually to ensure safe operation during a major storm event.
11. As a general rule, at least two members of the Grounds Committee will have taken or will agree to take at the earliest opportunity, either the Texas Master Naturalist program or the Quinta Mazatlan Backyard Habitat class as a condition of serving on the committee."

This policy will be executed by the President and the Grounds Committee. Proposed exceptions to the policy will be reviewed by the Grounds Committee and must be approved by the Board after review of the Grounds Committee recommendations.