

**Circle C Landscape
Summary Report to the Board
July-August. 2012**

1. **Weather.** In general, a million times better than last summer. We had an unusual rain event in July with approximately 6 to 8 inches of rain at Circle C. An additional but lighter rain event in August (less than .10 inch) cooled down the hot summer temperatures. Other than that, dry, hot and humid as usual.

2. **Irrigation.** The City of Austin rolled back the water conservation measures from Stage Two to Stage One in mid July. This allows watering two times per week. At the same time, they changed the allowable watering hours from 12:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on a single day to 12-5:00 a.m and 7-12:00 p.m. This required that we recalculate all of the water use of our irrigation controllers (about 50) to meet the new watering times. All of the controllers were reset to comply.

3. **Revised Water Conservation Code and Watering Variances.** We also re-submitted our watering variance requests to the City of Austin in order to make sure that when we water on days other than Tuesday or Friday, we are in compliance with the City of Austin. We have approval for six watering variances in the following locations: Circle C North/Vintage Place, Slaughter Lane, Escarpment in several locations, Avana, and Spruce Canyon at FM 1826.

The Austin City Council adopted an entire new water conservation ordinance at their August 16th meeting. You can find a full copy at www.waterwiseaustin.org. We have made this information available to residents via the newsletter.

4. **Circle C Community Center.** All is well landscape wise at the Community Center. We have re-seeded some bare areas behind the pool with the goal to get the final environmental inspection on the site within a month.

5. **Crape Myrtles.** We are having a major infestation of aphids on the crape myrtles all around. This will cause the leaves to yellow and then die and fall off the trees. Generally we don't treat this type of thing as the natural predators (ladybugs) do the work for us. This is most likely a result of the heavy July rains.

6. **Standard Maintenance.** Along with the weather changes came a lot of growth on the vegetation. Although we had finished trimming all of the perennials before the rains, they are being trimmed again in many locations due to a lot of growth. The grass is looking better than it has in a while, and we remain on our weekly mowing rotation.

7. **Capital Improvements/Repairs.** The big controller located inside the Swim Center up near Escarpment was hit by lightning in July. It is a special order item, so we set up temporary controllers until the new one arrived and was installed. We are currently working on setting up drip irrigation in strategic locations throughout the property. Under the new Water Conservation Code, drip and

bubblers are exempt from the water conservation rules through Stage Three and are only prohibited in emergency Stage Four regulations that allow no outside watering.

Additional capital improvements in landscaping will resume around September 15, when we cool down enough to support new plantings. This will also depend on where we are with water conservation, as the City of Austin has indicated they will be going back to Stage Two if and when the lakes drop below 900,000 acre feet of storage capacity.

8. Tree Care. Within the next few weeks we are going to have a water fertilization done on some of the burr oaks. These trees need a boost at the root system to strengthen them over all. We will also have some pruning done on the Slaughter Lane medians. The trees continue to struggle a bit as a result of last year's drought which cause quite a bit a damage to Central Texas trees.