

**Circle C Landscape
Summary Report to the Board
September, 2012**

- 1. Weather.** Nice! Hot in the latter part of August, beneficial rain in early September, general cooling pattern suggestive of Fall.
- 2. Maintenance Services.** We continue with weekly services of mowing, blowing, weed eating, weeding and trimming. The tall weeds you see on the commons areas are Dallisgrass, which is common this time of year and grows about six inches per day. We dig it out when feasible, but it is a stubborn weed. Since we have an environmental model and work on such highly traveled pedestrian areas, we do very little herbicide treatment. If conditions are ideal, we may do some spraying in the next few weeks.
- 3. Tree Care.** We had our arborist come in and provide an aeration and water fertilization to most of the burr oaks on Escarpment, at Circle C North and on LaCrosse to the west. These trees have been stressed and the fertilization will help them recover. We provided a booster oak wilt treatment to the trees on South Bay near the post office. There is oak wilt down the way and this is the second time the trees have been treated. I have scheduled a health prune for trees on Slaughter Lane when the weather is conducive to trimming.
- 4. Irrigation Services.** After a brief respite into Stage One water restrictions, the City reverted back to Stage Two on September 4, 2012. We reset all of the controllers again, and have been watering two cycles on a single day in some locations. We will be resetting the controllers as the fall progresses to respond to seasonal changes.
- 5. Water Conservation and Irrigation Improvements.** The new ordinance for the City allows drip irrigation at all stages except Stage 4, which limits all outdoor watering. This method of irrigating has the advantages of being highly efficient with no evaporation, deep watering the plants, and keeping things alive during drought. The disadvantages include damages to the tubing from signs placed on the commons areas, it is harder to repair, and no one has any good data on how long the parts last. That being said, we are looking at converting areas such as median tips with plants to drip. This will make the subdivision look better, save water, and provide more flexibility in irrigation scheduling in key locations.
- 5. Special Projects.** It has now cooled down enough that we will be able to do some landscape improvements over the next two months. However, these have to be planned to work with the Stage Two water restrictions as we cannot easily get a variance. We are beginning with the median north of LaCrosse on Escarpment. We will be killing out the weeds and St. Augustine, revamping the area to add drip irrigation and will be installing Pallisades zoysia along the edges, rock and mulch in the middle with the trees and plantings in strategic locations. With the drip irrigation, we will be able to water as needed since drip is exempt from Stage Two water restrictions. Additional improvements will include revising median tips and other areas where we can use drip. Please let me know if you have any areas that you are wondering about.

6. Circle C Community Center. The Community Center has grown in well over the past few months, and I am in the process of preparing the documents for the Landscape Architect to use in obtaining the final environmental inspection on the site. Once this is passed by the City, you will receive the \$79,000 in fiscal posting for the environmental part back.

We are looking at finishing up some minor landscape improvements at the site, including planting shrubs and trees on the south side as negotiated with the Doswell neighbors.

7. Upcoming Treatments. This time of year we will be applying ant bait, starting on fertilization, and applying pre-emergent weed killer to beds and turf areas. And, **Holiday Lighting** is just around the corner!!!