



GREEN INDUSTRY
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPLIANCE SERVICE

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Avondale Grove Storm Water Site Evaluation

On November the 11th, 2010 Green Industry conducted a Storm Water site evaluation at the Avondale Groves Community. The following is a summary of that site visit.

There are 3 combined storm water system on the combined properties at the Avondale Grove community. This is a gated community, and the property has two protected wetland areas. The first Wetland area is at the west side of the development and is connected by a man made canal extension. This area is backed up by three of the current home owners. The second wet lands area is at the south east corner of the community and has been prone to flooding and poor drainage during extensive rain events.

The following observations were made at the time of the site visit.

Pond I (at entrance): The combined Detention/ retention system has an inlet culvert on the west side which accepts all run off from the road way and the properties on the West side of the Road way. There is an overflow system on the East end of the pond that leads to the canal/ ditch area and then discharges to the south east wetland at the back of the community. Heavy silt and floating decayed organics from mowing were evident in the pond area, causing algae bloom and de nitrification of organic materials. Cat tails in the transition area of the system have become invasive, and were being removed manually by the home owner. The piles of decaying material need to be removed from the system to prevent further decay from building up in the system and causing drainage problems with the pond.

Pond II: on the West side of the community main road connects to a manmade canal system designed to direct flows to the wet land areas. There was heavy overgrowth in the canal system that needs to be cleaned of large trees and bushes in order to maintain proper flows away from home owner properties. This is a detention pond and is designed to hold the flows of heavy rains until absorbed through ground water or diverted through the connecting canal area. The pond was dry at the time of inspection and cut debris piled in the pond area is blocking flows and drainage at the front quarter if the development.

Natural Protected Wetlands: this area runs around the development on the West side and is connected to three of the current home owner's property. There is also a manmade canal extension to the south of the wetland that is connected to 3 other property owners. Maintenance of the system should include education on the 3 foot rule for mowing and discharge of organic materials to the edges of the wet lands areas. The southern area of the canal extension has been cleaned of all growth at the directive of the HOA. This area

needs to maintain the 3 foot rule, and allow the canal area to naturalize in order to provide the most efficient cleaning of the property run off before reaching the wetlands areas.

Pond III: This area is also a combined retention/ detention pond that is extremely overgrown and is being used to dispose of grass clip pings, and tree debris. This has caused extensive algae growth, and builds up of silt which is causing the system to retain more water than was designed. This system is connected to the natural wetlands at the south east corner of the community. Due to Degradation caused by the property Developer of the wetlands, system flooding occurs at the houses surrounding the cul-de-sac at the south east corner of the community. The hidden area of the natural wetland system was used by the developer to dispose of all materials while land developing was taking place. This build up of debris, has caused the natural flow and acceptance of storm water run off from the properties to flood the area of homes built around pond # III and the cul-de-sac area. The developer has refused to provide remedy for the situation caused to the storm Water system, and in my opinion the HOA should seek legal council to pursue the developer to correct the flooding issue caused by the dumping of materials in the wetlands area.

On April 21st, 2011 Green Industry conducted an education class at the HOA meeting for the maintenance of the storm water systems and provided documents to assist home owners in that maintenance. There were several other cost saving programs and environmental issues and remedies discussed at the class, and information was provided to each home owner to maintain their septic system, along with water conservation, and environmentally friendly pesticide alternatives which will also help in the protection of the wet land and maintenance of the storm water systems.

Green Industry will retain all information provided to the HOA of Avondale Grove, and is available at any time for community, or individual assistance to maintain the storm water system or any other issue and alternatives provided to the HOA by Green Industry.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,
Sharon Spires
Owner

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