Lake Point Residents:

As a resident in a subdivision with drainage swales, we want to make you aware of the importance of maintaining the swales on your property. Swales are the graded and engineered landscape feature appearing as a linear, shallow, and open channel with trapezoidal or parabolic shape located in the road right-of-way. (see example pictures)

The design of swales promotes the conveyance of storm water at a controlled rate during times of above average rainfall and/or snowmelt. Swales also act as the City Storm Water Management System. Swales also act as a filter, removing pollutants and allowing storm-water infiltration to the aquifer. When properly designed and maintained, a swale results in a significant improvement over the traditional ditch, in both slowing and cleaning of water.

When originally designed, your subdivision incorporated swales to provide a way to deal with storm-water runoff. Alteration of the swales, such as filling in or leveling, elimination of slopes, placing of culverts, or improper landscaping can jeopardize your property and/or that of your neighbors.







- (1) The following materials shall be prohibited in swale public property in right-of-ways:
 - (a) asphalt or concrete, other than drive approaches with required piping;
 - (b) transh, debris and dirt:
 - (c) ground cover and shrubs which exceed 18 inches in height at maturity; and
 - (d) any non swale material that can be removed when kicked, blown or washed may clog storm swales and drains, prevents percolation of water into the soil, or cause a visual barrier to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists or for the commission of a crime.
- (2) The City may remove obstructions that violate city ordinances on swales at the expense of the landowners. Such removal shall not preclude or be a determination as to nuisance or other compliance action being taken.

For reference, subdivision road right-of-ways within Lake Point City can extend up to 16 feet or more past the edge of the asphalt. The only way to know for sure where your property line begins is to contact a private surveyor to help locate your property corners.

In closing, if you are contemplating altering the swale in any way, you are required to comply with the city ordinances and we strongly urge you to consider possible ramifications. Be mindful of not only consequences to your own property, but those of neighboring lots as well. If you are currently complying with the ordinance, we thank you.

Sincerely,

Lake Point City Council

ATTACHMENT: A

SWALE ALTERATIONS AND DESIGN STANDARDS

PURSUANT to the Lake Point Municipal Code for Zones and the Nuisance code which states "

Each resident cannot fill-in or block any drainage swales that are constructed within a parcel as shown on any original Subdivision Plat or in the public easement or right away unless otherwise approved by the City Building Official or City Engineers in writing. All drainage Swales which are crossed by driveways or other hard surfaces or filled in must be bridged or piped at the Owner's expense with at least an 18" diameter culvert so as to not impede the flow of water within such drainage swales. The size, material, plans and placement of all such pipes and/or conduit must be in accordance with the below and must be approved by the building official in writting prior to installation. Except for periodic "check" dams or structures in the drainage swales to be installed by the original plat developer or builder as part of the initial Improvements, nothing shall be done or allowed which would impede drainage in the drainage swales or drainage ways adjacent to the street surface or which would impede or interfere with drainage facilities. The city may regularly inspect all drainage swales and shall remove therefrom or otherwise correct any obstruction or other situation which may exist with potential to impede drainage within any drainage swale. The cost of such removal or correction shall be assessed to the Owner of the Lot, parcel or residential unit from which such obstruction or situation has been removed."; and

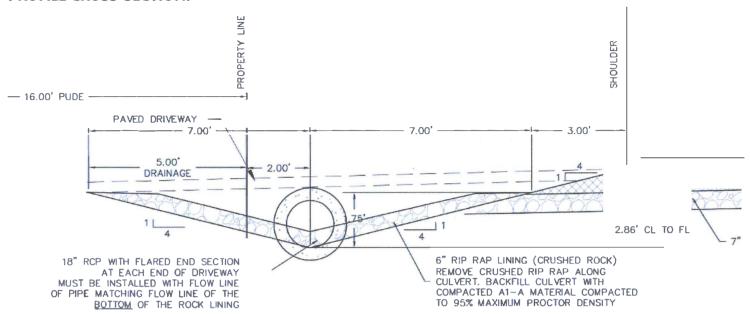
WHEREAS, the design of swales promotes the conveyance of storm water at a controlled rate during times of above average rainfall and/or snowmelt and alteration of the swales, such as filling in, leveling, placing of culverts, or improper landscaping can affect the functionality of the Swale and result in property damage in the surrounding area.

NOW THEREFORE, effective as of the date passed by the council and until otherwise modified or rescinded, the city does hereby adopt and publish the following requirements for swale alterations.

Approval must be obtained from the City Building Official or City Engineers prior to installing additional or expanding existing swale crossings. Approval will be granted based on the analysis of risk vs. benefit, taking into consideration the reason for the request, the percentage of swale which would remain unobstructed for a given lot or for a given segment of adjacent lots, the location of the swale in the subdivision, etc.

If approval is given for additional swale crossings or extensions of existing swale crossings, or piping and closure of the entire swale, the following specifications must be adhered to unless otherwise approved by the City Building Official or City Engineers:

PROFILE CROSS-SECTION:



LANDSCAPE CROSS-SECTION:

