



Thank You for Sharing, Rivendell! Neighbors Helping Neighbors

By Guest Author: Melody Barackman, Chair, Turtle Rock, Retention Pond Committee

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My name is **Melody Barackman** and I chair the **Retention Pond Committee at Turtle Rock**. Turtle Rock is a nearby neighborhood in Palmer Ranch facing similar shoreline erosion on our 31 retention ponds and lakes. Turtle Rock's HOA Board created a Task Force in April 2019 to determine how to address erosion and nutrient runoff. After extensive research, our team is currently working on putting some uniform policies in place to establish buffer zones (LMZs) around our retention ponds to control erosion.

As part of our research efforts, we were referred to your Rivendell Ponds' website to learn more about your pond management strategy. We then reached out to Board President Ray Capuano, who put us in touch with P&P's Frank Freestone and Sue Remy.

We are very impressed with your Ponds' team and the materials you have created to keep your residents informed and educated about the erosion issues and the proposed actions being taken to control it. We understand the scientific justification for LMZs and are just trying to get things off the ground by encouraging residents to establish a buffer zone. It has been challenging to persuade our Board and homeowners that these recommended changes to the appearance of the pond shorelines are beneficial to the community and vital to the health of our properties and ponds.

Your materials are by far the best we have seen... very straightforward, easy to comprehend, and persuasive in a way that homeowners will want to comply with the strategy. We appreciate your permission to adapt your marketing communications and tools to help us get our message out to Turtle Rock residents (with credit to Rivendell). Like yourselves in Rivendell, we cannot afford to ignore erosion, or we will face expensive remediation down the road.

As a final note, recently my husband and I biked through Rivendell and remarked on the little flags and signs on each pond to show the three-foot shoreline protection borders. We look forward to the day when buffer zones are a reality in Turtle Rock.

To learn more about Turtle Rock's retention pond management program, click here to read [Turtle Rock's Retention Pond Proposal](#). (Dated December 24, 2019)



Editor's Note: Rivendell is pleased to share our experiences and resources with other communities, such as Turtle Rock. Pond erosion is a common problem at many nearby communities and we can all learn from each other. We wish Melody and her team the very best of success in their retention pond program.