

TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED

By: Site Manager—Bob Goodman

The tree replacement project for the three (3) areas that were devastated by the Pine Wilt disease has been completed. All that remains is faithful watering to keep them healthy and growing.

In the area between River Pines Dr. and Lancrest Ct. we planted (40) trees last fall. They were provided by Greenlawn Landscape Company. They all survived the winter very well with the exception of one tree. A replacement will be installed very soon. Due to the close proximity to the buildings, extensive re-grading was done in this area to improve drainage. Everyone seems very pleased with the result

In the area south of Blue Spruce bordered by Lancrest Ct, River Ridge Trail and Lone Pine Lane a total of (67) trees were planted. These trees were provided by Steinkopf Nursery. We added a temporary irrigation system to this area to help keep the trees watered and not have to rely on Mother Nature. These trees seem to be doing very well and hopefully we will not have an unusually hot summer so that the new trees have to struggle to survive. An asphalt walking path was originally planned to be installed in this area, but the wood chips seem to be a better option at this time.

The area by the Pump House was planted last summer and the (66) new trees suffered from the long hot spell we had soon after their planting. We had a drip irrigation system in place but we were unsuccessful providing enough water to keep all the trees

growing. In addition, the winter was not good for the new trees. As a result, we lost several relatively small species.

We must remember that all of these areas have been wooded natural areas that the association has not maintained to any degree. Now that the areas are much less dense, some co-owners feel that the areas should be maintained as a park-like setting. We will try to keep the new trees healthy by not letting weeds and vines overtake them, but it is the intention to keep these areas natural with minimal maintenance.

In June we replanted trees in the areas where we had failures last year. We added a new overhead oscillating irrigation system and it appears we will have adequate water to keep them healthy and growing.

All together with the tree cutting and chipping, stump grinding, grading, tree purchase and planting and new irrigation system we spent approximately \$100,000. We installed a few more trees than planned and were able to do so because of favorable tree costs. Thanks to both Greenlawn and Steinkopf for their help. The River Pines Board of Directors and Grounds Committee also have devoted much time to make this project a success.

