



MARCH 2026

AROUND the GROUNDS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CASA DI AMICI COMMUNITY'S LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE ROLE

This group of community volunteers coordinates landscaping needs of our condo community with the contracted landscaping company within an annual budget provided by the board. Areas of responsibility are limited to shrubbery trimming; mowing; sod, tree and shrub removal and replacement; mulch; and irrigation repairs.

BEAUTIFICATION TEAM



Recently, you may have noticed volunteers weeding and cutting out dead growth in the gardens in front of the condos. The work of these landscape committee members is meant to supplement the basic grounds-keeping responsibilities of the contracted landscaping company (mowing, trimming bushes, spraying weeds, edging, fertilizing shrubs, palms and turf, irrigation inspection, and mulching). The team's contributions not only help beautify our grounds, but also help contain costs for our community.

In the future, the team hopes to establish an annual CDA Beautification Day (possibly in January) where community residents can pitch in to help the team tidy up our gardens. Stay tuned for more information about this in coming newsletters.

DID YOU KNOW?

ORGANIC GARDEN WASTE should be put in the biodegradable, brown paper lawn waste bags available at many stores. Simply set the bags out on trash day and they will be collected.

OUR PONDS are part of the Southwest Florida Water Management District's vast storm water management system, a tool for managing rainfall runoff. They are designed to help prevent flooding and remove pollutants from the water before draining into ground water.

The pond vegetation you see is a littoral shelf, which all the ponds have. Their purpose is to filter the water when it leaves the pond and enters the preserve, eventually making its way to the Gulf.

The severe drought we are experiencing makes these shelves look bigger and unsightly, but they have not expanded and are regularly sprayed for invasive plants,

Learn more [HERE](#).

NOTE: Oversight of all Venetia ponds is the responsibility of the VCA Environmental Committee.

2026 PRIORITIES

- **#1 PRIORITY** Ensuring irrigation system is mapped out and working properly
- **OTHER PRIORITIES** Tree & palm trimming, shrub and sod replacement, mulch, cutting out and trimming garden beds and establishing regular communications with residents.

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

- 26 dead shrubs removed along security wall
- Live Oak mapping
- Beautification Team garden clean up (on going)
- Trimming base of the large Reclinata Palm, intersection of Corso Venetia & Vicenza Drive

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Tall Palm trimming, Live Oak trimming, Irrigation system survey and mapping

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE CHAIR: Lorraine Chimento **MEMBERS:** Judy Eppard, Kathy Donatucci, Neil Fair, Deb Sauders, Carolyn Washburn, Sherry Jasper, Mary Eve, Al Faella

Have a CDA landscaping question or concern? Email landscapingcda4@gmail.com.