

DRAINAGE

The greenbelts and lakes in our beautiful community provide great open spaces and vistas. They are also our storm water management system.

We are continuing with our normal surface drainage maintenance projects. These are prioritized and funded under the expense side of the annual budget.

It is important to understand the dynamics of the storm water drainage system. The overall design of this system takes the water produced by a rain event off of your property to the swales in the right-of-way along the road. These swales are maintained by the county. The water then flows from the county swales into the greenbelt swales – maintained by the association. Finally, the water flows from the greenbelt swales into the lakes and out to the Peace River via the Desoto Canal.

By design, the slope of the swale system is minimal – usually 1 inch in 100 feet. This allows the storm water to percolate through the soil and filter out impurities. The rule of thumb for this process requires the swale to hold water from a 1 inch rain event for 24 to 36 hours. So, if we experience a 1 inch rain event every day, as is common in the summer months, the swales appear as though they are not draining properly when in fact they are performing as designed.

The county is currently performing maintenance along selected roadways in Section 23. The association does not schedule or control the county work. If you have questions regarding right-of-way drainage, you may call 941-575-3600 or go to the county website - www.charlottecountyfl.gov/services/maintenanceoperations/Pages/Drainage.aspx