

September 15, 2017

Re: Clean-Up of Fallen Trees

Hurricane Irma caused RW to lose several trees and a very large number of huge branches in the community. Many of us are now involved in this clean-up. This note clarifies the responsibility for clean-up.

- 1) If a tree falls on your property from any source (from your neighbor, from HOA Common Ground, or from your own property), you are responsible to clean up the tree to your property line. Any claims for your clean-up or your damage go to your own insurance company.
- 2) If a tree falls on your neighbor's property from any source (from you, from HOA Common Ground, or from their own property), they are responsible to clean up the tree to their property line. Any claims for their clean-up or their damage goes to their own insurance company.
- 3) If a homeowners tree falls on HOA common property, the homeowner is responsible for clean-up to the homeowner's property line. The HOA is responsible for any portion on HOA Common property.
- 4) The HOA has additional requirements from County/SWFWMD for clean-up. If the tree falls in a landscaped area, it can and will be removed. If a tree falls in an area designated "preserve", the tree must be left where it fell. The HOA will make these determinations on a case by case basis.

In cases where heavy equipment is required on common property to remove large root structures, the HOA will wait until the ground is dry enough to handle that equipment. If the tree is causing hazardous conditions on our roads or is imminently threatening to nearby homes, it will be handled as soon as possible.

We recognize that after such a threatening experience as Irma, that many of you are fearful of the large oak trees still standing on your property. Please understand that tree removals must still follow strict county guidelines and will require replacements. All tree removals require written HOA architectural approval.

We thank you for understanding that the entire community has gone through a stressful situation, and we are grateful for all the community spirit we have seen in helping each other clean-up.

The HOA Board