

**GATEWAY SERVICES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (GSCDD)**  
**SURFACE WATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE STANDARDS**

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**Version: December 18, 2015**

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## INTRODUCTION

GSCDD is the operating entity responsible for the long-term maintenance of the primary Surface Water Management System. Stormwater ponds, control structures and natural wetlands are all integral parts of the system. Residents of the community and vendors (engineering, aquatic vegetation, landscaping and wetlands maintenance) play an integral part in keeping the Surface Water Management System functioning properly.

GSCDD understands that there are certain elements that cannot be changed without permit modification including dimension, depth, underlying soils, hydrology, etc. However certain elements and actions can be controlled to enhance the effectiveness of the system and improve the overall function and aesthetic value of the system.

### **A new Goal has been established to achieve a better functioning Surface Water Maintenance System:**

To apply Best Management Practices to the Surface Water Maintenance System so as to not only satisfy SFWMD and/or Lee County Permit/Development Order Requirements and the City of Fort Myers where applicable but also create a natural resources habitat that reflects a quality of life that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

Therefore GSCDD sets forth the following **Maintenance Standards** that will allow the GSCDD Surface Water Management System to function at least to the minimal standards level of permit/development order requirements and improve the quality of life for all homeowners, residents, property owners and businesses of the Gateway and Pelican Preserve Community.

In **Pelican Preserve** it is recognized that all pond maintenance activities will continue to be overseen directly by the Pelican Preserve Ponds Workshop Group. These activities include selecting and managing the ponds maintenance contractor, interacting with residents, and water quality testing.

**Tasks** are also included for homeowners, residents, businesses and the various contractors to follow in order to maintain a properly functioning Surface Water Management System with a healthy ecological balance while providing increased aesthetic value for properties.

Finally a List of **Resources** is included to help all involved to carry out the Tasks to achieve the Gateway Maintenance Standards for Surface Water Maintenance and track the progress of the new standards.

**Gateway Ponds Maintenance Standards**  
**Littoral Plantings**

**Regulatory Standards:**

Applicable Design and Permit Standards of GSCDD, Lee County, and South Florida Water Management District ("SFWMD") and the City of Fort Myers where applicable must be maintained.

SFWMD permitting requirements shall be met, however, the General Lee County Requirements and the City of Fort Myers are more stringent and will be used where applicable\* to set a minimal requirement by governing bodies, therefore the Lee County requirements will be used. Lee County Development Code Sec. 10-418 for Surface Water Management Systems states:

- Planted Littoral Shelf (PLS). The following features are considered sufficient to mimic the function of natural systems, improve water quality and provide habitat for a variety of aquatic species, including wading birds and other waterfowl.
- Size requirements. The PLS shoreline length must be calculated at 25 percent of the total linear feet of the pond at control elevation.
- The required PLS may be divided and placed in multiple locations as long as no PLS area is smaller than 1,000 square feet. Whenever possible, the PLS must be located away from residential lots to avoid maintenance and aesthetic conflicts with residential users.
- Pond side slopes 4: 1 (Horizontal: Vertical) to a depth of two feet below the control elevation. Side slopes shall be nurtured or planted from 2 feet below to 1 foot above control elevation to insure coverage.
- Littorals shall not block any control structure to prevent flow of water.

Additionally, where applicable the City of Fort Myers' standards must also be met.

\*For the avoidance of doubt, any rights vested in the Permit/Development Order prevail over the above Lee County Section 10-418 requirements unless major changes are made to the existing water body

**GSCDD Standards:**

GSCDD will adopt the above Regulatory Standards as a minimum baseline for PLS planting and littoral maintenance. Accordingly, specific maintenance operating procedures are set out below (items 1-9):

For ponds with a Permit/Development Order that is either silent on littoral plantings or that specifies littoral plantings different from the above-mentioned Regulatory Standards, GSCDD shall maintain the littoral shelf in accordance with the specified Development Order for each pond which is referenced in Exhibit A.

For ponds with a Development Order that is silent on littoral plantings GSCDD may, at its discretion, after evaluating and documenting any current and consequential erosion and/or water quality issues, remove littoral plants in areas where they are deemed to be causing aesthetic conflicts with residential and commercial users or their respective HOA or POA. In any event, it is recognized that GSCDD has the responsibility to maintain high water quality standards throughout the entire surface water retention system. Accordingly, the provisions of item 1-9 below shall apply. In particular, item 9 shall apply where 4 (four) consecutive water quality test results are rated as Poor (see Pond Water Quality Monitoring - page 10)

1. Planted Littoral Shelf (PLS) shall be created and calculated and/or reduced and maintained to 25% of the total linear feet of pond shoreline at the control elevation. The CDD shall work with residential and commercial users or their respective HOA or POA regarding the location of any littorals to be removed to meet the 25% littoral requirement, with a mutual understanding that littoral plantings are considered as part of the overall CDD pond bank restoration plan – Ref page 9 (c).
2. Littorals shall be planted at the rate of 3 plants, spaced on 1' centers horizontally along the 4:1 or 6:1 slopes from the 1' water depth below the control elevation out to a depth of 2', thus creating a not to exceed 4'-8' wide PLS, regardless of the actual pond slopes. Where appropriate, the PLS shall be staked to serve as a marker that the PLS shall not extend beyond.
3. PLS may be divided around the pond such that the minimum zone area shall be 300 square feet.
4. Whenever possible, the PLS must be located away from residential and commercial lots to avoid maintenance and aesthetic conflicts with residential and commercial users. Wetlands, golf course and non-residential/commercial shorelines shall be used whenever possible to meet minimum PLS requirements.
5. Littorals shall not block any pond control structures, inlets, etc. so as to prevent the flow of water
6. Littoral plants shall include the following: Golden Cana, Pickerelweed, Arrowhead, Iris and Spike Rush (on non-residential/commercial shorelines only). All plant containers shall be 2" minimum.
7. Ground cover (preferably Bacopa) shall be used from the control elevation down to 1' below the control elevation as a ground cover during the dry season, especially on residential and commercial shorelines.
8. Where 'littoral-eating' fish cannot be effectively removed, the PLS shall be staked and protected with appropriate fencing. In addition, all primary ponds shall be equipped with approved fish barriers.
9. If necessary, to establish satisfactory water quality standards for a pond, PLS may exceed 25% of the pond bank perimeter, provided that the initial and ongoing maintenance of such extra littoral plantings is justified by GSCDD and that the extra littoral plantings do not cause conflict with residential /commercial users.

## Nutrients

### **Regulatory Standards:**

Will be maintained as referenced in each SFWMD permit, Lee County development order and supplemented by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) as administered by Lee County.

### **GSCDD Standards:**

The regulatory standards will be used as the Gateway standards and no higher. However, each year additional testing will occur, if there are reoccurring issues from nutrient loading. The first year will establish the baseline. Ponds on the initial list will be problem ponds that have had issues with algae in the past.

## Inspections

### **Regulatory Standards:**

As referenced in each ERP (Environmental Resource Permit) and/or development order see Exhibit A.

### **GSCDD Standards:**

Monthly inspections of ponds will occur concentrating on algae growth. Steps will be taken to eliminate the source for the algae growth.

1. Algae
2. Treatment of herbicide effectiveness
3. Submersed vegetation
4. Exotic vegetation
5. Beneficial native vegetation
6. Water clarity
7. Trash
8. Illicit discharge
9. Point source pollution
10. Non-point source pollution

## Surface Water Pollution

### **Regulatory Standards:**

No trash or undesirable material will be allowed into the surface water system.

### **GSCDD Standards:**

Trash and undesirable material will be removed and appropriate action will be taken, if it can be determined who is responsible for the illicit discharge.

Dog and animal waste will be notated on monthly inspections, including the location and, if known, the animal owner's address. If excessive amounts of pet waste are found in the neighborhood a letter will be sent to the Home Owner Association (HOA) or Condominium Association and the animal owner requesting a return letter stating what has been done for corrective action. If on the next month's inspection no response has been received without corrective action, then an animal waste program will be put into place to become part of next year's assessment rates for that particular HOA or Condominium Association.

New construction activities such as pools should be carefully observed by the homeowner. Additionally, all adjacent construction activity shall be monitored by staff, the aquatic contractor and residents for illicit discharge, erosion/sedimentation prevention measures, point source and non-point source pollution. Any questionable discharge or construction practices should be reported to GSCDD as soon as possible by the resident or contractor. GSCDD staff will contact the construction contractor and report all findings to Lee County Natural Resources.

If the contractor is not using the proper water discharge or sediment control techniques, the contractor shall be contacted initially, and the homeowner will also be notified. If the contractor does not make immediate corrections, the contractor information with photos will be sent to local code enforcement.

Any debris created by construction activity should be swept and/or cleaned from the street and its drainage areas daily.

Landscaping debris shall not be placed on grates and/or in the storm system.

## Stormwater Pond Bank Erosion

### **Regulatory Standards:**

Stormwater pond banks must be maintained in compliance with permit and/or development order requirements.

During the dry season a full erosion inspection will be completed and used in planning efforts for restoration repairs.

## **GSCDD Standards:**

‘Shorelines of stormwater ponds are prone to erosion because there are many forces working to undermine the stability of the bank. In many communities, property lines and ... easements are drawn relative to the pond shore. The loss of shoreline is the same as moving the easement toward the primary structure and reduction of useable real estate.’ Clemson Cooperative Extension, [http://www.clemson.edu/extension/natural\\_resources/water/stormwater\\_ponds/problem\\_solving/shoreline\\_erosion/index.html](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/natural_resources/water/stormwater_ponds/problem_solving/shoreline_erosion/index.html).

Within the GSCDD Surface Water Management System pond banks will be maintained in compliance with permit and/or development order requirements. Slopes will be stabilized using appropriate erosion control measures.

Shoreline erosion can be caused by several different types of events including: wind and wake, gully erosion where swales are placed in the yards to allow for removal of water from the property and houses at the downspouts, water levels increasing and decreasing due to weather patterns of the South Florida wet and dry seasons, misplaced or improper rotation of sprinkler heads, irrigation leaks, yard or gutter drains that have clogged, misplaced landscaping, new pools improperly designed or placement in the easement, improper pool drainage patterns, are some examples of a few items that could cause potential erosion issues.

An example of how a washout will be repaired, but more importantly the needed effort of all parties concerned follows in the following bulleted list.

- a. Washouts will be repaired as necessary. The installation of drainage pipes shall be put into place from the pond to the top of the bank. The GSCDD Standards and Home Owner Association (HOA), Condominium Association, and Property Owners Association will have to work together to determine appropriated shoreline management strategies. If not already established these respective parties may need to incorporate and implement the strategies into their covenants and/or their practices. Such strategies could include, before or upon the repair of a washout, that the homeowners will be notified when they need to connect to the drainage system. If a homeowner does not connect, and their drainage system creates additional washouts, the homeowner will be responsible for the cost of repairs.
- b. Bank erosion other than washout is usually from the water levels increasing or decreasing, and wakes lapping the sides of the pond banks. This erosion is also referred to as ‘Step Bank’ erosion because it creates a large step down into the pond versus its constructed created gradual slope. These slopes will be fixed with the proper methods listed above or newer technology that may be developed. Erosion control methods technology is still new and although there have been many solutions placed in the arsenal of standards for engineers to use to correct issues the field is still expanding.



- c. When Step Bank erosion or large areas of the banks are fixed (reconstructed) plantings will always be considered as part of the overall restoration plan. In addition to erosion control plan a Planting plans should also be developed. The Planting Plan should include shoreline areas along roadways, bridges, golf course, or along abutting wetlands and/or preserves. Whenever possible, the PLS must be located away from residential and commercial lots to avoid maintenance and aesthetic conflicts with residential and commercial users.
- d. A demonstration as to how surface water runoff quantities and flow velocities will be controlled to prevent pond bank erosion, including but not limited to, routing roof drains and area drains away from pond shorelines will be provided.

### Easements

#### **Regulatory Standards:**

Publicly maintained ponds have easements for maintenance access, thus all easements must be clear of obstructions. No structures are permitted within an easement without approval.

An easement is a right granted from a property owner to another for a specific use of a portion of the owner's land. Utility operators (gas, electric, sewer, etc.) often have easements for the purpose of installing and maintaining their utility lines and structures. As with most utility easements, storm drainage easements are permanent and run with the land (i.e., survive any sale of the property). They generally require the property owner to give up certain rights, such as building permanent structures or making certain improvements (additions, pools, gazebos, decks, certain types of fences, etc.) within the easement to allow for proper function of the system and unimpeded maintenance access.

Property owners are responsible for routine grounds maintenance such as grass mowing and trash or debris removal, and should ensure that drainage systems are kept free of yard waste such as grass clippings, tree trimmings and leaves that may block the flow of water. Approved trees, shrubs and other growth in easements belong to and are maintained by the property owner. The GSCDD maintains the "back-bone" drainage system and structures within the easement to allow for proper function of the system.

Property owners can find information about the storm drainage easements in various documents, including but not limited to, the plat applicable to their property, a survey of their property, a recorded easement over their property, their deed restrictions. The plat, recorded easements and deed restrictions are recorded with the Lee County Clerk of Court and can be reviewed on line. Additionally, easements should have been disclosed in title work which a property owner may have received at the time of their purchase.

#### **GSCDD Standards:**

Same as Regulatory Standards. THE GSCDD "SWMS RULE" as revised, as adopted by GSCDD RESOLUTION #2012-11 and NOTICE OF ADOPTION is recorded with the LEE COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS shall be adhered to.

## Gateway Ponds Tasks

Tasks have been developed to achieve the foregoing GSCDD Maintenance Standards for the Surface Water Management System:

### Pond Water Quality Monitoring

Monthly water samples shall be taken at the following 6 points of the GSCDD main flow-way:

- Weir 1 at Pond 132 west of I-75
- Weir 2 at the flow-way immediately east of Treeline Drive in Pelican Preserve
- Weir 3 at the flow-way south of Pond 37 in Pelican Preserve
- Weir 4 at the north end of Pond 124 in Cypress Links
- Weir 5 at the north end of Pond 109 adjacent to Mahogany Run South
- LK 1 in Pelican Preserve at the outfall structure

Test results will include readings on levels of:

Total Phosphorus  
Ortho Phosphorus  
Nitrates  
Nitrites  
Ammonia  
Chlorophyll A and TKN

Test report shall include the Trophic State Index (TSI) reading which is a general indicator of pond health ranging from 0-59 (good), 60-69 (fair) and 70-100 (poor).

Pond health will be based on the TSI and the other chemical readings listed above. Two consecutive "poor" ratings for a basin will prompt further upstream testing of segments influent to the particular basin. Two further consecutive "poor" ratings will prompt testing of all ponds influent to the particular basin. Should "poor" readings still persist, GSCDD shall designate those affected ponds for:

- a) Water quality improvement measures including aeration and littoral plantings as identified on page 4.
- b. Changes to cultural practices including, but not limited to:
  - Turf and grass management; reduction in dumping of grass clippings and debris into ponds and catch basins.
  - Management of trees and bushes; woody root systems can destabilize pond banks. Low hanging limbs can scour pond banks, Leaves and other tree/bush debris can fall into ponds.
  - Reduction of litter, yard waste, trash, bottles, cups, and toys blown from containers into ponds.
  - Irrigation system: overwatering , plugged heads, broken pipes and/or heads can all cause erosion  
Gutters, roof drain leaders, pool drains; improper discharge to ponds can result in erosion and pollution due to leaves and debris falling off roofs

- Catch Basins, Street Gutters; routinely clean these facilities to remove debris from entering ponds.
- Burrows and dens in pond banks; remove fish that cause erosion problems
- Pet Wastes; properly dispose of pet wastes and do not throw into ponds or street catch basins. Pick up pet wastes in yards to prevent runoff into ponds during a rain event.

### **Core Sampling**

Core samples from each pond shall be taken on an biannual basis (or otherwise specified interval). The purpose is to determine the depth and chemical consistency of organic and inorganic sediment.

### **Pond Designation**

As a reference, the following depicts which ponds flow into each particular basin

#### Basin 1 (Floway 1)

LK#132 Colonial Country Club, Botanica Lakes and the Treeline Elementary School

#### Basin 2 (Floway 2)

Lakes 28, 26, 27, 29, 23, 37 42, 22, 35, 36, 24, 23, 20, 21, 22, 34, 33, 32, 30, 31, 38 and 133.

#### Basin 3 (Floway 3) in Pelican Preserve

Lakes 41, 39, 40, 43, 47, 48, 44, 45, 46 and 42

#### Basin 3 (Floway 3) in Gateway

Major Ponds: 130, 127, 63 and 68

Minor Ponds: 125, 128, 65-71, 73 and 56-62

#### Basin 4 (Pond 124)

Major Segment Ponds: 126, 122 and 116

Minor Segment Ponds: 118-121, 123, 126, 112-114, 72, 74 and 83-89

#### Basin 5 (Pond 109)

Major Segment Ponds: 105, 102 and 92

Minor Segment Ponds: 90, 91, 110, 111, 93-95, 75, 78-82, 97-100, 101, 103, 104, and 106-108

#### Basin 6 in Pelican Preserve

Ponds 18, 17, 19, 16, 14, 9, 7, 8, 2, 1, 15, 10, 11, 12, 13, 3, 4, 5 and 6

### **Residents' Maintenance Tasks:**

1. Homeowners should report unsightly and objectionable algae growth to GSCDD.
2. Residents adjacent to ponds or wetlands will not discard or allow yard clippings or animal waste into those areas.
3. Residents will not plant any plant species in the ponds or wetlands buffer zone or construct any interfering structure or improvement in this area. Residents will not release exotic wildlife into the ponds or wetlands.

### **Engineering Maintenance Tasks:**

1. All structural components of the stormwater ponds shall be inspected for deterioration and need for repair annually or as required by permit or development order conditions.
2. All stormwater pond components expected to receive and/or trap debris and sediment must be inspected for obstruction, excessive debris and sediment accumulation on a monthly basis.

### **Aquatic Maintenance Tasks (GSCDD & Contractor):**

1. Weed control, annual water quality testing, and quarterly pond sampling. GSCDD Ponds Work Groups may also conduct regular water quality testing.
2. Clean all stormwater pipes influent to all ponds and all intra-pond pipes and culverts. This includes annual cleaning of all catch basins.
3. Install and maintain pond aeration systems where appropriate.
4. Install and maintain fish barrier systems.
5. Notify and educate HOA/POA and residents regarding best water quality management practices as they relate to the GSCDD's stormwater system and ponds.
6. Storm Water Management Plan.
7. Interface with SFWMD, EPA, DNR and Lee County on all pond-related environmental issues.
8. Identify methods to remove and control exotic and nuisance plants, advise GSCDD of impediments to access, keep treated areas to a minimum and avoid outbreaks of unsightly and unwanted species.
9. Maintain littoral plants in a healthy condition and replace any dead littoral plants as necessary. The use of trimming, mowing and herbicides by individual property owners to remove littoral plants is prohibited. Individual residential or commercial property owners are not allowed to maintain littoral plantings.
10. Eliminate unwanted expansion of littoral plants along the shorelines. Littoral Plantings shall be carried out such that plantings do not exceed 3 feet in height and extend no more than 8 feet into a pond at the control elevation. Where necessary, stakes will be placed in ponds to serve as a marker that littoral plantings must not extend beyond. Maintenance of newly planted littorals shall be carried out monthly by back pack-specific targeted treatments or by hand pulling as appropriate. Maintenance of established littorals shall be carried out a minimum of 6 times per year.

11. Treat for algae and/or other unwanted aquatic plant life to restrict growth within 5% coverage of each pond.
12. Inspect and report on pond banks at least semi-annually and remove prohibited vegetation (eg. unwanted bank grasses, weeds and torpedo grass) by a combination of hand cleaning or proper herbicide treatment by a licensed operator.
13. Provide educational materials to residents describing the purpose and function of the bank slopes and littoral zones. The materials should also explain the individual property owner's responsibilities with respect to compliance with pond slopes, littoral management and general pond health

#### **Landscaping Tasks:**

1. Stormwater pond banks will be mowed or weed whacked on a bi-weekly basis.
2. Litter and debris need to be removed from pond banks to keep them from entering into the ponds.
3. The overuse of fertilizers will not be allowed.
4. Grass clippings will not be discarded into stormwater ponds or wetlands.
5. The irrigation system will be properly maintained
  - a. Breaks will be fixed within 48 hours of notice
  - b. Excessive irrigation will not be allowed
  - c. Tampering will be reported to the GSCDD staff.
6. Excessive pet waste will be reported to GSCDD staff.

#### **Unwanted Species**

Contractor shall be proactive in limiting the presence of nuisance/exotic species, notify GSCDD of impediments to access, keep treated areas to a minimum and avoid outbreaks of unwanted species, including the following:-

- a. **Nutrients** - Constant algae growth is a symptom of high nutrient loads and temperature. Supplemental actions such as aerators, fountains, pond shading and removal of nutrients are beneficial if algae growth occurs on a continual basis.
  - i. Phosphorus and Nitrogen levels the goal is to try not to exceed 5% respectively.
  - ii. Periodic water samples, especially in problematic ponds, need to be taken to develop and evaluate future action plans. This will be done as needed.
- b. **Algae** - Property owners often find algae unsightly and objectionable.
  - i. Algae control will be performed on a routine basis.
  - ii. The method of removal may be by herbicide treatment and/or mechanical
  - iii. Maintain the existing aerators and fountains.
- c. **Littoral Plantings Guidelines**
  - i. Nuisance/exotic species coverage goal is not to exceed 5%.
  - ii. All floating, emergent and submerged nuisance/exotic species in the stormwater ponds will be treated on a monthly basis.
  - iii. All plants listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council will be treated.

- iv. During the dry season, weedy vegetation (i.e., dog fennel) will be treated on the exposed pond banks.
- v. The desired plant species will be left untreated in the littoral shelves and along the pond edges.
- vi. Supplemental plantings of desirable, native species will be conducted in specific areas at the discretion of GSCDD.
- vii. Excessive nuisance/exotic plant growth can best be managed by mechanical means during the dry season when water levels are low, either by hand or machine removal.
- viii. During the dry and low water level season plants such as Fireflag, Canna, or other can be cut back for a kept look at the discretion of GSCDD, particularly where visible from residential or commercial properties and from the street.

**d. Exotic Apple Snail**

- 1. Pink apple snail eggs need to be removed. This non-native species will eat desirable aquatic plants.

**e. Fish**

- i. Grass Carp may be used as a biological control to combat areas of high densities of problematic submerged vegetation (i.e., hydrilla) in surface water ponds.

- f. Trash** (i.e., plastics, aluminum, styrofoam, glass, etc.) and vegetative debris will be removed from the surface water ponds on a monthly basis as needed.

**g. Reporting**

- i. The contractor will notify GSCDD staff of problematic areas and solutions to resolve the issues.
- ii. Submit monthly reports to the GSCDD staff.
- iii.

**Control Structures**

- h. All control structures (i.e., weirs, pipes, skimmers, etc.) shall be kept free of vegetation a minimum radius of 5 feet to allow for proper operation.
- i. Street Sweeping is to be done as needed to keep catch basins operating properly.

See Table 1 for commonly found species in GSCDD ponds.

**TABLE 1  
COMMONLY FOUND PLANTS IN GSCDD PONDS**

<u>Desirable Plants</u>	<u>Nuisance/Exotic Plants</u>
Knotted Spikerush	Torpedo Grass
Pickerelweed	Alligatorweed
Arrowhead/Duck Potato	Pennywort
Blueflag iris	Cattails
Cypress Trees	Limnophila
Water Lilies	Filamentous Algae
Swamp Lillies	Thalia
	Hydrilla

These desirable species will help provide bank stabilization and wildlife habitat. Additionally these desirable species play an important role in the pollutant removal dynamics.

**Wetland Preserve Maintenance**

**j. Vegetation**

- i. All nuisance/exotic species found in the protected wetlands need to be kept below 5%. (80% coverage by desirable native wetland species and 95% exotic/nuisance free)
- ii. All plants listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council need to be treated.
- iii. Once nuisance/exotic species have been stabilized maintenance will be conducted on semi-annual basis.
- iv. Excessive nuisance/exotic plant growth will be managed by mechanical means during the dry season when water levels are low, either by hand or machine removal.

- k. Trash** (i.e., plastics, aluminum, Styrofoam, glass, etc.) and vegetative debris need to be removed from the wetlands on a monthly basis.

**l. Reporting**

- i. The contractor will immediately report to GSCDD any observations or findings of resident dumping or wetland encroachments.
- ii. Notify GSCDD staff of problematic areas and solutions to resolve the issues.
- iii. Submit monthly reports to the GSCDD staff.

See Table 2 for commonly found species in GSCDD wetlands:

**TABLE 2  
COMMONLY FOUND PLANTS IN GSCDD WETLANDS**

<u>Desirable Plants</u>	<u>Nuisance/Exotic Plants</u>
Knotted Spikerush	Torpedo Grass
Pickerelweed	Alligatorweed
Arrowhead/Duck Potato	Brazilian Pepper
Alligator Flag	Cattails
Maidencane	Balsam Apple
Cypress Trees	
Water Lilies	
Was Myrtle	
Sawgrass	
Pine Trees	Wright's Nutrush
Water Oaks	Primrose Willow
Laurel Oaks	Paper Tree
Red Maple	Dog Fennel
	Climbing Fern
	West Indian Marsh Grass
Smartweed	Rattleb
Swamp Lilly	
Blueflag Iris	

**Gateway Ponds Resources**

**Mapping Program**

Continue to be developed by staff and consultants.

**How do I know if there is a storm drainage easement on my property?**

Property owners can find information about the storm drainage easements in various documents, including but not limited to, the plat applicable to their property, a survey of their property, a recorded easement over their property, their deed restrictions. The plat, recorded easements and deed restrictions are recorded with the Lee County Clerk of Court and can be reviewed on line. Additionally, easements should have been disclosed in title work which a property owner may have received at the time of their purchase. If a property owner does not have such documents or encounters difficulty in determining the location of GSCDD easements on their property, Gateway specific resources regarding the ponds will be maintained and made available on the GSCDD website or easily accessible at the GSCDD office.

Other resources that will be beneficial will be made available on the GSCDD website.



## **EXHIBIT A**

This Exhibit lists the Development Orders for each pond in GSCDD and records the key requirements pertaining to each Development Order.