

New Landscape Company, Same Crew

The Whisper Dunes neighborhood is now being maintained by local landscape company HerbaFex. We are also fortunate that Mario and his family/crew were hired by HerbaFex to continue the care of our lawns.



Representatives from HerbaFex have been in our neighborhood and inspecting our lawns. They met with members of the board with recommendations seen in the Maintenance column on the right of this publication.

From Jeremy Gilliam, owner of HerbaFex... we are noticing a fairly consistent concern in the St Augustine portion of the neighborhood (single family homes). Many of the yards feel “spongy” when you walk on them. This sponginess is caused by too much thatch.

Read more at whisperduneshoa.com

Meet Minetta Oliver

The Board of Directors would like to introduce our new property manager from Burg Management. Minetta Oliver is taking over from Mary Jane and has been getting up to speed on our community. Her email is MinettaO@burgmanagement.com.

Minetta obtained her CAM license in early 2018, then managed the Master Gulf Place Community, along with five sub-communities and a Merchant Association, as the Community is Village mixed-use.

Minetta grew up in Northwest GA/Chattanooga area. Prior to moving to the beach, she was an English Language Arts teacher. She completed graduate school in 2014 and holds a Master of Education with a concentration in Secondary English.

She moved to the beach (Santa Rosa Beach) in 2016 and began her CAM career in 2017, starting as an assistant to the CAM of the Gulf Place Community in Santa Rosa Beach.

Maintenance



Thatch is the layer of undecomposed, stolons, roots, and crowns intermingled with soil. **Thatch development is greatest in grass that is over-fertilized or over-watered.** Leaving clippings on the lawn does not cause thatch because clippings are readily broken down by microbes in the soil. An excessive thatch layer reduces water penetration and can bind up fertilizer or pesticides. In severe cases, roots may be seen actually growing above ground and rooting into the thatch layer. This is a very unhealthy condition and leaves the lawn vulnerable to many stresses.

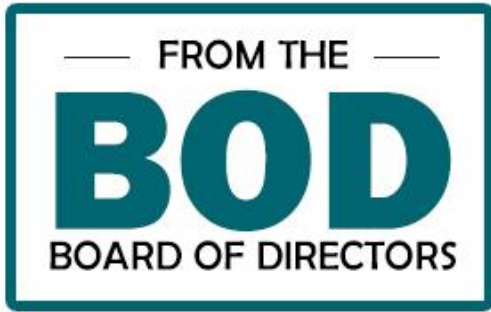
There are a few things residents can do to help control the thatch problem.

- **First, do not put down any additional fertilizer.** As stated above and in the article from the University of Florida, one of the contributing factors to thatch build up is over fertilizing.
- **Secondly, please allow us to program and control the irrigation.** Again a contributing factor to thatch build up is over-watering.

Exercising better control over these two areas will hopefully prevent the problem from getting worse. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you apprised of any necessary actions.

This is a link to an article from the University of Florida discussing St Augustine in general with a discussion of insect, disease, cultural problems as well as proper maintenance practices.

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/lh010>



The Board of Directors shared with homeowners in January ways they were actively seeking to reduce costs while maintaining the services needed to keep our community beautiful and financially sound.

Since then we have made two changes that will significantly lower our operating costs. First, we have negotiated for the city of Panama City Beach to take over the maintenance of our 62 street lights from Gulf Power. Second, we have contracted with a new company to provide our dog station and pool and cabana cleaning services. Together, these decisions will provide significant savings and allow us to have better, more responsive services.



CAUTION

A section of sidewalk along Sand Oak Blvd. close to the intersection of Blue Sage Rd. has lifted up and is causing a tripping hazard. Please use caution when walking in this area as some of our residents have already tripped. Burg Management and the BOD are aware of the hazard and have notified the City of PCB. It is on their list to fix.



MANAGEMENT

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TRASH CONSOLIDATION

Currently, there are five different trash companies driving through Whisper Dunes 3 days of each week. The volume of this traffic is bad for our roads and the noise is worse. In order to try to eliminate these issues and lower costs for homeowners, the board is considering negotiating a master agreement with one company to collect trash for the entire neighborhood. Under this arrangement, the selected company would pick up trash on Tuesdays & Fridays. They would bill each homeowner directly so there would still be the option of once or twice weekly pickup. We hope that this action will also reduce costs for homeowners.

Please let us know if you support this idea by completing the poll on the website.

OPEN BOARD POSITION

The Board of Directors would like to extend an invitation to all Homeowners who may be interested in serving on the Board and filling the position vacated by Mark Tate. If you are interested in serving on the Board for Whisper Dunes Homeowners Association, please use the [BOD Contact Form](#) on the website. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Serving on the Board is a sacrifice of time and energy and is a responsibility not to be taken lightly. All applications will be reviewed by the Board for consideration in order to fill this open position. Once appointed as per the governing documents, the term of service will run until the annual meeting election in the Fall of 2020.

COMMUNICATION BOARDS

Bulletin Boards have been installed at the mailbox kiosks. We hope this will improve communication throughout the neighborhood and keep homeowners informed of the latest news and information.




idea
If you have an idea for our Neighborhood Newsletter, please send your thoughts, pictures or ideas to sally@enhancedimage.com

Check out the Whisper Dunes website at whisperduneshoa.com
Register & stay up to date.