



BIG CYPRESS BASIN

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2660 Horseshoe Drive N, Suite 101, Naples, FL 34104
(239) 263-7615 • Fax (239) 263-8166 • www.sfwmd.gov/bcb/

January 6, 2020

**Subject: Protecting Our Communities from Flood – Removing Dangerous Vegetation
Golden Gate Main Canal – From Airport-Pulling Road to GG1 structure**

Dear Resident,

I would like to introduce myself and give you an important update about some of the flood protection work the Big Cypress Basin (Basin) is doing on your behalf. In case you are not familiar with the Basin, we are a part of the South Florida Water Management District (District). The District is a regional governmental agency responsible for protecting and managing the water resources in the southern half of the state.

Please allow me to explain one primary way the Basin works to fulfill its mission to protect communities from flooding. We thoroughly inspect vegetation growth along our canals to ensure it does not threaten the Basin's ability to protect residents and businesses from flooding. If left unchecked and unmanaged, vegetation such as shrubs and trees can uproot or break during storms and fall into the canals that serve as your flood protection system. Limbs, trees, and shrubs can block water flow, cause serious local and upstream flooding, and severely damage water control structures and bridges—all of which impact our abilities to protect communities from flooding and safely move water.

As part of our work to protect your area from flooding, the Basin plans to remove dangerous vegetation that may affect the safe movement of water in the Golden Gate Canal between Airport-Pulling Road and the GG1 structure. Your property has been identified as being adjacent to this work along the Golden Gate Canal. Land immediately adjacent to the canal has a special easement that allows the Basin to maintain the integrity of the canal and remove dangerous vegetation. This project will include tree and vegetation removal from the water line to the edge of the easement, then grading and sod replacement. Work will begin at Airport-Pulling Road and proceed west to the GG1 structure (see attached map). This project is scheduled to begin March 2020 and last approximately two months. You can find the latest project information on our webpage at www.sfwmd.gov/our-work/golden-gate-canal. We will also be holding a neighborhood information meeting Tuesday, January 21, 2020, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at 2190 Clipper Way to answer any questions you may have about this project.

As a reminder, any improvements or structure (e.g. fences, docks, and lighting) in the canal or within the Basin's easement along the canal bank require a Right-of-Way Occupancy Permit. Unpermitted improvements or structures may be removed to ensure our important flood protection work can be completed safely. Helpful information on District Occupancy Permits can be found at www.sfwmd.gov/ROWPermits.

Thank you for your understanding as we conduct this critical work to provide flood protection for our community. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please feel free to contact me at 239-263-7615 or lkoehler@sfwmd.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Koehler".

Lisa Koehler
Basin Administrator



Big Cypress Basin

GOLDEN GATE MAIN VEGETATION REMOVAL PROJECT LIMITS

South Right of Way – GG1 Structure to Airport Road North

