



5 FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1) All landscape and irrigation issues are only handled through the GVLA website. Please note that GVLA Members are not NOT to contact TruScapes or distract their crew with discussions of landscape/irrigation problems. They will not respond in person, by phone, or email.

In order to record, track, and follow up on any Member issues, we ask that you submit a **Service Request**.

When received, your request will be acknowledged and TRUSCAPES will be advised of your issues. They will visit your property, report back to the Board, and any necessary repairs or replacement may be made.

SERVICE REQUESTS - must be submitted using the GVLA website - www.gvlapreserve.com (pass word is GVLA). There is a direct link to the form from the Home page - "**HOW TO GET HELP WITH LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION PROBLEMS**".

GVLA is the number one priority of TRUSCAPES. They are knowledgeable, professional, quick to respond, never cut corners, equipment is always cleaned before coming to GVLA, and they provide well-trained crews.

Please review the contract requirements on the website - **MEMBERS - MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**.

2) **WEEDS** – We all hate weeds and TRUSCAPES prides themselves on keeping them out. We need to understand the intricacies of their business including heavy rains that wash weed spray away, lack of mulch, or weed seeds in soil brought in by homeowners doing some of their own landscaping.

Weeds proliferate if grass is not watered properly. Too much is as harmful as too little. During the dry, winter months, St. Augustine grass requires the scheduled twice weekly, 20 minutes per zone. Lack of water kills off the grass and weeds become the lawn, rather than grass.

During continual summer rains, we expect you to turn off your irrigation. But as soon as the rainy season ends, it is imperative to make sure your irrigation system is set to the proper schedule.

TruScapes regularly checks the moisture level in GVLA lawns and reports their findings to the Board. These records include things like "no power"; "locked box"; "insufficient days or times set on the irrigation clock"; "do not touch signs on the system"; verbally telling TRUSCAPES crew not to touch or change the clock settings". When Service Requests are submitted for "lawn is full of weeds, grass is dead, need new sod", the homeowner will be shown any reports on file for lack of watering.

3) **DO YOU KNOW** where your **property line** is? Anything outside our homeowner property lines is owned and managed by either CDD or the golf course. In either case, GVLA has NO control over that land. We cannot force either CDD or the golf course to 'clean it up". For CDD or golf course property issues contact Duane Smith at the Community Center - taracdd@comcast.net, (941) 756-2416.

4) **REPLACEMENT OF PLANTS / SHRUBS** - **DID YOU KNOW** GVLA is responsible only for the builder's ORIGINAL plantings? Anything planted by any homeowner, original or subsequent, is the homeowner's responsibility.

5) **OAK TREES** - Many GVLA homeowners have, or have had, problems with oak trees. Some of us just want them gone from our properties. When our subdivision was created, Manatee County insisted every lot have an oak tree. We all now know what a mistake that was - the lots are too small for these large trees; the roots damage underground cable, irrigation, and spread to damage sidewalks, driveways, and even lanai foundations. New roots continue to shoot up through mulch, and these trees are just terribly messy.

DID YOU KNOW TRUSCAPES only canopies trees up to 8 feet. Any trimming above that height is the homeowners' responsibility.

The Board does not advocate removing healthy trees and GVLA will not be responsible for removing nuisance oak trees. Homeowners are free to contact Manatee County and TMA- ARC to request permission to remove an oak tree at their own expense.



WE CARE note from the TruScapes IRRIGATION DIVISION:

- Please know that we CARE about the members water bills, our team works hard to mitigate those expenses by only irrigating for the recommended amount of time.
- We also CARE from an environmental perspective; wasting water is irresponsible and impacts Florida aquifers.
- Additionally, we CARE from a horticultural perspective, too much water is not good for plants and turf as promotes diseases if left unchecked over a long period of time.
- We CARE from a business perspective; it is more costly for us to incorrectly irrigate the lawns and shrubs. Our teams are experienced and know what is best overall when it comes to water management.
- We are THANKFUL from a personal perspective and CARE for Golf Villas as it plays a huge role in the lives of our team members and the health of our company therefore it is in our best interest to protect the community by providing the best management practices when it comes to irrigation water management.