

Shearwater Grounds and Landscaping Report
September, 2005

General: The drought of the past few weeks has had a severe impact on the turf and on some plantings. Leaves are already beginning to fall from the sycamore trees on the water side of Bldgs 15/16. Hopefully, the turf will come back once we get some rain as it has in previous years. The planting beds are another matter. Once the plant dies, it must be removed and replaced. Shearwater residents are encouraged to water the planting beds in the vicinity of their building to minimize further drought damage. Corporate Services and Andino should water to the maximum extent possible when they are on the premises. Andino applied liquid fertilizer to all plants since the last report.

Dead Tree Removal: The large pine tree that fell into the water near Bldg 13 was cut up and removed by Andino's since the last report. This turned out to be a larger task than originally envisioned because of the volume and weight of the wood that had to be handled up the steep incline to the street. There is no plan to replace this tree. Further, we can anticipate other trees on the bank will eventually fall into the water at some time in the future.

Dead Pine Tree Near Racquetball Court: The dead pine tree is on our neighbor's property but near the property line between Shearwater and the neighbor. The branches that extend over the property line onto Shearwater property are small and it is doubtful that they would cause any significant damage to a car parked nearby. The tree trunk could cause damage if the tree were uprooted and fell on our property. The neighbor should be encouraged to remove the tree but I do not intend to spend scarce Shearwater landscaping budget assets unless the Board decides otherwise.

Fall Planning: I plan to hire Bartlett Tree Experts for one day to perform selective pruning after most of the leaves have fallen. Residents having specific requests for pruning are asked to forward them to me via email. Plantings for the entrance beds at the intersection of Boucher and Madison will be replaced late this month and early next month. In addition, new plantings are planned to replace those that have died during the summer or previously as funds permit. Ground cover, for example, pachysandra and vinca, will be planted on the street side of Bldg 7 and water side of Bldg 13 where experience has shown grass does not do well because of poor exposure to the sun.