

POND DREDGING LETTER

For those who are not aware, the pond behind the Recreation Center has been accumulating silt for the last twenty-five years. Increasing deposits in the pond caused the fountains -- which are actually aerators that add oxygen to the water to sustain life and keep algae at a minimum -- to fail and had to be replaced by new ones. Unless steps are taken to revitalize the pond by desilting and dredging it, it will not only turn into an eyesore with a stagnant pool of water and nothing living, but also not perform its function.

Princeton Walk Board had recruited the services of an engineering firm specializing in this area to analyze the deposits in the pond and advise us about the measures needed to be taken in accordance with environmental laws. We were informed that the pond dredging need not be done immediately but could wait a few years. By adding a \$5 per month charge to each homeowner, we are able to use this window to gradually fund the deferred maintenance account to pay for the dredging and clean-up.

Based on current preliminary estimates, we expect this amount to cover the projected costs. We will get more accurate estimates as we get into the details and obtain competing bids to keep the costs down. Most of the cost of the project is hauling the dredged material to a controlled facility as it cannot be disposed on site due to some contaminants found during the analysis.

The \$5/month charge has been agreed to and will be paid by all the three that enjoy the use of Recreation Center -- Princeton Walk Homeowners Association, the Woods at Princeton Walk Condominium Association, and the Preserve at Princeton Walk Homeowners Association. All three boards have worked together and agreed to this approach. We are also reaching out to Middlesex County hoping they could be of assistance as some deposits in the pond come from County Route 522.

For those interested in seeing the 2015 budget for Recreation, feel free to log in to our website. Once on the private portion of the site, go to the Resources tab. If you do not already have a login, go to the Login tab and choose "Request Login." Because this is the PWHOA website, residents of the Woods and the Preserve will have limited access mainly to those documents and other information that pertains only to Recreation.

Click on Resources>>Recreation Documents>>Budgets>>2015.