





## Florida Department of Transportation

RICK SCOTT  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

ANANTH PRASAD  
SECRETARY

### POLICY

Effective: May 15, 2013  
Office: Production Support  
Topic No.: 000-650-011-c

### HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION

It is the policy of the Florida Department of Transportation to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance Florida's natural resources and scenic beauty when constructing and maintaining the State Highway System. Under this policy, Florida can have:

- The nation's most beautiful highways that attract and grow business.
- Safe roadsides that are durable, and ecologically and economically sustainable.
- Measurable returns on investments that grow in value over time.

In carrying out this policy, the Department will:

- Make highway beautification everyone's business.
- Accommodate existing and proposed trees and other long lived plants by consistently integrating landscape conservation and highway beautification into the processes that are used to plan, design, construct, and maintain roadways.

*"Aesthetics matters in  
everything we do."*

November 16, 2014





March 5, 2015  
At Central Office Town Hall Meeting

Secretary Boxold states that *highway beautification will continue to be one of his office's highest priorities* along with innovation and efficiency.

## No more BURPs



## Drainage Manual, Effective January 2015

### **Subsection 5.4.4.2 Detention and Retention Ponds**

...consistent with the Highway Beautification Policy

... integrated with existing and proposed landscaping, and adjoining land uses.

...aesthetic improvements shall be designed by an interdisciplinary team consisting of the Landscape Architect, Drainage Engineer, and local maintenance office.

... aesthetics design approach shall be developed early enough ... to be included in the determination of pond right-of-way acquisition needs.

## Drainage Manual, Effective January 2015

### **Subsection 5.4.4.2 Detention and Retention Ponds**

Fences ... only when a documented maintenance need for restricted access has been demonstrated.

.... requires a Design Variation approved by the State Roadway Design Engineer. Where approved, fences selected should be context sensitive, and not detract from the appearance of the ponds or adjoining property.

## Drainage Manual, Effective January 2015

### Subsection 5.4.4.2 Detention and Retention Ponds

#### Wet Ponds

- Above water pond slopes steeper than 1:4
- Hidden hazard occurs within 5 ft. of the water's edge.
- Significant exposure to children or the elderly.

#### All Ponds

- Livestock are expected to wander into the facility
- Illicit dumping has historically occurred or is expected to occur

### Acceptable Risk

Severity Likelihood			Higher Lower		
↑					
More					
Less					
↓					

Acceptable Risk Matrix Legend:

- Green: Acceptable
- Yellow: Acceptable with Mitigation
- Red: Unacceptable

Risk-taking is an essential part of engineering!

## Typical Justifications for Fence

- Above water slopes steeper than 1:4 are unavoidable.
- A hidden hazard occurs within 5 ft. of the water's edge.
- Significant exposure to children or the elderly.
- Livestock are expected to wander into the stormwater management facility
- Illicit dumping has historically occurred or is expected to occur

Ponds that enjoy the benefit of fence at the right-of-way line need no additional fencing around them.

## The New Look for 2015

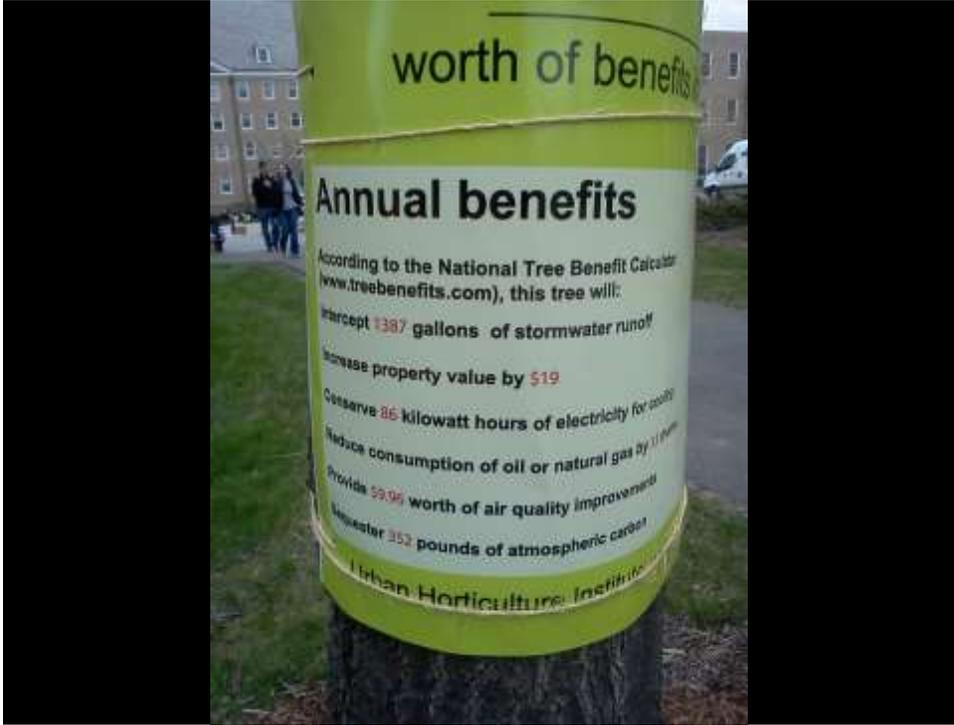


## Default Ponds – Bottom Line

- Default ponds can be rectangular, but they cannot be ugly.
- Eliminating the fence, presence of trees, and good maintenance are significant to making ponds attractive.
- Anyone responsible for designing an ugly pond should be prepared to justify the ugly.
- Department's expectation is to make ponds attractive with the time, space and money available.
- Adjacent property should not be devalued by the department's facility.
- Additional time, space, or money should not be necessary in most situations.







- Across street from Gulf of Mexico
- Intersection of two state highways
- A designated Scenic Highway



Bradenton Beach



Turkey Lake Service Plaza

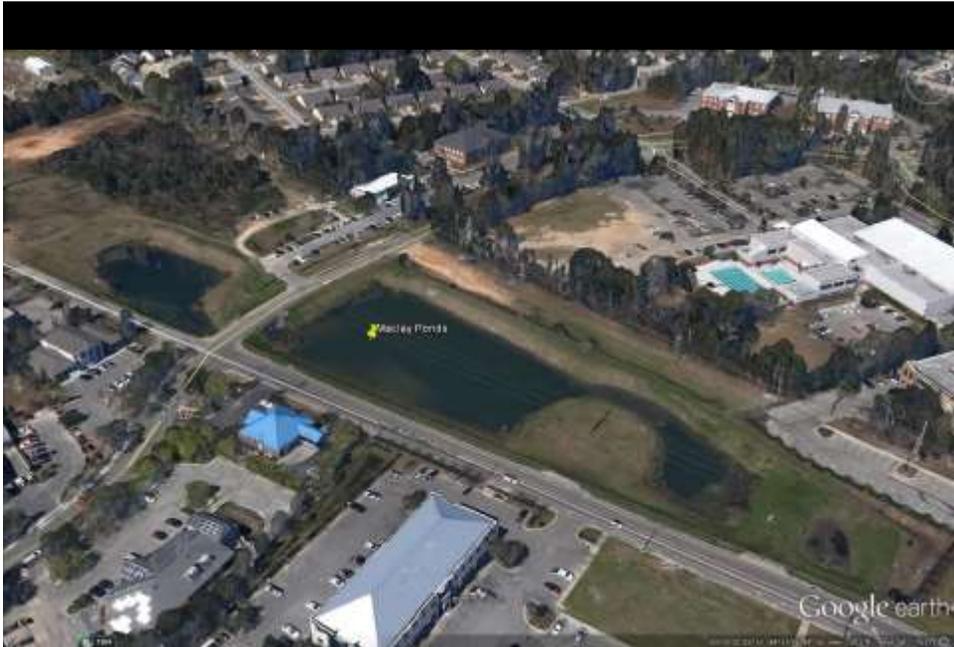


Applebee's  
SR61, Thomasville Road, Tallahassee



Tallahassee, near I-10 and SR61, Thomasville Road

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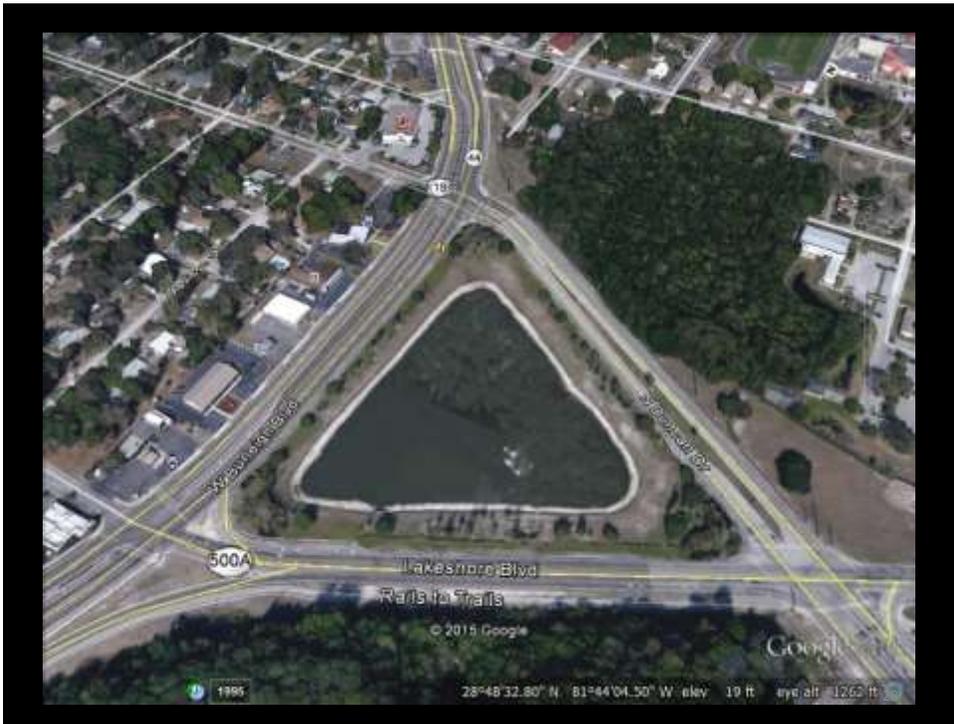
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**OFFICIAL INFO**

**Baseball Basics: On the Field**

Roll over the areas you are interested in.

The image shows an aerial view of a baseball field. The field is green with brown dirt on the infield. Various colored markers (blue, green, orange, red) are placed on the field to indicate different areas of interest, such as the pitcher's mound, bases, and outfield.

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MAJOR LEAGUE FIELDS

Angels, Astros, Athletics, Blue Jays, Braves  
Brewers, Cardinals, Cubs, Rays, Giants  
Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dodgers, Marlins, Mets  
Pirates, Rangers, Rockies, Red Sox, Tigers  
White Sox, Yankees, Mariners

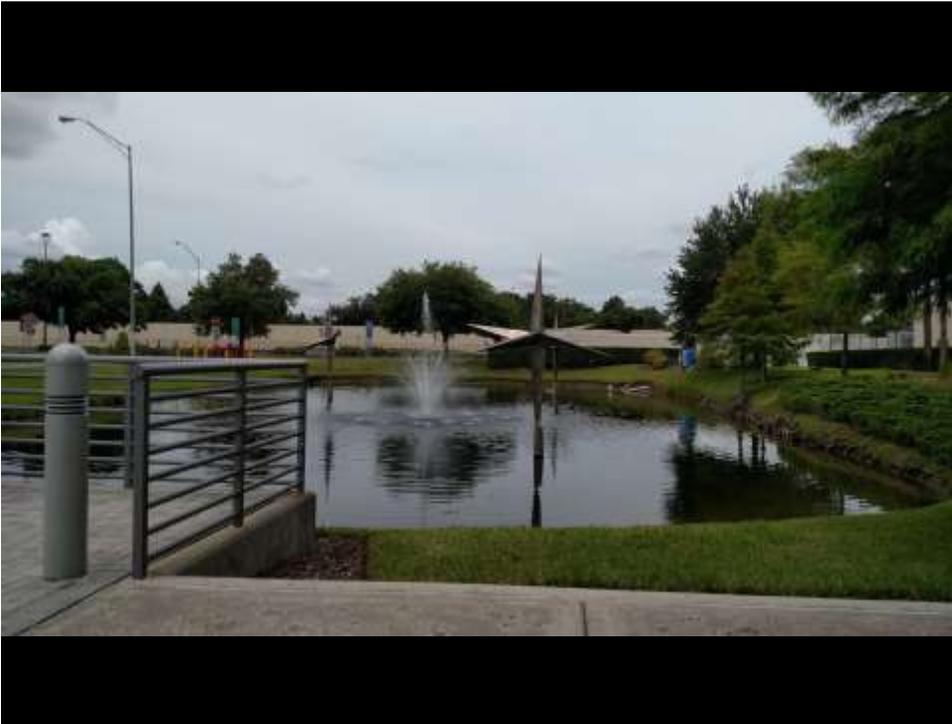
Craig Robinson - www.dailystuff.com

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Transportation meets Picture PERFECT STORM Water



Send photos to [jeff.caster@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:jeff.caster@dot.state.fl.us)

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