



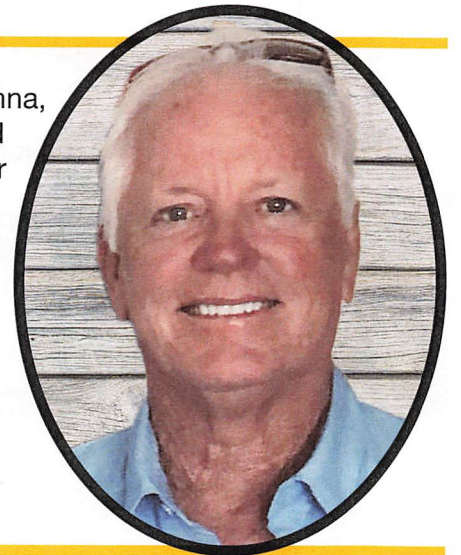
# SpringLake BREEZE

*Florida... the way it should be!*



## **McKenna Memorial Fund Established**

The District is still mourning the unexpected death of Board Chairman Tim McKenna, who died on February 4, 2023. Tim was first elected to the Board in 2011 and had been its Chairman since 2017. Tim was a very active and engaged Board member and was involved in numerous projects and activities. Always available to help residents, he was often seen driving his golf cart around the community engaging his friends and neighbors seeking input. A memorial fund has been established by the District Board to honor Tim and his dreams for Spring Lake, including enhanced parks and recreation. Contributions can be made by issuing a check made payable to SLID and putting memorial fund in the memo section. As funds grow, the Board will consider expenditures that will improve the community and memorialize Tim.



## **McKenna Plan Adopted**

Every five years the District Board develops Priority Projects that impact on our community when completed. Each plan has had a name to go along with the priorities. The first plan was adopted in 2007 and was called Tomorrow Starts Today. Other plans were called Spring Lake Vision and Vision II. Former Board Chairman Tim McKenna spent many hours working with staff and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council in formulating an outline for the next 5-year plan. Tim anxiously awaited the Board to approve the new priority projects, and his untimely death prevented him from seeing the fruits of his labor. In honor of Tim, and to perpetuate his memory, the Board unanimously approved the 2023 thru 2027 priority projects be referred to as The McKenna Plan. Future issues of The Breeze, our website, and e-mail blasts, will keep residents up to date on the various projects and the progress being made.



## Water-Sewer Billing Web Portal

Spring Lake is excited to announce our **NEW Customer Web Portal**, enabling you to manage your utility account and make **payments online 24/7/365**. Creating your account is simple. First, start by navigating to the NEW Customer Web Portal using one of the three options below.





1. Go Online to the Spring Lake's Website: [www.springlakefl.com](http://www.springlakefl.com)  
Click "**Customer Portal**"
2. Or navigate to the portal by going to <https://springlakefl.epayub.com>
3. **Scan the QR Code below** using your smartphone camera.

Once you have navigated to the Customer Web Portal, select "**Register**" to create an account. Once your account is created, you can pay your water-sewer bills, view your payment and usage history, and much more. Under the User Profile section, you can also sign up for text notifications. For example, you can receive text alerts once your bill is generated each quarter to let you know it is available to be viewed and paid online.

You can also select "**Quick Pay**" to make a payment online without creating an account.

Currently, Spring Lake Improvement District accepts the following Credit Cards/Debit Cards: Visa, MasterCard, and/or Discover. A per transaction Service Fee of 3% or \$2.25 minimum will be charged by the payment processing company for this service.

# SAVE TIME. SKIP THE LINE. PAY ONLINE.

-  **VIEW USAGE HISTORY**
-  **VIEW PAYMENT HISTORY**
-  **SET UP RECURRING PAYMENTS**
-  **SIGN UP FOR PAPERLESS BILLING**



Spring Lake Improvement District  
115 Spring Lake Boulevard  
Sebring, FL 33876-6143



## Phil Gentry Joins District Board

Phil is a well-known resident who has been very active over the years in service to Spring Lake. As an active member of the Spring Lake Property Association, he rose to the rank of Chairman of the Board. He was the prime leader of the District's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival and oversaw last year's successful Festival as well. Phil has attended numerous District Board meetings and has assisted the District Manager in several projects. Phil replaces former Board member Tim McKenna, who recently died. His term of office expires in January 2027.



## Certified District Official

Board Chair Kay Gorham has become the first Spring Lake Supervisor to be accepted into the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) Certified District Officials Program. The program is designed around completion of 25 hours of education in ten components of subject matter, including Board relations, contract management, strategic planning, financial management, and the Legislative process, to name a few. It has a bi-annual renewal to maintain certification and she will be required to attend FASD sponsored events to complete the 16 hours of renewal training. Kay will begin her training at this year's FASD Annual Conference, to be held in Orlando in June.



Kay was recently elected Chairperson of the District Board, becoming the first woman to ever hold that position for the Spring Lake Improvement District.

## Be A Water Angel

For close to 10 years the District has had a Water Angel Fund that helps residents and families in need pay their monthly water bills. Generous donors have provided funds that allow District staff to credit these selected accounts from anonymous donors. A card is sent to each recipient letting them know of the water angel donation, and a thank you is sent to the donor. If you are led to become a water angel, make the check payable to SLID and put water angel in the memo section.



Here are some examples of how the Water Angel fund has helped people:

- Single mom with three kids cleans homes. She became very ill and could not work for several months.
- A man accidentally shot himself and has been unable to return to work.
- A woman and child were left behind when her husband was killed on his bike.
- An elderly couple became very ill, and both spent weeks in a hospital
- Husband lost his wife to cancer and is raising two children
- A dad lost his job and has had to do side work to earn money for his family
- Many other cases of people losing their jobs, getting sick, death of a spouse, and struggling with bills

*Residents enjoy getting together at the ECO Park*



*Thank you Country Club Villas for a very, very special memorial.*



*Another beautiful sunset at the ECO Park*



# 2022 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Spring Lake Improvement District

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is three wells that draw water from the Floridan aquifer. Before delivery to you, the water is disinfected with chlorine and a blend of phosphate is added to inactivate or sequester mineral ions naturally found in water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Israel Serrano, Utility Superintendent at (863) 655-1715. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. This report will be mailed to customers in the Spring Lake Breeze and is also available at the District Office, located at 115 Spring Lake Boulevard. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at the Spring Lake District Office.

Spring Lake Improvement District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, rules and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2022. Also included are test results in earlier years for contaminants sampled less often than annually. For contaminants not required to be tested for in 2022, test results are for the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations authorized by the state and approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or on-line at their web site [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/)..

As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring, or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

To remain in compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act we are required to test for over 80 contaminants. Reported below are only those that were detected through laboratory analysis. The remaining approximately 70 contaminants were undetected. In the data table you will find many terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following key to these terms' abbreviations and definitions:

TERM Appearing in TABLE		DEFINITION
Action Level	<b>AL</b>	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
Not Applicable	<b>n/a</b>	Does not apply
Parts per million	<b>ppm</b>	or <i>Milligrams per liter (mg/l)</i> – one part by weight of contaminant to one million parts by weight of the water sample.
Parts per billion	<b>ppb</b>	or <i>Micrograms per liter (µg/l)</i> – one part by weight of contaminant to one billion parts by weight of the water sample.
Picocuries per liter	<b>pCi/L</b>	<i>picocuries per liter</i> is a measure of the radioactivity in water
Maximum Contaminant Level	<b>MCL</b>	The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	<b>MCLG</b>	The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	<b>MRDL</b>	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	<b>MRDLG</b>	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

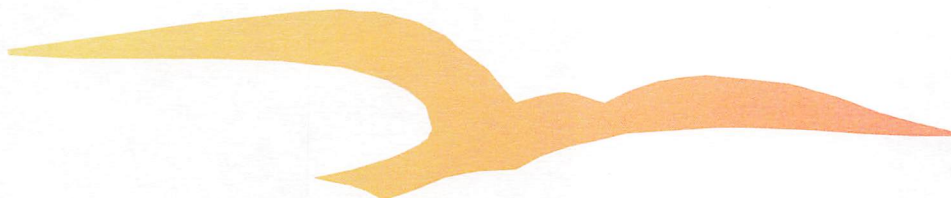
In 2022 the Department of Environmental Protection performed a Source Water Assessment on our system. These assessments were conducted to provide information about any potential sources of contamination in the vicinity of our wells. A search of the data sources indicated two potential sources with a low susceptibility of contamination. The assessment results are available on the FDEP Source Water Assessment and Protection Program website at <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/swapp/>.

2022 Compliance Monitoring							
** Results in the Level Detected column for Radioactive and Inorganic contaminants are the highest detected level at any sampling point.							
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected **	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Monitoring Period Month/Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	No	8.23	N/A	0	15	06/20	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 and Radium 228 or combined Radium (pCi/l)	No	3.351	N/A	0	5	06/20	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium (ppm)	No	0.104	N/A	2	2	06/20	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	No	0.28	N/A	4	4	06/20	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Sodium (ppm)	No	16.9	N/A	n/a	160	06/20	Salt water intrusion, leaching from soil
<b>Stage 1 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Products (D/DBP)</b>							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo./yr.)	MCL Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1/22 - 12/22	NO	1.23	0.5 to 2.2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Products (D/DBP)</b>							
Haloacetic Acids (five) (HAA5) (ppb)	08/22	NO	17.4	13.3 to 17.4	NA	MCL = 60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
THM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	08/22	NO	60.0	38.0 to 60.0	NA	MCL = 80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Lead and Copper (Tap Water)</b>							
Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Action Level Violation Yes/No	90th Percentile Result	Number of Sampling Sites Exceeding the Action Level	MCLG	Action Level	Dates of sampling Month/Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	No	0.5	0	0	15	06/20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	No	0.056	0	1.3	AL=1.3	06/20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Spring Lake Improvement District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We at the Spring Lake Improvement District would like for you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed.

**Esta es información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Si no comprende completamente el documento en inglés, es posible que podamos traducirlo al español para usted. Para más información, llame al (863) 655-1715.**



## Bits and Pieces

- If you are not on the District E-Mail Blast program you are missing out on vital news and updates. To be included, send your e-mail address to the District office at [jdecerbo@springlakefl.com](mailto:jdecerbo@springlakefl.com)
- With summer rains upon us, please remember that the HOMEOWNER is responsible for keeping drains and swales free of debris. Clogged drains under a driveway can cause serious water problems for your neighbors. Do not put any debris in the swales that will hold stormwater back.
- Thank you to the Highlands County Road and Bridge Department for the drainage project they completed in the Longbow Drive area. This has been a long awaited improvement, and the results are most positive.
- The \$285.42 SLID assessment for 2023 comes to 78 cents a day!!
- Residents in the 33876-zip code paid the following County Taxes last year:

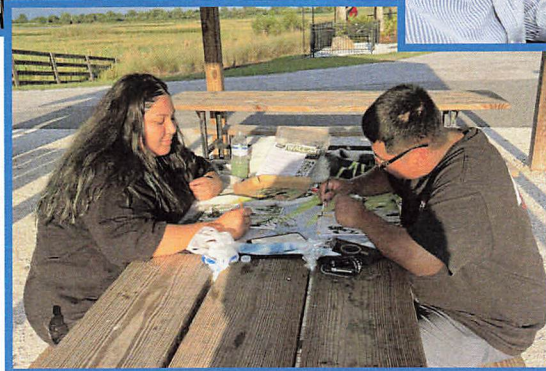
- Property Taxes	\$1,596,324
- School Tax	\$1,344,130
- Solid Waste	\$463,531
- Fire Assessment	\$316,213
- SFWMD	\$45,402
	\$3,765,600
- If you are not using the District web site for information and news, you are missing out on staying in touch. Over 8,000 visitors per month have been using the site, and we encourage you to visit [www.springlakefl.com](http://www.springlakefl.com)
- We have been notified by Highlands County that the new Library Machine installation has been delayed until July due to back orders.



Pump station gets painted and a new sign installed



Friends gather at the new Speakeasy

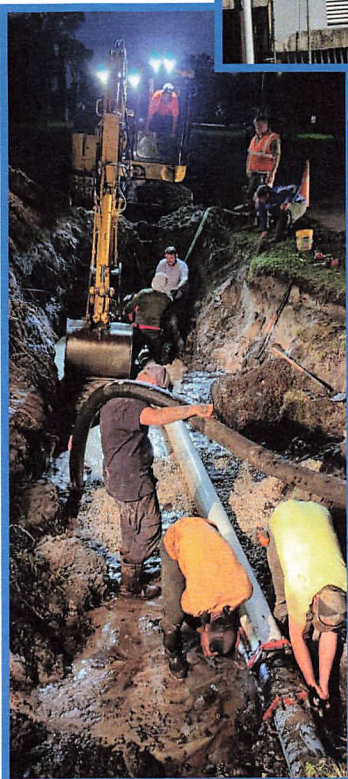


Veronica and Ulises work on their painting projects at ECO Park

District Staff came together at the Tim McKenna Memorial lunch



Water breaks can occur at any time



# SPANISH MOSS ECO APARTMENTS



Things are moving right along with the first of the four, 52-unit 2 story buildings located in Spring Lake along HWY 98, assessable at 430 Duane Palmer Boulevard. Each building has an apartment mix of 27-two bedroom, and 25-one bedroom living units. Also on premise are a limited number of enclosed garages that will be available upon request for an additional monthly fee.

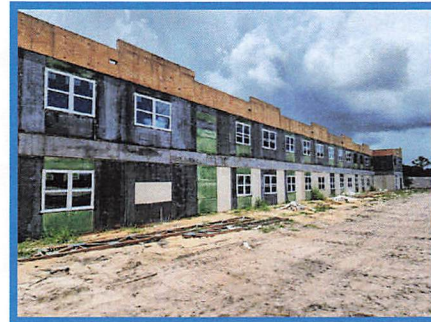
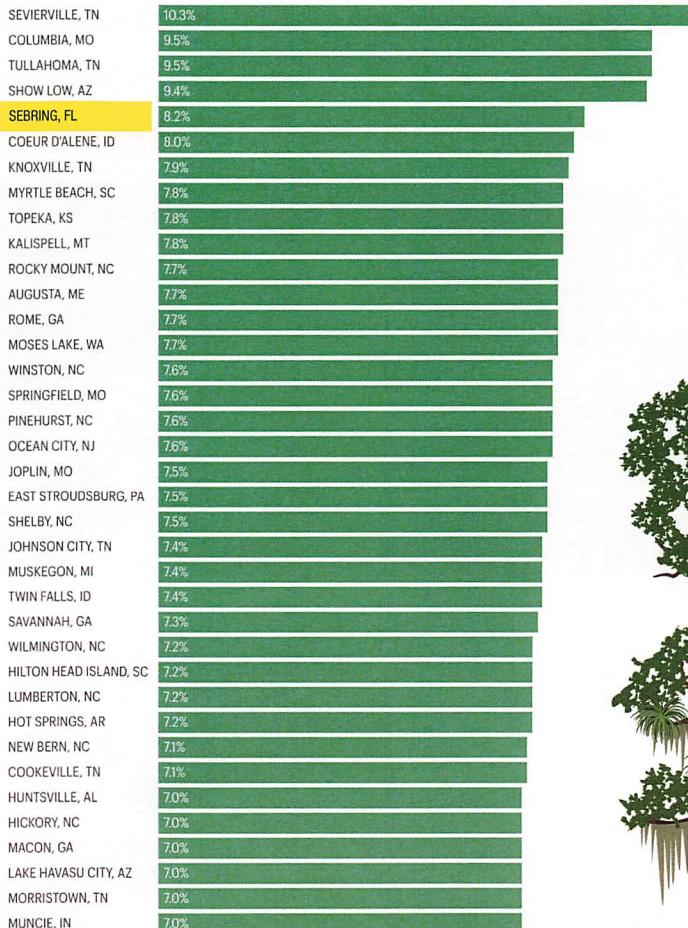
The roof of the building is filled with fixed solar panels that will provide the electrical energy that is used within each building. Every unit has its own high efficiency electric heat pump & air conditioning. Each apartment has its own high-speed fiber-optic network Wi-Fi.

Residents will not need to carry a key because each unit will have a keypad dead bolt to access the apartment from the secured building corridor. The apartments can also be monitored for heating and cooling from anywhere in the world. These buildings are secure and have a monitoring system that allows access for guests and or other delivery individuals.

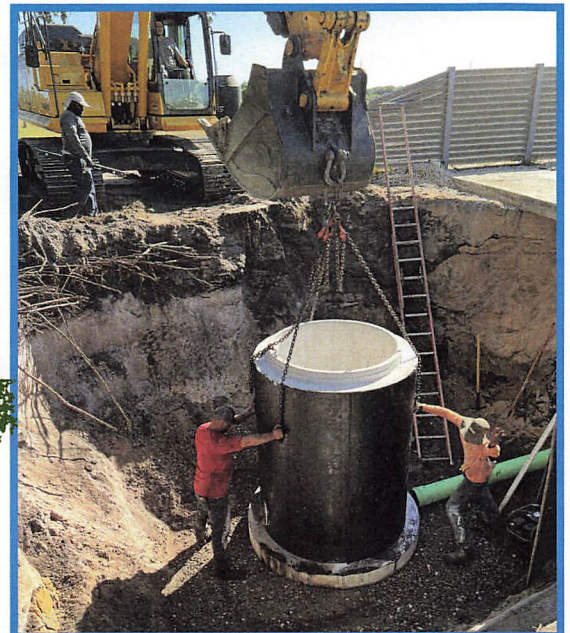
We are including 100% of all amenities and utilities in rent; stove, dishwasher, refrigerator, microwave, sewer, water, domestic hot water, all unit air conditioning, unit electricity, and internet. The resident will have no utility costs, the rents range from \$2095 for one bedroom, to \$2395 or \$2495 for two bedrooms. We are estimating that the apartments will be available for renting early fall 2023. We are anticipating to be accepting applications in July. [www.EcoLivingFlorida.com](http://www.EcoLivingFlorida.com)

## Where Zillow expects regional home prices to head between April 2023 and April 2024

Among the nation's 400 largest markets, 37 markets are forecasted to jump by at least 7.00%



Completion of sewer system for the ECO Apartments



## IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

115 Spring Lake Blvd.  
Sebring, FL 33876  
863.655.1715 phone  
863.655.4430 fax

## New Vac-Tron Equipment Purchased

Residents will see this newly purchased equipment in the community at most emergency water leaks. It has several functions that assist in utility operations. When the utilities are notified of a water leak SLID staff must call in for utility locates. Since our community has underground power, fiber, and cable service lines, digging with heavy equipment is dangerous.

With this 1,200-gallon Vac-Tron, staff can soft excavate without potentially endangering or damaging other utilities or themselves. Repairs are much more efficient with less staff time and water loss. A few other functions that it is used for is cleaning up the road and driveway areas using its 500 gallon freshwater tank and pressure washer.

Recently, SLID staff vacuumed and removed dirt from all waterline valve boxes while assisting the Florida Rural Water Association during a valve exercising program.



## Pickleball Is Here!

The final touches are being made on the complete installation of the courts. The only remaining items are the asphalt parking lot; electric to the shelter; landscaping; electronic entrances; and cameras.

### THIS IS THE SIGN THAT WILL BE AT THE COURTS:

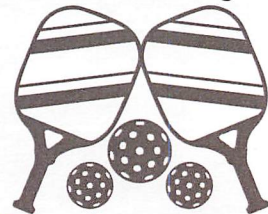
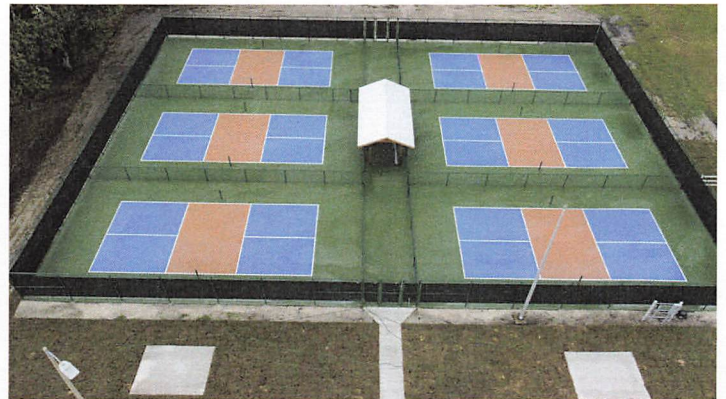
- Courts are available from dawn to dusk, and gates are controlled electronically. \*Security cameras are in place.
- No other activities are allowed on the courts other than Pickleball.
- Standard rules of etiquette always apply.
- In case of emergency, contact the District at 863-655-1715 or come to the office building next door. After regular work hours you can call 863-655-0615.

Spring Lake Pickleball Club

603-548-5272

[slpickleballclub@hotmail.com](mailto:slpickleballclub@hotmail.com)

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For the latest news and events...Visit [SpringLakeFL.com](http://SpringLakeFL.com)