

## Lake Bank Stabilization Project Begins

Lake bank stabilization work has finally begun in lake 13 adjacent to the 16<sup>th</sup> hole of the golf course. Lakes 15, 16, 17, and 18 will follow. The work is expected to be completed in late June.

It has been ten years since Southwest Florida Water Management Division mandated that for safety reasons, we repair our lake banks to remediate any drop-offs of more than 9 inches. The Cross Creek Master Board has worked with our engineering firm, Hans Wilson, over that time to build a plan that would satisfy Lee County Development Board. As has been reported at Board meetings, especially over the past three years, it has taken intense negotiation and legal action to get Lee County to waive the more than 20 stipulations and demands they have placed on this project. We finally received approval to go ahead with the work in November 2023.

The Board and our engineering firm conducted a bidding process and included several Cross Creek members who have expertise in construction or landscaping in the process of developing and reviewing bids. Bids were received from four contractors, and eventually Cross Creek Environmental, the contractor with the lowest bid, was selected. Cross Creek Environmental has been in business since 2007 and serves multiple locations throughout south Florida including Fort Myers. They specialize in erosion control, lake bank stabilization, lake and pond management, shoreline restoration, and wetland mitigation.

Cross Creek Environmental began their work on our lakes on March 16. Depending on the slope involved, several types of remediation are being used to stabilize the lake banks, including turf reinforcing mats, new riprap (stones), and open-cell containment systems. A strong feature of Cross Creek Environmental is that they use equipment that is minimally invasive to fairways and homeowner lawns.

How is this work being paid for? In February 2020 the membership voted for an assessment. The Board voted the amount of the assessment to be \$5000 per door to cover the cost of the lake banks restoration. The assessment of \$1500 that was payable on February 16, 2024 covers payment for this first phase of the lake banks work. We have an approved plan for future phases of work on the lakes, but do not know if and when that work will be necessary or required. The Board will keep residents informed as this project proceeds.

**\*\*LAKE BANK UPDATE\*\***

**Lakes 13, 16 and 17 are 90% complete. Lake 18 is 65% completed and work will start on Lake 15 this week depending on the weather.**