

CAPTIVA COMMUNITY PANEL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Captivans recognize the fragile balance between humans and nature is too easily upset, often with disastrous results, and

WHEREAS, thanks to their barrier-island home, Captivans also recognize how dependent we are on a healthy, thriving environment – and how such an environment depends on the prudent actions and stewardship of humans, and

WHEREAS, the recent degradation of the waters surrounding Captiva and throughout Lee County has numerous causes which requires numerous actions in hopes of stemming the deterioration and encouraging the recovery of local waters, and

WHEREAS, we need to recognize and be cognizant of how our individual actions can have a deleterious effect on the environment, and how our imprudent use of limited natural resources can endanger the availability and quality of such resources for future generations, and

WHEREAS, there are times when government must act in the best interests of all even to the expense of a few.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Captiva Community Panel formally endorses the following actions:

FIRST, we support passage of Lee County Ordinance No. _____ regulating the professional use of fertilizers in an effort to reduce the amount of nutrients being flushed into local waters. We acknowledge this ordinance as a good first step, and encourage the county to expand its efforts in this area to include non-professional uses, limiting access to improper (i.e. high phosphate or quick-release types) fertilizers in local outlets and expanding public education efforts on fertilizer use and Total Daily Maximum Load (TDML) principles as feasible.

SECOND, we encourage Captivans to look at their use of fertilizer and other activities that can contribute to nutrient loading and water pollution, with a goal of minimizing or eliminating their contribution to this ongoing problem.

THIRD, we recommend that Captivans residents utilize native plants and xeriscaping techniques in their landscaping efforts whenever possible, not only to reduce the need for fertilizers but to lessen water use and enhance sustainability by using plants that naturally thrive in our sub-tropical climate.

APPROVED on the 13th of November, 2007, by a unanimous vote of the Captiva Community Panel.