

## CRECIENTE LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE REPORT NOVEMBER 2017

Your Creciente Landscape Committee would like to give everyone a brief update since Hurricane Irma struck. First off, we were very fortunate to have been spared what was predicted for our area. However, we did have extensive damage to trees and shrubs. Some blew down which caused car and fence damage, and some had to be trimmed back and/or cut down. Our Landscape Chair, Cheryl Thompson, was on premises during the Hurricane and was instrumental in insisting to the Board that a contract be signed with Kyburz Landscaping to have our 6 1/2-acre property extra clean-up scheduled promptly after the damage. She determined that we could not safely or effectively do this in-house in a timely fashion during the heat wave and power outage that followed Irma. The debris would have had to be trimmed, hauled and then stacked by us at the curb. Keep in mind that without volunteers, "us" is our 2 staff members.... Gina and Fred who had their hands full with so many other things at that time. We would have to wait for the overwhelmed Town of FMB to pick it up. There are still piles of debris waiting for the Town to pick up all along Estero Boulevard, nearly 2 months later. The cost to our HOA was \$30 per unit for our professional landscaping crew using their own equipment to do the job. Gina, Daryl Beard, Fred and Mike were able to handle removing debris from our owner's cars. Many, many thanks to all of them for their service!

We lost 11 Palms, 1 Bird of Paradise Tree and numerous shrubbery. Our 6 Mahogany Trees must be severely trimmed back in hopes to save them.

The Town of Ft Myers Beach does REQUIRE that trees be replaced. Numerous plantings look a little windblown (!) and brown though these should come back. However, it isn't just the hurricanes we have that damage or destroy the plants but the sun, heat, wind and salt air all year long.

On a happy note, we are pleased to inform you that the 4 Garage Deck planters have just been completed. Next up will be the final 4 thin coats to resurface the decking. The large concrete planters have been repurposed to other areas for accent. After 8 months of empty planters it is great to see colorful foliage there just in time for Owners to come back for Season! We also have plans to add Panama Roses to the fountains. This is in line with following our mission to replace annuals with hardy year-round flowering shrubs. Please keep in mind, even these types of shrubs will only last 5-7 years in this climate.

The Landscape Committee will continue to strongly advocate to the Board to beautify and maintain the highest standard for our tropical landscape and property values. We are mindful that one half of our Owners' Lanais overlook the Courtyard and Pool. All of our Owners must walk through to go to the Beach and our other buildings. Our Courtyard is what sets The Creciente apart from any other Beachfront Condo Community. Let us know your thoughts.... Please come to a meeting or join the Landscape Committee to see how we come up with our plans and budget. It is a constant work in progress to keep our beautiful property, well, beautiful!

Kathy Luce, Creciente Landscape Committee Secretary

2017 Landscape Committee Members  
Cheryl Thompson Landscape Chair

