



Balancing aesthetics with water quality 

Dysfunctional Stormwater Ponds



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Background



Community Layout



Lakewood Ranch (LWR) Stats

48 square miles of land in
Manatee and Sarasota counties

Currently boasts more than **6,000
homes**

SMR is building **4,422 homes** on
1,520 acres – Central Park – 40
foot lot lines



The screenshot shows the Lakewood Ranch website. The header includes navigation links: My LWR, Media Gallery, Schedule a Tour, Interactive Map, Live Webcam, Realtors Site, Contact Us, Quick Links, and a Search bar. The Lakewood Ranch logo is prominently displayed, along with toll-free and office phone numbers. A main menu bar lists: LIVING HERE, FIND YOUR HOME, EVENTS, NEWS, BUSINESS, ABOUT US, and GETTING HERE. The central image features a man and a woman in formal wear on a stone bridge. Below the image, the section 'Lakewood Ranch: A Proud Heritage' provides historical context, mentioning the Uihlein family and the Schlotzsky Brewing Company. To the right, a 'Schedule a Tour of LWR' button is visible, along with a 'How to Contact Us' section.

Lakewood Ranch
The Nature Of Florida Living.

Toll-Free Number: (800) 954-9578
Office: (941) 482-2357

LIVING HERE FIND YOUR HOME EVENTS NEWS BUSINESS ABOUT US GETTING HERE

Lakewood Ranch: A Proud Heritage

1922, The Uihlein family, founders of the Schlitz Brewing Company, acquired more than 45 square miles of land east of I-75 in Manatee and Sarasota counties, at the southern reaches of the greater Tampa Bay area, creating what is today Schroeder Manatee Ranch, Inc. (SMR).

In intervening years, SMR expanded to include the award-winning master-planned community of Lakewood Ranch, SMR Aggregates, The Sarasota Polo Club, and the diversified agricultural operations of SMR Farms.

Schedule a Tour of LWR

Let our team create a unique, personalized tour just for you.

[View Information](#)

How to Contact Us

The Issue



How can we balance aesthetics with good water quality? —



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Homeowners like green lawns. Lot lines are reduced and everyone wants to live on a pond.

Year Round Green



Artificial Turf



Blue Water



Homeowners are sold LAKE front property that comes with an inflated price.



Homeowners do not like algae. Using Best Management Practices (BMPs) can help.

We know that inputs are creating poor water quality and algae

Fertilize Appropriately



Best Management Practice



Add Aquatic Plants



Create a buffer zone.

The Team

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- Paul Monaghan, NRLI Class IX
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- Gail Hansen & Staff
Assistant Professor
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Community/Stakeholders





Objective

- To improve water quality in stormwater ponds which overflow into natural bodies of water

Stakeholders

- Homeowners
- Pond Maintenance Companies
- Landscape Maintenance Companies
- Water Management District
- Manatee County Government
- Estuary Programs
- Developer
- Builders





Focus Group #1 LWR
Jan 2011

Focus Group #1 Braden
River
March 2011

Focus Group #2 LWR
April 2011

Focus Group #2 Braden
River
April 2011

Goal 1: Identify barriers to BMPs and the motivators to overcome them with homeowners in established communities.

Lessons Learned

- 1.If it is there from the start homeowners accept it.
- 2.In studying two neighboring communities the motivators are completely different.

Next steps?

Goal 2: Develop a campaign based on the identified motivators to promote BMPs.



Goal 3: Identify barriers to installing vegetation during construction and the motivators to overcome them.



Thank you

