

CLEAN-UP PROPOSAL

The Arch Creek Trust, Inc. proposes that all persons who shall have interest, responsibility, jurisdiction or concern whatsoever in the healthy and safe condition of Arch Creek, must dedicate themselves to cooperation in conducting our affairs. And in doing so, reap the benefits, rewards and accolades of our efforts as one, just as we would lose as one should Arch Creek suffer. It is agreed by the Arch Creek Trust, The South Florida Water Management District, representatives of Courttree Apartments, The City of North Miami, and Dade County that Arch Creek is not in a safe nor healthy condition. The Arch Creek Trust, in a spirit of cooperation, has presented the above named interests our long term proposals to improve the health of Arch Creek. The following short term proposal will address the immediate needs of Arch Creek, such as the flood danger due to impeded water flow, without the use of herbicides.

The central theme of the Arch Creek Trust clean-up project is citizen awareness and participation. The means are complicated only in that different phases require varying amounts of manpower. Beginning immediately, it is desirable to coordinate groups of five or less for the task of cutting loose floating weeds from the toe of the creek bank and raking the debris onto the shore. Anyone who can spare a few hours per week may sign up with Dallas Love. He will assign groups according to times and abilities. Mr. Love will report progress to Mr. Steve Smith, field Supervisor for The South Florida Water Management District. The priority areas for this work is from N.E. 143rd Street, south to property adjacent to Courttree Apartments. The debris is meant to lay on the bank to thoroughly dry and allow wildlife living or trapped in the weeds to return to the creek. Should odors become a problem before the weeds are to be picked up on September 27th, they can be bagged or placed in dumpsters for removal. The request for dumpsters will be made to the South Florida Water Management District.

The South Florida Water Management District may proceed to trim the Red Mangroves and White Mangroves along the banks of Arch Creek in a manner as to preserve the existant shade canopy. This work should begin sometime after the Trust volunteers have cleared a portion of the waterway, unless scheduling or other factors will cause this phase to be unfinished by September 27, 1986. In that case, work may start as soon as feasible. Through cooperation, any dumpsters that are used incident to the trimming project may be shared should the Trust volunteers have bulky, hazardous or otherwise troublesome debris to dispose of. Reasonable requests may be made through Steve Smith for the South Florida Water Management District personnel to remove exotic trees and shrubs while their equipment is set up in a given area.

The above stages of the clean-up proposal shall be completed before September 27th. On that date, the Arch Creek Trust shall invite and organize volunteers representing the Trust, the Boy Scouts, Courttree Apartments, South Florida Mudrunners, Garden Clubs and others for the purpose of removing all organic debris and trash accumulated since work has begun. Arch Creek will be declared fit for its intended flood control purposes once the banks have been cleared and an estimated duckweed cover is reduced to less than 50 percent of the Creek's surface. This last goal is to be accomplished with the use of seine rigs or other mechanical

means. The Arch Creek Trust will further the success of this effort in the following ways.

The Trust shall ask the Board of County Commissioners and the City Council of North Miami to declare September 27, 1986, Arch Creek Renascence Day as the best way to celebrate citizen awareness of the needs of Arch Creek. In addition, the Trust shall be responsible for the solicitation of entertainment and refreshments for the volunteers and special guests.

The South Florida Water Management District may further their generous cooperation by supplying either T-shirts or hats bearing appropriate logos.

Dade County will be asked through their Departments to supply an adequate First Aid station, a Parks and Recreation Showmobile and personnel to assist in the parking of cars.

The City of North Miami will be asked to waive permit fees should they be willing to host the refreshment area at The Enchanted Forest Park. Regardless of location, Police presence, appropriate for a crowd of 250 will be requested from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM.

The Courttree Apartments may wish to host simultaneous activities or be an alternate host. The rental office would make the ideal meeting place for the principals to report on progress in the weeks before Arch Creek Renascence Day. The dates of September 10th, 17th, and 24th are proposed for representatives of all the parties to meet.

The Arch Creek Trust will be responsible of notifying all of the City and County officials of this proposal. The South Florida Water Management District will be notified through its representative, Margaret Yansura, and in a special letter to to the Deputy Director, Mr. Tilford Creel whose support has made this understanding possible. The Dade County Parks and Recreation Department will be notified through the North Division Superintendant, Mr. Charley Carlson. And Courttree Apartments is represented by Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Lowe, rental manager.

Pending the discussion of any details not covered thus far, the initial work may commense immediately. The Arch Creek Trust Board may wish to organize Saturday "workdays" around this issue for the month of September. Dallas Love will be available four hours a day Monday through Friday as well as Saturdays to assist in the obligations outlined here. If you have any questions or ideas you feel may be helpful, call 751-6755.