## Membership Benefits for Managers

Are you aware of all the benefits you receive for your membership fee?

- ✓ Member Pricing for Publications & Events
- ✓ Common Ground Magazine
- ✓ Community Manager Newsletter
- ✓ Fast Tracks E-Newsletter
- ✓ Community Association Law Reporter E-Newsletter
- ✓ Copyright Free Newsletter Articles
- ✓ 4 Free Webinars per year
- ✓ Community Managers Briefcase
- ✓ Professional Services Directory Listing
- ✓ Exchange:On Line Forum
- ✓ Online Research Library
- ✓ Membership in the local chapter
- ✓ Member Discount Programs

### The Annual Membership fee for Managers is $142—the benefits PRICELESS

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**20th Annual CAI Gold Coast Chapter Golf Tournament**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018**

(Hurricane Date September 21, 2018)

**INDIAN SPRINGS COUNTRY CLUB**

11501 El Clair Ranch Road
Boyon Beach
11AM Boxed Lunch
1PM SHOTGUN START

COCKTAIL HOUR, DINNER AND AWARDS FOLLOWS THE TOURNAMENT

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Some of the proceeds will benefit Dachshund Rescue South Florida

[Register at www.cai-goldcoast.org](http://www.cai-goldcoast.org) Credit cards will incur a 4% credit card fee* No Refunds
I hope everyone is enjoying their summer.

First let me introduce myself; I am David Lyonnais, your new CAI Gold Coast Chapter President. I have been involved with our chapter for over 5 years. I currently work with M and M Asphalt / All County Paving based in Delray Beach as a senior sales associate. All County Paving has been involved with the Gold Coast Chapter for many years. During our involvement with the chapter we have made many long-term relationships with its members and business partners. As president and working closely with our very active board we have continued to grow our chapter. A chapter that everyone is proud of. I look forward to meeting and seeing everyone at our upcoming events.

Becoming part of CAI has had many benefits. When you join CAI, you become a member of the leading organization of recognized experts on community associations. No matter what category of membership you join under, (Volunteer Leader, Manager, Management Company, or Business Partner) you will find a long list of specific benefits, practical guidance and intangible advantages.

Did you know the CAI has over 60 chapter worldwide? Your national membership entitles you to membership in the local chapter (Gold Coast). Our website www.cai-goldcoast.org provides you not only with all the events that we have going on locally, but you are able to access National CAI’s website directly. Our chapter holds education and networking classes monthly and multiple social/networking events per year. These are great opportunities to not only meet others in your industry but to meet new friends along the way.

Who said the summer is our slow season! Not for your CAI Gold Coast Board. As you can see we have been busy planning. Lots of exciting things coming up before the summer ends, and then more excitement after the summer ends.

So, be sure to mark your calendars for all these upcoming great events:
* Wednesday, July 18, one of our Platinum Sponsors, Super Restoration will be teaching a course of hoarding. There is 1 CEU credit in OPP or ELE. **Just a reminder to CAM’s that all CEU’s need to be completed by September 30, 2018 for renewal.**

* Thursday, August 2 is our Sponsorship Cruise on the Lady Atlantic. This is the time to celebrate and thank our chapter sponsors for allowing us to provide the education and social events for our membership. Everyone is invited to attend the cruise. The cost is $50 for CAI managers and Board Members. All others are $100. Please check our website [www.cai-goldcoast.org](http://www.cai-goldcoast.org) to register.

* Friday, September 7, join us as CAI Gold Coast celebrates the 20th Annual Golf Tournament at Indian Spring Country Club. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Dachshund Rescue of South Florida. On the day of the golf event, we will also be collecting much needed items for the dogs such as food, beds, toys etc. Make sure you register early for your foursome as foursomes go quickly.

* Wednesday, October 24, we will be hosting an 80’s Halloween Bash at the Pinball Museum in Delray Beach where CAI Gold Coast has rented out the facility for our group for 3 hours of fun. Be sure to wear your most gnarly ‘80’s outfit!

* Friday, November 30 we will wrap up the end of the year with our Holiday Party at PGA Embassy Suites.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

_Dave_

Dave Lyonnais, CAI Gold Coast Chapter President
dave@cai-goldcoast.org
The Premier Lake Management Company in Florida Just Got Even Better...

Lake Masters is now SOLitude Lake Management.

Same Team. New Name. More Services.

Lake Masters and SOLitude Lake Management represented two companies with similar philosophies, world-class reputations, value-based service delivery and family-based culture. Now that they have joined forces, they are the premier lake management company in the industry.

Lake Masters’ partnership with SOLitude Lake Management allows us to expand our superior service offerings, broaden our expertise, increase our training and development efforts, enhance our technology, and offer additional educational resources to stakeholders in Florida—all while continuing to provide our clients with the high level of customer service they have come to know and expect.

Our leadership team and staff throughout Florida remain the same. As always, we are committed to delivering superior solutions for your community’s lake, pond and wetland management needs. We are excited to continue our journey into 2018 and beyond as SOLitude Lake Management.

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Invasive Species Control
Nutrient Remediation | Dredging
Mosquito & Midge Management
Hydro-Raking & Sediment Removal
Fisheries Management
CAI Gold Coast was represented at the CAI National Conference in Washington, D.C. last month. While we did get in some sightseeing, we also spent a lot of time in training and meeting other CAI board members, Chapter Executive Directors & vendors from around the nation. We are excited to bring back the things we learned at conference.
Have You Considered Hydro-raking as an Aquatic Management Tool?

Emily Walsh, Environmental Scientist at SOLitude Lake Management

Community lakes and stormwater ponds can be used to attract native wildlife, facilitate recreation and enhance the beauty of a HOA property, but, over the course of many years, these aquatic resources may experience sedimentation, nutrient loading and other water quality problems. If a waterbody is not properly managed, it will eventually fill in with muck and other organic materials until depths are significantly reduced. To help restore volume, reduce the possibility of flooding during rainstorms, and improve overall water quality, it’s important to consider hydro-raking as a proactive management tool.

If you own or manage an association with lakes and ponds, you’ve likely heard of hydro-raking as a unique strategy utilized by aquatic professionals to remove aquatic vegetation and “bottom sludge.” A hydro-rake is essentially a floating barge supporting a mounted backhoe and rake attachment that can remove up to 500 pounds of lake and pond muck, plant material and organic debris in a single scoop.

The hydro-rake has the ability to target certain areas of nuisance and/or invasive aquatic vegetation, while conserving other areas in their natural state. This is crucial in the eyes of aquatic management, which is geared towards retaining and restoring balance within the waterbody’s ecosystem. Maintaining an equilibrium of native vegetation enhances the potential for increased species richness and ecosystem resilience — the ability to maintain balance despite challenges posed by nutrient loading, water stratification and other factors that can affect water quality. In addition to proactively managing vegetation, hydro-raking can help reduce or prolong the need for dredging, which is often the costliest project a homeowners association will ever face.

While the hydro-rake is not a suitable management strategy in every situation, it can be extremely effective when used to control several types of vegetation often found in waterbodies used for recreation, community fishing, the collection of stormwater runoff, or simply the enjoyment of their aesthetic beauty:

**EMERGENT SPECIES**

Emergent vegetation such as cattails, common reed and maiden cane are common plants that can plague waterbodies; however, removal can be achieved by utilizing the hydro-rake as a stand-alone management option or as a complement to other management approaches. Emergent plants are fantastic candidates for the hydro-rake because they are usually found along the edge of the waterbody, where they can be easily accessed by the rake attachment. During the removal process, the hydro-rake will extract the plant in its entirety, as well as its attached rhizome (root) structure lain beneath the water’s surface. Because the hydro-rake works from the water rather than land, desirable ornamental and buffer plant species along the shoreline are not impacted.

**FLOATING LEAF SPECIES**

The hydro-rake is effective when removing common floating leaf vegetation such as water lily and watershield. These plant species are ideal for hydro-rake management, due to their leaf structure and attached root systems underneath. As with common reed and cattail removal, the hydro-rake can remove the plants, as well as the root structures. Open water is then restored, thus enhancing the ability of native aquatic flora and fauna to repopulate the area. Other common floating leaf species, such as water hyacinth, water chestnut, and water lotus are additional candidates for hydro-raking service.

**SUBMERSED SPECIES**

Submersed species such as curly-leaf pondweed, big leaf pondweed and tape grass can be effectively managed through hydro-raking. These prescribed programs can provide sufficient plant reduction, especially when combined with herbicide management options. As with any management strategy, it’s important to always consider the biology of the targeted plant before beginning a hydro-raking project. Some submersed plants, such as such as milfoil and fanwort spread heavily through fragmentation and may require alternate management strategies to ensure fragmentation and repopulation do not occur.

Hydro-raking is a management tool used in a wide array of aquatic restoration projects ranging from inlets, outlets, littoral zones, coves, private shorelines, and more. Aquatic vegetation removal projects can be performed any time of year, but the best time is when the nutrients are in the vegetative structure; this is relative to the associated region, weather conditions, and plant biology. When considering this service, the first step is to contact your local lake and pond management professional to conduct a site visit. During this time, they will identify nuisance plant species and management areas, and consider a strategy that aligns with your association’s long-term waterbody goals.

As with any form of proactive management, hydro-raking can help improve the health, longevity and beauty of your community’s lake or stormwater pond for years to come, but is most effective when used in conjunction with other preventative management methods, including aeration, buffer management, nutrient remediation and other strategies that prevent the premature aging, or filling in with sediment, of the waterbody.

Emily Walsh is an experienced Environmental Scientist with SOLitude Lake Management, an environmental firm providing sustainable lake, pond, wetland and fisheries management solutions.

Learn more about this topic at [www.solitudelakemanagement.com/knowledge](http://www.solitudelakemanagement.com/knowledge)
Whatever your political philosophy, you should exercise your individual right to help choose the people who will lead our government—at the federal, state and local levels. Casting a ballot is an American right that people in many other countries don’t enjoy.

But before you can vote, you must register. You can learn about registration procedures in the Voting and Elections section at USA.gov:
www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting.shtml. The site includes information to help you contact elected officials, make campaign contributions and more.

And, by the way, if you’re an owner in good standing, you also have the right to vote in our own association elections. Our campaigns aren’t covered by the worldwide media, and we don’t have bumper stickers and buttons, but they are important and do make a difference in your life. Check this link for upcoming Palm Beach County Elections http://www.pbcelections.org/Elections.aspx?type=current and check with your local municipality for specific election information in your area.
Summer can quickly become an expensive season, but being mindful of energy conservation can help reduce your electricity bills—and your carbon footprint. Take a look at the following suggestions to increase your energy conservation efforts and beat the heat without breaking the bank.

• **Cook dinner outside.** Save electricity by using a charcoal or gas grill to cook your favorite summertime meals.

• **Open the windows.** Instead of cranking the air conditioning on summer evenings, opt for fresh air instead. Invest in an inexpensive electric fan to circulate the air.

• **Light candles.** Since longer summer days afford more daylight, reconsider turning on the lights and use candles instead or as a supplement. Be sure not to leave burning candles unattended, especially around pets and children.

• **Modify the AC when you’re not home.** Adjusting the thermostat—even by a few degrees—when you’re not home can conserve a significant amount of electricity.

• **Turn off the electronics.** Power down the television and computer to spend time with friends and family outdoors. Splash around in your community pool or have a potluck barbeque in your backyard.

• **Take a walk.** If possible, choose to walk to nearby stores and restaurants instead of driving. Early mornings and evenings are prime times for a stroll, especially in areas with hot climates.

• **Take a cool shower or bath.** For a refreshing alternative to a hot shower, reduce your hot water heater usage by bathing in cooler water a few times a week.

• **Limit water consumption.** Water the lawn every other day at off-peak times, use environmentally-friendly, disposable plate ware and utensils instead of running the dishwasher and spend a little less time in the shower.
Safe Summer Fun

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children recommends that parents and guardians take action to keep their children safe during both structured and unstructured summer activities. The first step is to talk to your children. Kids need to know:

❖ Neighborhood boundaries and whose homes they may visit.
❖ Whom to call and where to go in an emergency.
❖ Their full name, address and telephone number.
❖ To keep doors locked and not open the door if they are home alone.
❖ Not to approach a vehicle or accept a ride from anyone without your permission.
❖ To avoid pools and other bodies of water without adult supervision.
❖ Their curfew, and to call you if they will be late.
❖ Parents also should remember to:
❖ Supervise children at malls, movies, arcades and parks.
❖ Choose and screen babysitters with care.
❖ Investigate day care centers and recreational camps thoroughly before enrolling your children.
❖ Always listen to your children.

For more information, visit The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children’s website at www.ncmec.org.
**HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE…IS YOUR ASSOCIATION PREPARED**

June 1st marked the beginning of the 2018 hurricane season. Is your association prepared for this hurricane season?

It is important that association’s board of directors ensure that the association’s insurance policies are in place and that the board understands the association’s coverages and deductibles. It is important that the board of directors of a condominium association understand that, pursuant to section 718.111(11) of the Condominium Act, they must use their “best efforts” to obtain and maintain adequate insurance to protect the association, the condominium property and the common elements.

Even though a hurricane may pass in a matter of hours, the effect of a hurricane can last for days, weeks or even months depending on the strength of the hurricane and the damage it leaves in its wake. After a storm has passed it is important that the board members survey the damage caused by the storm. Some great tools for the association’s board, after a hurricane, are walkie-talkies, a disposable camera, a notepad and a pen or a pencil to take notes (remember, we used to use these things before our smart phones! No Power = No smart phones, too!). These tools will help board members keep in contact with one another after a storm and will help the board document any damage to the condominium property for insurance purposes.

If you haven’t done so already, the association should adopt a written hurricane plan. On a related note, the association should create and distribute to its board members a list of trusted vendors, including the contact information for each vendor. This can really come in handy in the event damages are sustained. Such vendors may include, to name just a few, restoration specialists, landscapers, plumbers, electricians, insurance contacts, including the association’s insurance agent’s contact information. Additionally, board members should know how to locate electrical meters, fire system panels, water shutoffs and any other relevant property features are located and how to operate such features.

Pursuant to section 718.111(5), Florida Statutes, a condominium association has “the irrevocable right of access to each unit during reasonable hours, when necessary for the maintenance, repair, or replacement of any common elements or of any portion of a unit to be maintained by the association pursuant to the declaration or as necessary to prevent damage to the common elements or to a unit or units.” Access to units is of particular importance in the event of a storm. Condominium associations should ensure that it has keys to access each unit.

All associations should ensure they have accurate contact information for each of its owners. There are several simple things an association can do to help prevent damage to the property in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane. Trees, although beautiful, can cause a great amount of damage in a storm. Associations should make sure that the palms and other trees located on the condominium property are properly trimmed in advance of hurricane season. Anything that can fly around should be stowed away, such as roof tiles and patio furniture. Associations should also adopt rules and regulations which provide for what unit owners must do in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane, such as hurricane shutter use.

With regard to an association’s official records, hard copy records, such as insurance binders, member contact information, bank account information, etc., can be stored in water tight containers and should be backed up on an external hard drive and with a cloud-based data storage service.

It is important that the board members remain in contact with each other in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane and, above all, to keep an open line of communication with its unit owners. Unit owners should be informed of the status of the property and the actions the board of directors is taking to repair or replace any damaged condominium property. Hurricane events are stressful. Communication is key!
MEMBERSHIP

We all know that Community Associations Institute (CAI) is a national association whose purpose is to provide education to those involved with community associations. But did you know that your CAI Gold Coast Chapter provides much more than education? By becoming an involved member of CAI, and attending the varied events the chapter offers, you can engage with other CAI members and develop relationships around the shared goal of building better communities. By engaging with other CAI members, you build your own support network as well be a support for another member. Don’t miss out on the opportunity to grow your network; attend the next CAI Gold Coast event. Be sure the share the word. Tell your co-workers and business associates about CAI Gold Coast and why they should join today.

Please send an email to ced.caigoldcoast@gmail.com to become a member of the membership committee or visit our webpage at www.cai-goldcoast.org to become a CAI Gold Coast Member.

Welcome to all the new members that joined this quarter!

Amber Cox - Manager
Meghan DeLuca - Manager
Christopher Olson - Manager
Barbara Rowen – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Michelle LaDouceur - Manager
Scott Haugland – Business Partner
Carla Branes - Multi Chapter Business Partner from Empire Roofing
Matthew Fiebig – Business Partner
Jim McMurray - Multi Chapter Business Partner from FCAP
Debbie Battles – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Cynthia Burdett – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Richard Davidson – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Karla Herbold – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Julie Pilcher – Community Assoc. Volunteer Leader
Vicki Gerris - Manager
Stephanie - National Corporate Member from TOPS Software
Complete Lockbox Association Services System (CLASS)

Association Loans:
- No Personal Guarantees
- No Liens Placed on Units
- Low Closing Costs
- Competitive Rates
- Lines of Credit to Fund Wind Storm Deductibles
- Loans for Repairs and Improvements
- Insurance Premium Financing

Lockbox Services:
- Payments Stopped
- Automatic Exception Processing
- Interest on All Association Accounts
- CDARS FDIC Insured Deposits up to $50 million
- Complete Online Interface
- Online Payments Accepted

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Power failures can be one of the most annoying—and disabling—occurrences in a community. Whether caused by summer storms, power lines crippled by winter ice, equipment failure, an overloaded regional grid or an animal disrupting a power line, electrical outages can be costly, uncomfortable—and without forethought—sometimes even dangerous. Residents can face many hazards when a power failure occurs—usually without any warning—including losing refrigerated and frozen foods. Some food items can be salvaged, however, if you’re prepared.

In anticipation of a power failure:

- Have at least one or two coolers on hand, and at least one spare 5-pound bag of ice in the freezer.
- Know where to get bag, block or dry ice quickly when you need it, particularly if you anticipate a long-term outage. (Caution: Dry ice is made from carbon dioxide, so it requires safe handling. Never breathe in its vapors or touch it with your bare hands.) According to the Food Safety Branch of Kentucky’s Department of Health, a 50-pound block of dry ice will keep a tightly packed, 18-cubic-foot freezer cool for up to two days.
- Have an instant food thermometer or appliance thermometer available to ensure your freezers, refrigerators and coolers are staying cool enough store food safely.
- Arrange the refrigerator and freezer efficiently. Frozen food will last longer in a full freezer—up to 48 hours if tightly packed—and refrigerated food will last longer—up to four hours—if there is room for air to circulate around items.

When the electricity goes off:

- Avoid opening and closing the refrigerator unless absolutely necessary.
  - Cook and use perishable food before using canned food.
- Check the temperature of refrigerated foods if the power is out for more than a few hours. Discard any food item than has been at 40° F or warmer for two or more hours. Exceptions include butter and margarine; hard cheeses like parmesan and Romano; some condiments like mustard, peanut butter, soy sauce, olives and vinegar-based salad dressing; and fresh, uncooked fruits and vegetables.
- Check the temperature of frozen foods as well. While tightly packed freezer foods will stay frozen for many hours, some items that may have thawed can be refrozen if they still retain ice crystals or have remained at a temperature lower than 40°. Fruit and vegetable juices; breads, rolls and pie crusts; flour, cornmeal and nuts; meat and chicken; and prepared foods and casseroles can be refrozen safely if they have not been at 40° F or warmer for more than two hours.
- After the power comes back on, you may need to deodorize the refrigerator and freezer by washing surfaces with a solution of 2 tablespoons baking soda dissolved in a quart of warm water. Place an open box of baking soda inside the refrigerator to absorb any lingering odors.

Since the appearance and odor of a food item isn’t an accurate indication of its safety after a power outage, use the 40° rule-of-thumb. And when in doubt, discard the food.

While a power can go out any time, most power failures occur between mid-July and late September. But no matter when our community experiences an outage—and it inevitably will—knowing how to handle frozen and refrigerated foods can help us keep your food supplies safe until the lights come back on.
The Cooperative Act and Homeowners’ Association Act were recently amended (effective July 1, 2018) to provide that although members of the Board of Directors may use email as a means of communication, the Board cannot cast a vote on Association matters via email. Section 718.112(2)(c) already provides a similar restriction for Condominiums.

Clearly, email is an effective means of communication which has largely supplemented, if not replaced, regular mail. It is efficient and leaves a record which can easily be preserved. Emails are not delayed by the mail and may be sent and delivered instantaneously. Emails do not require preparation of and posting a notice, reserving and preparing a meeting place, creating an agenda, or conducting a meeting.

While the legislature adopts new law for many reasons, in this case, members most likely complained that Board members in homeowners associations and cooperatives were deciding matters which affected the community in email communications, rather than at open board meetings. Board meetings must be properly noticed so that members may attend and speak on agenda items. By discussing matters via email and voting on them, Board members arguably disenfranchise members by refraining from hearing members’ opinions on those agenda items before the Board takes action.

By banning voting by email in Cooperatives and Homeowners Associations, and previously for Condominiums, the legislature now ensures that all voting by the Board of Directors is done with the members present. Although certain decisions of the Association are vested in the Board of Directors, members have the right to attend meetings of the Board of Directors and to speak on all agenda items. This allows members to have a say on the issues affecting their community, even though the Board makes the ultimate decision. The Board must give members the opportunity to speak on agenda items, prior to a Board vote. This involves members in the process, and lets them know that their opinion has been considered, when the Board makes a decision.

SACHS SAX CAPLAN, P.L.---- PETER S. SACHS
Thank you to everyone who came out to Paint Night at All County Paving on May 30. We hope everyone had a great time. We were blown away by the talent in the room! Thank you again to our sponsors who partner with us to make these great events happen.

Our 20th Annual Golf Tournament is coming up on September 7 (see page 4 for more details). We hope to see everyone out on the greens!

On October 24, we are hosting a TOTALLY 80’S PARTY at THE PINBALL HALL OF FAME SILVERBALL MUSEUM in Delray Beach. This should like totally be gnarly! We hope to like see you in your best bombdigi ‘80’s look.

For sponsorship information on these events, please reach out to the Social Committee Chairs, Jennifer Olson (jolson@cai-goldcoast.org) or Nicole Pare (NPare@cai-goldcoast.org)
How to Be a Good Neighbor

A little consideration goes a long way. Read the following tips from eHow.com on how to be a good neighbor beyond just a smile and a wave.

* Welcome any new neighbors with a personal note or pop by for a personal introduction.

* Make sure that the outside of your home—along with the grounds—is well-kept and complies with our association’s CC&Rs.

* Be mindful of noise—loud music, barking dogs, power tools—that may disrupt the neighborhood beyond a reasonable hour.

* If you have a large party, consider your neighbors when directing your guests where to park, end the party at a reasonable hour and invite your neighbors to join in the fun.

* Return anything you borrow from your neighbor promptly, in the same condition they lent it to you, and express your thanks.

  * Replace anything of your neighbor’s that you, your children or your pets break or soil.

* Respect your neighbor’s privacy.

* Offer to take care of mail pick-up, plants or pets while your neighbor is on vacation.

* Be social! Inviting a neighbor over for coffee and conversation can promote open communication and a friendly neighborhood environment from which all neighbors can benefit. Visit www.ehow.com for other helpful, neighborly advice.
Burnout is more than just stress—it’s how your mind and your body tell you a change is needed. Do you find yourself withdrawing from work and caring less about results? Are you working harder, often mechanically or to the point of exhaustion? Just going through the motions?

Try a few tips for keeping burnout at bay.

**Exercise at least three times a week.** Running, weight lifting, bike riding—anything that gets your heart and lungs working burns off stress. Exercise releases endorphins that boost your mood and it dissipates built-up stress that otherwise leads to burnout.

**Make time for a hobby.** An art class, cooking, reading, sewing—anything that’s not part of the regular grind and that helps you relax will balance the things that wear you down.

**Practice breathing exercises.** “Just breathe!” Yes, it’s an old cliche, but there is a grain of truth behind every cliché. Deep breathing gives your body a boost of oxygen and it releases tension in your abdomen around your heart.

**Get away.** Take a walk at lunch, and don’t take work home. Leave the office at the office. At home, find a time and place where you can relax and unwind. Even 15 minutes of relaxation can relieve stress.

**Laugh.** Sometimes it helps to look at a situation and just laugh. If that fails, read the jokes that your uncle’s cousin’s best friend is e-mailing you three times a week. Pick a comedy next time you go to the movies or surf channels.

**Take up yoga or tai chi.** These disciplines have a restorative effect and are sure burnout busters.

Burnout can creep up on you slowly. Watch for the warning signs and stay ahead of it. Your heart, family and employer will thank you.
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Free Safety Information for Homeowners

The Institute for Business & Home Safety has published a series of free brochures for protecting property from hurricanes, tornados, wildfires, hail and freezing weather, water damage and floods, earthquakes and other disasters. A section on protecting your home has numerous publications on water intrusion, oil tank safety, tree pruning, leak alert systems, washing machine hose failure, home inspection checklists and more. Copies can be downloaded free at www.ibhs.org/publications.
Congratulations to Matt Reedy on his recent designation of CIRMS™.

In addition to holding a Community Association Manager license and being AAI (Alliance of American Insurers) certified, Matt has obtained the designation on Community Insurance and Risk Management Specialist.

Dogs left alone all day get bored and restless, and many find relief in barking. Some respond noisily to any and all activity. But, nothing is as annoying as incessant barking—even for dog lovers. If your dog is a yapper or a yowler, please consider some of these bark-abatement ideas to keep the noise down in your area. Your neighbors will thank you!

- **Training.** Always the first recommendation for any behavioral problem! Help is as close as the Yellow Pages. Training not only helps your dog, you’ll be surprised how much it helps you, too. You may get some insight into why your dog barks so much, or what it is trying to communicate.

- **Citronella collars.** A humane alternative to the electric-shock, anti-barking collar and costs about the same. Available on the web and in pet stores.

- **Confinement.** Sometimes simply bringing an outspoken dog indoors or confining it to a crate can cut down on the disturbance to neighbors.

- **Reduce stimulus.** Close drapes to help muffle street noise, or leave a radio on to mask it. Disconnect telephones and doorbells before leaving your home if they upset your dog or make it bark.

- **Companionship.** Dogs are pack animals; they need companionship—a cat, bird, or another dog. Consider a mid-day visit from a pet-sitting service, or drop your pooch off at a friend’s place or a day-care facility once or twice a week.

**STOP THAT BARKING!**
Restoring Balance.
Enhancing Beauty.

The sunshine and warm weather that we love also contributes to nuisance vegetation and algae blooms in our communities’ lakes and stormwater ponds. As part of an annual management plan, our team will not only help restore and maintain balance in your aquatic ecosystem, but also keep your waterbody looking beautiful year-round.

Want to learn more? Download our free guide: “Your Guide to Sustainable Pond Algae and Aquatic Weed Control”

www.solitudelakemanagement.com/balance

Water: It’s 71% of your world... 100% of ours.

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For a full list of our superior service offerings, visit www.solitudelakemanagement.com/services
Thank you to our Sponsors!

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