



**THREE RIVERS ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS, INC.**

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## **T.R.E.P.O. NEWSLETTER**

**Sept. 2012 Edition**

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Hello friends,

In the last newsletter, I mentioned how summer had arrived and brought with it the much needed rain. In hindsight, it seems that the rain we received for Memorial Day was child's play compared to what Tropical Storm Debbie would eventually do to the area. As most of you know, we received in some cases as much as 25 inches of rain in areas just to our north, which happen to be the spring basins for both the Santa Fe and Ichetucknee rivers. The slow moving tropical storm wreaked havoc on the area, bringing with it flooding in areas not normally prone to flooding, lots of road closures, sinkholes, and other hazardous conditions. This flooding was different than the usual slow rise of the Santa Fe due to the Suwannee river rising. Instead the Santa Fe became a raging river with rapids and white water in some locations, bringing with it dangerous fast moving water and large destructive debris. As a result, most of the TREPO parks were closed due to the conditions, and the Sheriff's department was asking that everyone remain out of the water.

Thankfully, no major damage was done here in Three Rivers, all parks have been reopened, and what damage was done has been quickly repaired by the park management department led by Jule McGee. I would like to thank Jule and his volunteers who spend their time making our parks what they are today. Regarding the parks, Jule and I are in the middle of creating a 3-year plan for each of the parks in both counties that will be used to improve these parks over time. We have some parks that have been vandalized in the past and remain difficult to secure, however one of those parks is right in the middle of our radar screen. Bridge Park on the Santa Fe River has been a difficult park to maintain, due to its location, and the fact that the county park next door to it was unsecured. Well I'm happy to report that this is no longer an issue, as TREPO has been given permission by the county to secure the park and maintain it as our own for the next three years. This will allow us to fence both parks as one, and make it more secure to trespassing, which we are in the process of getting bids to do. The board feels very strongly that this is one of our most beautiful parks and we need to keep it safe and secure for the members to use, and to keep the trespassers and vandals out.

Likewise, on the Suwannee County side, Brennan Park will be the focus of our attention, as soon as the minor repairs are made to the boat ramp caused by the flooding of the Santa Fe River. The details of the plans for this park are still being fleshed out; however, some of the items being considered are a new pavilion down by the water, stairs to the water, picnic tables, and park grills. We urge all of our members to stop by and check out some of the changes already made, but more importantly, give us your feedback on some of the changes you would like to see. We try to be creative and do the best we can, but if you have an idea for a park, please let us know.