

## **Environmental Awareness and Education Committee**

John DeVore, chair

**I'm guessing that you were drawn to Pine Ridge for the rural, wooded, natural environment along with our many other great assets.**

Smart move!

There is not a study anywhere that does not confirm that wooded communities have higher property values, but that's not even the best part. Also included in the benefits are cooler temperatures, lower crime rates, and lower water and energy costs. That's a lot!

Additionally, the benefits for those who actually spend time outdoors in natural settings include lower blood pressure, less anxiety, and a greater sense of well-being.

Pine Ridge is one of the largest state designated bird sanctuaries in Florida. We think the majority of residents here would like to keep it that way.

The Environmental Awareness and Education Committee (EAEC) is here to keep you informed of the natural treasures we have, from trees to tortoises to lizards (anoles). For example, did you know that our live oaks (sand live oaks here in Pine Ridge) are the most hurricane safe trees there are? And second to the live oaks are our huge, long leaf pines. Tap roots anyone?

We are developing information pages on the Pine Ridge Website that will have all kinds of information about the natural world of Pine Ridge.

We have already developed promotional documents for residents, realtors, and contractors to inform everyone about the many positive aspects of Pine Ridge, including our large lots, equestrian opportunities, amenities, as well as our environmental restrictions.

Look for our Stay in Touch communications as we develop fun facts about what's blooming, what birds you are seeing, and more.

We work in partnership with the Board of Directors, management, and other committees to serve them as well as the whole community. We are here to make a difference.

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM.

If you want to contact us, please email the office with attention to the Environmental Awareness and Education Committee. [manager@pineridgeassn.com](mailto:manager@pineridgeassn.com)

We would love to hear from you.