



One of the design objectives of this system of lakes, ponds, and wetlands at Samaan Grove, besides being a critical drainage system, was to make a wildlife reserve second to none on the island of Tobago. As part of the initial development, we committed to the public that the development of the lake would become one of the best places in Tobago to view the wildlife. The results have exceeded all our expectations as we have been able to enjoy much different waterfowl seen visiting the ponds. Our ongoing objective for the development is to increase and improve it as wildlife could become a significant visitor pull if done correctly.

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Maintenance Plan

In maintaining our lakes, the foremost priority remains to remove all the vines and weeds from the ponds and to support a two-foot channel between the bank and the tall reeds. This channel prevents the vines and weeds from running onto the water plants and ensures that easier maintenance of the lakes remains a priority.

As part of our maintenance, the Association ensures that the plants near and in front of the bridges are thinned out to ensure a good water flow. Though the water lilies remain a pride and joy, we guarantee that the lakes (near the second bridge) do not overgrow and that the clumps of the pickerelweed plant are in limited quantities.

While some may argue that Hyacinths should remain in our lakes, our Association decided to remove them from the lakes due to the plant's invasive nature and tendency to overtake the beauty of the lakes. Although the hyacinth does not affect the wildlife in the ponds and can serve as a great aerator and filter for toxins and metals found in the water, the plant multiples too quickly suffocates the lilies and creates blockages by the bridges, thereby slowing the water flow.



One of the greeneries that we remove entirely from the lakes is the floating grass. While it does not affect the wildlife in the ponds, it creates a slowdown in the water flow, and these ponds were designed as an excess water drainage system. The Association also ensures that all the razor grass is pulled and not cut, which can negatively impact the system.



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