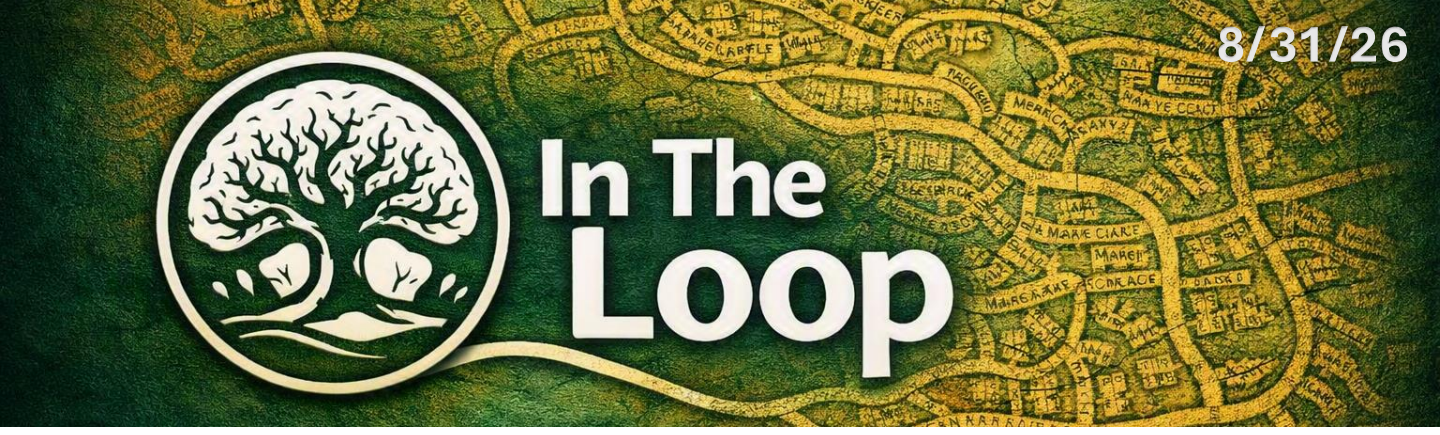


Whew! This was the end of a busy month. Crosswoods continues to evolve for the better, one thoughtful improvement at a time.

NOW HERE'S THE REAL DIRT

Two months ago, the Board approved a soil recovery plan developed by Sandor, whose experience of growing grass at parks and golf courses is now helping the HOA get to the root of our brown grass. Sandor suspected the issue wasn't simply a lack of water. He thought it had to be the soil.

Last week, we got the results on our lawn troubles through soil tests (at no cost to the HOA). The problem wasn't that the grass was thirsty—it was that **the soil was salty, containing excessive amounts of sodium**. It acts like a sponge, pulling water away from plant roots. In other words, no matter how much water we poured on the turf, **the salt was slurping up the water before the grass could get a sip.**

The soil report also revealed a few more dirty details: magnesium levels are high, while potassium, calcium, sulfur, and phosphorus are all running low. Not exactly a recipe for a healthy lawn.

To get our soil back on solid ground, we will begin applying a custom blend of amendments, including gypsum, limestone, calcium, potassium, and organic matter. This isn't a quick fix. It took over 6 years to get into this salty situation, and it'll take time to pepper the soil back to health. But with these amendments and patience, we're confident that greener days are ahead!

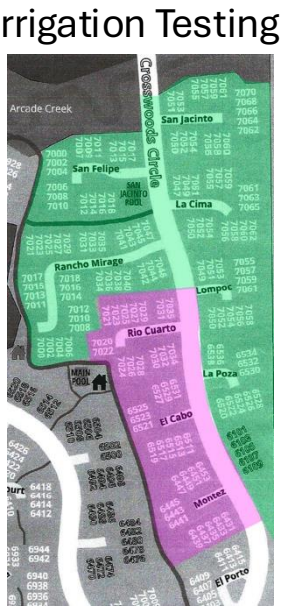
MEANWHILE...

Several projects have been completed that enhance the look and safety of our community:

- Ground Forces, the all-volunteer gardening group is going street-by-street identifying broken sprinklers and irrigation pipe. **Carl and Sandor** then repair the issues. Thanks to **Pete Juergenson** for taking on this task. (see map to the right)

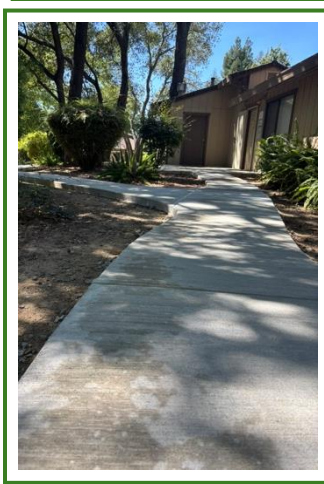
- This week, siding work begins on 25 homes on Monte Verde and San Altos by Cal Pro.
- A new concrete pathway was poured from the HOA front door to the walking path, replacing the worn dirt path (see photo →).
- The HOA poured new cement for parking spots at the end of Navarro
- A parking spot destroyed by tree roots on Crosswoods Circle was repoured and asphalted.
- The southwest walking path received a makeover, reducing cracks and trip hazards while also receiving a protective sealant.
- A new hand rail was installed on the sloping walking path on Monte Verde Circle (see photo →).

Irrigation Testing



Up next on 9/5

Completed



Finally, Crosswoods was recognized at a recent Citrus Heights City Council meeting by councilperson Tim Schaefer for our National Night Out event. Congratulations to **Marji Arjil, Kathy Halpert** and the Entire Welcome/Social Committee for their incredible efforts!

Crosswoods is moving forward, thanks to our residents, volunteers, employees and partners!

Michael Ball
Crosswoods HOA President