

Debbie Galbraith  
37605 N CR44A  
Eustis, FL 32736  
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Public Works  
437 Ardice Avenue  
Eustis, FL 32736

To Whom It May Concern:

Two or three years ago a couple of large, earth moving vehicles belonging to Lake County dug a ditch in the middle of the easement directly in the front of my property. I called and spoke to a man (Ron, Rich perhaps) who informed me that everyone in Lake County has this unsightly ditch in their front lawn and that the purpose of my ugly ditch was to accommodate my new neighbor who was having a problem with water flowing onto his property. This Lake County genius further assured me that this ditch was perfectly safe and there would be no standing water in my ditch because of the sandy soil-this has not been the case!

I watched over the years as the street in front of my house became an unsafe traffic disaster. Not surprisingly, almost immediately the dirt holding up the road began to erode (there was nothing to keep the tar and gravel from sliding into the ditch) and I was the one who was out shoveling and burying the pieces of tar that were trashing the blades on my John Deere. I watched many vehicles pulling trailers have their back wheels fall off the road and, not only creating a dangerous situation, they further eroded the sides of street. I fully expected someone to be hurt and sue the county but, as it was the county's ultimate stupidity, I waited to see what would happen.

A few weeks ago I came home from work and someone had shored up the side of the road with more black tar. Within one week, grass was growing in this obviously poorly constructed tar patch and very soon I will again be dealing with the side of the road falling onto the part of the yard that I mow regularly; I will again be moving and burying tar in an effort to keep this mess out of the landfill and not destroy my lawnmower. I am very unhappy about this.



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Fast forward to a few days ago and the county has apparently shored up my neighbors driveway (why can't I get this kind of care and concern from the county?) and packed the gravel and debris from this project against my fence line-the fence line that I MOW. I maintain my property and my fence line and I DON'T WANT THIS STUFF SHOVED ONTO MY PROPERTY.

This is not a dispute between neighbors, I like my neighbor David. I suspect the reason that he doesn't work is a disability issue and I have tried to be patient. He needs to be told that the county is not responsible for his rain problems and he simply needs to move his driveway further into the middle of his property where there appears to be less runoff. A better solution might be a concrete apron like the one I have on my property.

In any case, Lake County needs to stop trashing the front of my property to appease my neighbor. It is unfair and disrespectful to me, unsafe for people traveling on North County road 44A and a waste of taxpayer money.

I want my dirt back (it is where you left it in a weed covered pile in David's front yard) so that the easement in front of my house can be restored to a safe side of road and I will no longer have the extra work and expense of cleaning up the road as it breaks apart and slips into the area that I mow and maintain. Please price mower blades on a large mower to understand a part of my frustration, not to mention that I am an older woman with a full time job at Florida Hospital who simply does not have any more time to clean up after the counties' poorly conceived plan.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I would like written documentation of how Lake County plans to resolve this situation. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully:



Debbie Galbraith