

Dear respected neighbors,

For your information, a few of us have spotted an alligator in our ponds. As much as we tried to coordinate a transfer of this innocent alligator, we decided that simply leaving him alone is best.

We have had several conversations with the Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservancy Commission and the alligator trapper himself and we have all agreed that the best thing to do in this case is to leave him in its natural habitat as he is not causing any harm. They have assured me that a majority of the time alligators do not cause any harm and they usually move along to another body of water after a few weeks or so. In fact, the chances of being seriously injured due to an alligator attack is only 1 in 3.1 million according to FWC. The only recommendation is to never feed them in which they will get use to coming closer to us hence cause issues.

Please be aware that a request for removal of these gators does not end up in their favor. As these removals result in transfers to various crowded Alligator farms, or used for bait, held in captivity for doing live shows and sometimes simply killed, very seldom they get relocated to a sanctuary where they can continue to live in their natural habitat, so your thoughtful acknowledgement is crucial to their life.

Cordially;

Joanna Heath

Treasurer

Pine Ridge Civic Association

