

## **We Live in a Gator-ed Community**

*Extracted from WARNING! GATOR SIGHTING! . September 2004.*

This is alligator mating season, so they are more aggressive than normal. Alligators can move from pond to pond, by crossing the berms. They also like to leave the water and sun themselves in the grass.

If you see a 'gator, please:

- Leave them alone.
- DO NOT FEED IT!! Alligators are, by nature, afraid of humans. If fed by humans, they will lose that fear and attack. It is also illegal to feed alligators in the State of Florida. Alligators grow at a rate of 1 foot a year.
- DO NOT SWIM in any of the lakes or ponds; DO NOT allow your pets to swim in the lakes or ponds.
- WARN YOUR CHILDREN to stay away from the ponds' edges, as well as the above warnings.

The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (352-732-1225) will not come out until an alligator has grown to 6 feet or longer, or until it becomes aggressive, such as eating a kid!

We don't want your kids or pets eaten by this, or any other gator! Take heed!

*Sandy "Gator Watching" Horazak, Nature Editor*