

Redington Beach Newsletter

MARCH 2016



Redington Beach Town Hall, 105 164th Ave, Redington Beach, FL 33708

HOURS: Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

www.townoffredingtonbeach.com

Mayor's Message

To Redington Beach Residents,

Spring is just around the corner, time to enjoy the outdoors before it gets too hot and humid. The beach and Gulf waters, our Town Parks and the 161st Avenue Causeway, to fish off, all beckon.

The Town Staff continues to do an excellent job and we elected officials strive to be good stewards of the Town's assets and resources.

Our Commission meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month, I encourage our residents to attend. At our March 1st Commission meeting a 6th grade student spoke at Public Forum...good for her!

Turtle nesting season is just around the corner, I want to remind all our residents on the West side of Gulf Blvd to comply with our outdoor lighting Ordinance.

Happy Spring!

Nick Simons

**WATERING RESTRICTIONS FOR 2016, PLEASE SEE PINELLAS COUNTY
UTILITIES WEBSITE @ pinellascounty.org**

Code Enforcement Mission Statement: To insure a safe, healthful environment consistent with the community needs and Town codes, while striving for voluntary compliance and public awareness. The code enforcement officer provides interpretation and enforcement of all town ordinances and policies. Responds to citizen complaints and concerns. Researches and determines nature and severity of violation. Establishes remedial action and time required for code compliance. Maintains records necessary for effective, legal enforcement. Processes code cases through re-inspections, proper notification, and schedule for code enforcement board hearings. Reviews codes as necessary for revision/amendments in keeping with community needs. Provide town wide surveillance, surveys, and studies to monitor compliance and effectiveness of codes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Excerpts—Code of Ordinances, Section 12-2 NUISANCES

It shall be unlawful:

- (1) to allow, suffer, or permit palmetto scrub, weeds, vines, bushes, grass, thistles, or other rank or noxious vegetable growth to grow or otherwise accumulate upon any premises within the Town or upon right of way adjacent to such property, regardless of whether such premises are occupied or unoccupied.
- (2) To allow, suffer, or permit any building or structure which by act of god, fire, decay, or other cause may become structurally dangerous, unsafe, dilapidated, or unsanitary to remain (in such condition) without forthwith doing and performing all things necessary to cause such building or structure to be reconstructed, restored, torn down, or removed, in conformity with applicable laws or regulations of the town which may be applicable in respect thereto.
- (3) To allow or permit or fail to remove anything which might be considered unsanitary by keeping, maintaining, allowing to exist or permitting anything whereby the life or health or any person may be threatened or impaired or by which or through which, directly or indirectly, disease may be caused or the environment of any person rendered unclean or unwholesome.
- (4) To allow the owner or occupant or family member of any residential living unit in any residential or commercial area of the town to park or store or keep upon his premises, in the open or in the street or area adjacent thereto, any vehicle which is not in mechanical operating condition for immediate locomotion under its own power, or any derelict or junk vehicle, or to create or permit the use of any part of his premises to be used for the storage or parking or the presence thereon of any motor vehicle not bearing a current inspection sticker and currently licensed and registered and not mechanically capable of immediate operation under its own automotive power, or to permit the storage upon the property of rubbish, old cars or old unlicensed boats or old trailers, or parts of trailers, or any other materials thereof.

COURTESY NOTICES

Courtesy notices are issued as a reminder to residents that a Redington Beach Code Violation has occurred or exists. On each courtesy notice you will find the nature of the violation. Generally the Town allows 72 hours to correct the violation, unless something more serious may require more time in which exceptions may be given. If more time is required, please contact the Town. If appropriate, we will try our best to work with you.

CONSTRUCTION

Please remember, during construction, at all times, a debris container shall be kept at or on the construction site. The area must be kept in clean, neat and orderly condition at all times until completion and the site is returned to its pre-construction condition. Trash pick ups through your normal service are not acceptable or permitted. The Town has been asked to remind residents that their crews will not pickup construction rubble from construction sites.

NO CONSTRUCTION is permitted on Saturday's or Sunday's (substantial) This includes erection, excavating, demolition, alteration or repair of any building.

For **ALL** new construction and major alterations a drainage site plan drawn by a registered or licensed architect or engineer shall be submitted prior to issuance of building permit (Section 6-59) This is so no additional rainwater is ending up on an abutting neighbors property creating flood conditions. The Commission passed Ordinance 2015-02 pertaining to rainwater runoff on September 15th, 2015. This was to be passed to address Section 6-59. The Ordinance is available at Town Hall.

CODE ENFORCEMENT– NUISANCES CONT'D

Please be aware it is unlawful for any person to bring, have or allow any animals in the Parks recreation areas, or on the beach (Town Ordinance: Section 4-3) It is also required of anyone walking their dogs to have them on a leash at all times (Section 4-5).

REMINDER: If you have a landscaper trimming trees, bushes, hedges etc., It is **THEIR** responsibility to remove these items.

Please do not leave on the curb. Progressive Solutions have a schedule to keep to, they will not haul huge piles of garden debris. All debris must be bundled in 4 feet lengths or be in a trash container.

Trailers and boats are another top ordinance violation. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or park more than one boat or one boat trailer, or any combination thereof, upon any residentially zoned lot, piece or parcel of land in the town. Placing or parking such equipment upon any right-of-way or easement within the town is expressly prohibited. (Section, 21-47).

NPDES: NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

The Stormwater Management Program is part of the NPDES Program. Its purpose is to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practical to and from the Town's municipal stormwater system using management practices, control techniques system design, and engineering methods and other provisions that are appropriate. In simple terms, the program was mandated by the EPA, and was implemented by the town in 1997 to reduce pollutants entering our waterways and drinking water supply. The town uses several methods to accomplish this task. All of which have been authorized and approved by the EPA. Swales, CDS units, grassy areas, retention and detention areas, silt fencing, booming, cofferdams, and street sweeping are just a few of the ways that are utilized for reducing contaminates prior to entering our waterways. Several years of planning took place prior to receiving our stormwater permit in which we have to adhere to and enforce and be able to provide the documentation of compliance by the town with the proof of enforcement. I hope through these quarterly newsletters, readers are more conscientious of the importance of keeping our environment free of pollution and harmful contaminates. As care takers of this land on which we live, it is important we all do our part, not only for ourselves, but for generations to come.

The water quality portion of the NPDES permit requires that construction projects be designed as such that discharges meet water quality standards of the Florida Administrative Code. New development and redevelopment often increases the impervious land surface which leads to increase pollutant levels in the stormwater runoff. Any person who wishes to engage in land development or redevelopment activities must submit a plan (drainage site plan) clearly identifying the proposed storm water management provisions and facilities. All drainage plans submitted for review and approval must include a description of those measures which will be taken to provide adequate control of the quality of runoff water. The site plan must also provide provisions for adequate control of erosion and sedimentation.

Sect 6-66 Compliance with NPDES Requirements:**A. Compliance Standards.**

- (1) New building construction within any zoning district in the town shall conform to the provisions of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency as more specifically set forth in the NPDES permit issued to the town.
- (2) The town's certified stormwater management inspector shall, at all times during building construction or development, ensure that construction and contractors maintain a system for control of construction site erosion, sediment, and water runoff.
 - (a) Each building site plan for construction shall be reviewed to include the system or method to be used by the contractor to eliminate or control erosion and sediment at the construction site and potential pollution of the town's stormwater collection system.
 - (b) The certified stormwater management inspector shall periodically inspect each construction site to ensure that the site does not cause erosion or sediment that may result in a discharge into the stormwater system.

NPDES: NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM CONT'D....

- (c) The certified stormwater management inspector shall maintain detailed records of all site plans and inspection of construction sites in the town for compliance with the town's NPDES Permit, and shall report such data to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency for NPDES reporting purposes.
 - (d) The certified stormwater management inspector shall report to the mayor all notices of violation or stop work orders issued by the certified stormwater management inspector to any contractor or property owner for non-compliance with the provisions of this section.
- (B) ***Enforcement:***
- (1) *Stop work order: other penalty.* In the event that any person holding a site development permit pursuant to this Code violates the terms of this permit, or implements site development in such a manner as to materially adversely affect the health, welfare, or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood or at the development site so as to be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property of improvements in the neighborhood, the certified stormwater management inspector shall issue a "stop work" order upon ascertainment of any violation of this section or other law pertaining hereto until such time as the condition that caused the "stop work" order has been, in the opinion of the certified stormwater management inspector, corrected.
 - (2) *Violation and Penalties:* No person shall construct, enlarge, alter, repair or maintain any grading, excavation or fill, or cause the same to be done, contrary to or in violation of any of the terms of this Code. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section of this Code shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and each day during which any violation of any of the provisions of this section of this Code is committed, continued or permitted, shall constitute a separate offence. Upon conviction of any such violation, such person, partnership, or corporation shall be punished as provided for elsewhere in this Code for misdemeanors of the third degree. In addition to any other penalty authorized by this section, any person, partnership, or corporation convicted of violating any of the provisions of this section of this Code shall be required to bear the cost and expense of restoring the site to a condition acceptable to the certified stormwater manager.
- (a) For all new construction and major alterations, a drainage plan drawn by registered or licensed architect or engineer shall be submitted as part of the package submitted to the building department prior to issuance of a building permit.
 - (b) The drainage plan shall indicate the installation of proper erosion and sediment controls required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) that are to be implemented as construction sites to control contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer system by stormwater discharges from construction activities. All site drainage runoff must run only through established drainage structures so as to prevent excess or excessive water from gathering on the site or on surrounding properties to prevent flooding on the site and adjacent properties.

**NPDES: NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM**
"ADOPT-A-STREET" Registration Form

Volunteer's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

HELP KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY BEAUTIFUL

If you would like to participate in the Adopt a Street Program, gloves and trash bags will be provided. Drop off locations will be assigned where to leave the removed litter.



CRS—COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

ALL Municipalities are required to meet certain requirements applicable to the Community Rating System, known as CRS. This program determines the communities insurance rates for it's residents which is determined by what each community rating is. The Town's current rate is 7, which entitles each resident a 15% discount on their flood insurance.

The Town of Redington Beach has maintained the highest rating possible by meeting all the criteria applicable of a community of it's size, population, location etc. While the Town Staff is responsible for meeting the requirements to receive the rating, it's important residents of the Town complies with Local, State and Federal codes that apply so that the Community as a whole is not affected with higher insurance rates.

CRS: Community Rating System***WHAT EVERY TOWN RESIDENT SHOULD KNOW REGARDING FLOOD SAFETY, FLOOD INSURANCE RATES, FLOOD INSURANCE AND FIRE SAFETY***

FLOOD SAFETY: Local flooding could occur in the Town, as a result of storms and during high tides. Flooding is dangerous and can happen within a short period of time. Even though water appears to be moving slowly, a flood 6" deep moving at 3 ft. / second can knock people off their feet, a flood 2 feet deep moving at the same velocity can float a car off the road. The message is clear; DO NOT attempt to walk or drive in flood conditions.

PROPERTY PROTECTION MEASURES: Protecting a property from flood damage include retrofitting, a grading a yard, correcting local drainage problems and such emergency measures as moving furniture and sand bagging. In times of hurricanes and / or tropical storms measures to protect against high winds one should consider installing storm shutters and reinforced garage doors.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM): The FIRM is a map published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that is used by the County Building Department, realtors, lending institutions, architects, engineers, and surveyors to determine in which Flood Zone a particular property is located and the base flood elevation (BFE). This information is useful to engineers and architects in building design and insurance underwriters in rating flood insurance policies. Lending institutions are now legally required to mandate that property owners with mortgages must carry flood insurance on properties located in the flood zone. Since Redington Beach is a barrier island, the entire Town is designated a Special Flood Hazard Area and is located in either a VE or AE Zone. The Town has several Base Flood Elevation (BFE) heights. The BFE is the height above mean sea level to which the lowest structural member/floor support of a new structure must be elevated to survive flooding so severe that its height is expected no more often than once in a hundred years. Information on the flood zone or the base flood elevation for your property can be obtained by calling the Redington Beach Town Hall at 727-391-3875 and/or checking the Town's website at www.townoffredingtonbeach.com.

ELEVATION CERTIFICATES: All new construction or substantial improvement requires a surveyor's elevation certificate to document the height of the floor, structure, and equipment, as well as breakaway walls, or hydrostatic relief vents required in enclosures for garage storage below the BFE. The Town maintains a file of these certificates, and can provide copies to anyone as per availability.

It should be noted that official file and elevation certificate information is what is used to determine insurance rates, or if enclosures or additions to living space have been made below flood level. These illegal enclosures or changes will not be covered by insurance; only permitted expansions documented as meeting codes will be covered. Elevation Certificate copies are on the Town web page.

FLOOD INSURANCE: The Town of Redington Beach participates in the National Flood Insurance program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS) and currently has a rating of 7 with 10 being the lowest and 1 being the highest rating. Each rating below 10 gains property owners in Redington Beach a 5% reduction in their flood insurance premiums. Since Redington Beach is currently rated at 7, residents enjoy a 15% reduction. If you haven't already done so, you need to advise your insurance agent that Redington Beach has a NFIP/CRS rating of 7 at this time, so you receive the proper discount. Insurance writers should know this, but it is best to check. Remember normal homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Also, you must have flood insurance to participate in some grant programs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The Town is graded by NFIP/CRS and awarded points for various activities ranging from adopting flood and storm drainage ordinances, educational projects, such as newsletters, for which we are allowed points. Some actions such as a mitigative retrofit and elevation of structures may qualify for grant monies.

CRS—COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM...Cont'd

Unfortunately, your elected officials and Town staff cannot do it all. To a large extent, it depends on the cooperation and assistance of residents and property owners to make it work. Here are some ways you can help: keep erosion silt and trash out of drains –drains flow to the intracoastal waters and affect beaches.

As a participant in the NFIP and NPDES, the Town has adopted ordinances on building construction, storm water drainage, filling, grading, and excavation. If you see any construction or excavating done without a permit posted, contact the building department on 727 202 6825.

There are numerous storm water inlets on public and private properties in Town. The Public Works Department inspects these inlets on a biannual basis to determine if they are being maintained. If you see anyone dumping trash, lawn clippings, etc into these inlets contact the building department. If seen at night or weekends, contact the police department, at 727-582-6200.

THE TOWN'S PART: Your elected officials, in an ongoing effort to keep the Town safe from the dangers of flooding have authorized or implemented the following: Redington Beach contracts with Florida Municipal Services. They stand ready to advise property owners, architects and contractors regarding acceptable methods of flood proofing of proposed new construction or existing structures. In the event of a storm, some citizens are advised to stay tuned to WARM FM 94.9 as primary source of storm data and WRBQ FM 104.7 as a secondary source. In the event of a hurricane, the Police Department receives regular updates from Pinellas County Emergency Management.

The Town adopted a Flood Management Plan, including requirements for the FEMA 50% Rule. This states that, if a property is damaged more than 50% or if an owner wants to make substantial improvements, which exceed 50% of the fair market value of the structure only (not including the land), the owner will be required to bring the building into compliance with NFIP regulations and Town Ordinance requirements for new construction. Literature of this is FREE of charge from the Town Hall and the Gulf Beaches Library in Madeira Beach, as well as online.

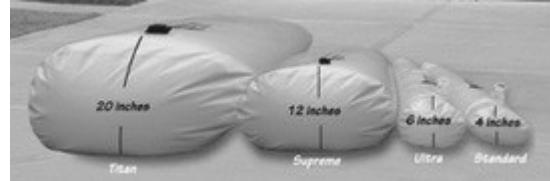
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**HOMEOWNERS FLOOD PROTECTION SYSTEM can help protect your home!**

DEEPLY DISCOUNTED EMERGENCY FLOOD CONTROL BAGS. They are self-inflating “sandless” sandbags filled with a super absorbent polymer that expands as it gets wet. This is a link to the manufacturer’s website with videos on the product: <http://fbsap.com/>

HYDRABARRIER—THE SANDBAG ALTERNATIVE

Properly deployed at the first sign of trouble, these Kits can provide a water-stopping barrier at the ground level of doors, drains and pipes. They can even help to prevent sewage backup.

- Available in 4 heights—standard offers up to 4 inches of water projection: Ultra offers up to 6 inches of water protection: Supreme offers up to 12 inches of water protection: Titan offers up to 20 inches of water protection
- Bags can be used to seal doors, garages and even toilets, bags activate fast with fresh water, Stops water, debris, waste and more from entering your home and Non-toxic, biodegradable materials.
- www.hydrabarrier.com or call (888) 876-4068



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONT'D—As another Hurricane and Tropical storm season approaches, now is the time to start taking precautions. Please familiarize yourselves with much of the enclosed material and definitely do not wait until the last minute. Lives are lost every year due to these powerful forces of nature and millions of dollars of damage is often the result of these storms. As always, be prepared and have a plan. Know where you will go if an evacuation is ordered, know where you can take your pets and by all means do not take any unnecessary things that could endanger you or your family's lives. Stay safe.

HURRICANES

Hurricanes are violent storms which bring intense winds, heavy rain, storm surge, floods, coastal erosion, landslides and tornadoes. While it is difficult to predict the exact time, place and force of hurricanes, residents of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast states must be prepared. The season for hurricanes is June through November, with most hurricanes occurring mid-August to late October. Each season, on average, six hurricanes form in the Atlantic Ocean of which two become major hurricanes.

KNOW YOUR RISK WHAT TO DO:

- Contact your local emergency management office to learn about evacuation routes and emergency plans
- Get additional information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.fema.gov), Citizen's Corps (www.citizencorps.gov), the American Red Cross (www.redcross.org) and NOAA's National Hurricane Center (www.nhc.noaa.gov).
- Buy flood insurance. Anyone can get flooded, even if you don't live in a designated flood zone. There is a 30-day waiting period before activation of flood insurance policies. Homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Ask your insurance agent or go to www.floodsmart.gov
- Inquire about emergency plans and procedures at your child's school and at your workplace.
- Make a family disaster plan that includes out-of-town contacts and locations to reunite if you become separated. Be sure everyone knows home, work and cell phone numbers and how to call 9-1-1.
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit with food, water, medical supplies, battery-powered radio and NOAA Weather Radio batteries, flashlights and other items that will allow you to get by for 3 days after a hurricane hits.
- Gather important documents such as birth and marriage certificates, social security cards, passports, will, deeds and financial and insurance records. Store them in a fire and flood proof safe or safe deposit box.

PREPARE YOUR HOME BEFORE THE STORM:

- Install permanent wooden or metal storm shutters or board up windows with 5/8" marine plywood.
- Install metal straps or hurricane clips to securely fasten your roof to the frame structure.
- Trim trees and clear rain gutters and downspouts.
- Plan ahead for protection of pets and livestock. For information go to www.fema.gov and search "Pet Owners"

AS THE STORM APPROACHES:

- Remember that a ***Hurricane Watch*** means the onset of hurricane conditions is possible within 30 hours; a ***Hurricane Warning*** means the onset of hurricane conditions is likely within 24 hours.
- Have a full tank of gas in a vehicle, cash and your disaster supply kit ready to go.
- Make sure every family member carries or wears identification.
- Listen to the radio or television and NOAA Weather Radio for Hazards on current information and be prepared to act quickly.
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to maximum cold and keep closed.
- Secure your boat or move it to a safer mooring.
- Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water for bathing, flushing toilets and cleaning, but do not drink this water.
- Secure or bring inside such outdoor items as patio furniture, kids slides and power mowers.
- Turn off propane tanks. Shut off other utilities if emergency officials advise you to do so.

EVACUATE IF YOU:

- Are directed by local authorities advising you to do so.
- Live in a mobile home, a high-rise building, on the coast, a floodplain, near a river, or an inland waterway, or otherwise feel you will be in danger.

IF YOU ARE TOLD TO EVACUATE:

- Turn off all utilities if authorities advise you to do so.
- Don't delay in evacuating once you get word to leave.
- Stick to designated evacuation routes. If you need help, this is the most likely place to find it.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONT'D

- Take your most reliable vehicle and avoid taking multiple vehicles that create gridlock.

IF YOU CANNOT EVACUATE AND ARE STAYING IN YOUR HOME:

- Go to a safe indoor place for refuge, such as an interior room, closet, or hallway. Stay downstairs only if you are not in a flood prone or storm surge area.
- Do not go outdoors during the storm, even in its early stages. Flying debris is extremely dangerous.
- Close all doors, brace external doors, stay clear of windows and keep curtains and blinds shut.
- If necessary take cover under a heavy table, or under something protective.
- Don't be tricked by a sudden lull in the storm, it may be the "eye" passing over. The storm will resume.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE STORM:

- Use extreme caution going out of doors. Be alert for downed power lines, broken glass and damage to building foundations, streets and bridges and coastal or hillside erosion.
- Stay on firm ground. Moving water 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Standing water may be electrically charged from power lines.
- Once home, check gas, water, electrical lines and appliances for damage.
- Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Never use candles or other open flames indoors.
- When using a generator, avoid electrocution hazards by following manufacturers instructions and standard electrical code.
- Do no drink tap water until you know it is safe.

THE RECOVERY PROCESS:

- For direct assistance to individuals and families contact the American Red Cross or other local voluntary agencies.
- Check newspapers, television, or radio news for information on disaster assistance available.
- If you have property damage, contact your insurance company as soon as possible.
- For information on helping children deal with disaster, visit www.fema.gov or get a copy of FEMA 478 *Helping children cope with Disaster*.

To obtain other fact sheets and publications call the FEMA publication warehouse at 1-800-480-2520. You can also visit DHS www.ready.gov.

PREPARING FOR A HURRICANE...DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

Here are the most important items for your Disaster Supply Kit. Stock up today and store in a water-resistant container. Replenish as necessary.

- Two weeks supply of prescription medicines
- Seven day supply of non perishable/special dietary foods
- Drinking water containers 1 gallon per person per day (minimum 7 days)
- Flashlights and batteries for each member of the family
- Portable radio and batteries
- Mosquito repellent & citronella candles
- Fire extinguisher (small canister, ABC type)
- First aid book and kit including bandages, antiseptic, tape, compresses, aspirin and aspirin-free pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, antacid, and important numbers (i.e. Poison Control Center, Non Emergency Fire and Rescue, and Non-Emergency Sheriff's Office numbers)
- Instant tire sealer
- Whistle and/or distress flag
- Cooler(s)
- Plastic tarp, screening, tools and nails, etc.
- Water purification kit (tables, chlorine (plain) and iodine)
- Infant necessities (medicine, sterile water, diapers, ready formula, bottles)

Hurricane season does not end until **NOVEMBER**. If you have special needs during a hurricane or storm, make sure you are signed up for the Special Needs Assistance Program.

Evacuation Route: Redington Beach **SOUTH** on Gulf Blvd, Tom Stuart Causeway, Madeira Beach.

WHERE TO GO: It is recommended you make plans to stay in a home of a friend or relative, hotel or motel. If you must evacuate to a shelter, the closest shelter to Redington Beach is Bauer Elementary School, 12755 86th Avenue, Seminole. **NO PETS ALLOWED.** The closest shelter accepting pets is Oak Grove Middle School in Clearwater. Find out where to take your pet now. Your veterinarian can advise you. A few shelters allow you to bring a pet, but there are restrictions. Service dogs are allowed in regular shelters and motels.

Pinellas County Emergency Management has performed extensive studies seeing more efficient ways of keeping flood waters out. The 2016 Atlantic hurricane season starts on 1st June, that means that now is the perfect time to complete your plans to survive a storm. This includes building your survival kit, finding your evacuation level and updating your list of important phone numbers.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

Pinellas County Emergency Management (727) 464-3800
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency

Find your evacuation level (727) 453-3150
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/knowyourzone.htm

Register for special needs transportation (727) 464-3800 /
www.pinellascounty.org/forms/special-needs.htm

PINELLAS COUNTY RESIDENTS NOW GET FIRST CALL

With a new hurricane season comes a new, more capable emergency alert system. Pinellas County's First Call service is free to county residents and gives emergency managers multiple ways to get the word out whenever any emergency situation arises.

Residents simply register their contact information with the FirstCall, and an automated message will be sent to alert subscribers of potentially hazardous situations.

Each member of the subscriber's household who would like to receive emergency notifications can register. The FirstCall network allows emergency managers to send out alerts to the county as a whole or to smaller, more specific geographic areas.

When activated, the automated system will call registered land lines and cellphones and send email and text messages, giving users the maximum opportunity to receive the message.

Residents can sign up for this service by visiting <https://alertregistration.com/PinellasCoFLEMS/> or calling (866) 484-3264. All contact information will remain protected and confidential.

For more information on Pinellas County services and programs, visit www.pinellascounty.org to create a shortcut to www.pinellascounty.org/mobile on any smart phone. Pinellas County government is on Facebook, Twitter and You Tube.

Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

REDINGTON BEACH EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE / TRANSPORTATION (Must be submitted)

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

AGE: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

HEARING IMPAIRED (Y/N): _____

CONTACT PHONE # _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

CITIZEN NEED (be specific): _____

OXYGEN REQUIRED (Y/N): _____ LITERS PER MNUTE: _____

DEPENDENT ON LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM (Y/N): _____

CAN WALK w/o ASSISTANCE (Y/N): _____ WITH ASSISTANCE: _____

REQUIRE A WHEEL CHAIR (Y/N): _____ BEDRIDDEN (Y/N): _____

Can be moved via wheelchair (Y/N): _____ HAS WHEEL CHAIR: _____

People to Accompany: _____ Relationship: _____

Request submitted by: _____ Relationship: _____

HOW TO CONTROL RESIDENTIAL YARD FLOODING

For obvious reasons, there is no single solution to flooding in low lying residential areas, but there are some measures that the homeowner can take to help control the water from heavy rainfall (not storm surge from a hurricane) by capturing it, directing it, taking advantage of it, and preventing it from invading homes.

Step 1: Determining the lay of the land

Before deciding what to do if you end up with five inches of water in the family room, after a heavy rainfall, mop up water, then call a surveyor, the one who did the survey when you bought your home is the first choice, to request a topographical survey. This will show you and any contractor you may hire to complete your plan, the highs and lows, the way water would naturally flow on your property. This will show you where any water flowing on to your property comes from, and where it settles, and where it would or should naturally drain. In turn, it will give you a picture of the problem areas that need to be corrected.

Not every surveyor is qualified to do a topo, so be sure the one you ask to do this for you has the proper credentials. The cost of his services will vary on the size of your lot, but it should be in the area \$300 - \$500. This may end up being your most important land related document.

Step 2: Look at your home

There are some remedies that you can take with minimal cost, which you do first, before hiring a contractor to do any major work. Who knows, these simple remedies may be all that is needed in your particular situation.

Guttering - If your house doesn't already have roof gutters, this should be your first step. Go outside while it is raining and watch to see where the rain water is falling off your roof. Certain areas will be a given, such as the low edge of a gable roof, but there may be other places, such as an off-set roof over a back door, that could be the low point of two or more roof angels, which would qualify for special attention. Then look at the ground to see if there are any areas where lots of water has created a depression, a bare spot, obviously where water falls heavily.

Gutters are just one part of the equation. The placement of the downspouts is equally if not more important. The gutters will be installed to slope one way or another and the downspout will be at the end of the line. But there are many circumstances where downspouts should be placed intermittently along the line to allow for excessive water not to build up in the gutters and overflow. Fortunately, it is easy to install additional downspouts after the fact, if more are needed.

The third part of a good guttering system will address the distribution of water at the bottom of the downspout. You do not want it to puddle around the foundation of your home, which could create a multitude of other problems. There are several inexpensive devices to select to direct the water two or three feet away from the foundation. However, if the run-off water is major, we move to the next step, discussed further in this document.

The fourth and major part of any guttering system is to keep the gutters free of debris (dead leaves). This means periodic cleaning of the roof to remove excessive leaf build up which will end up in the gutters in a heavy rain, and cleaning of the gutters. There are several so called gutter guards that purport to keep the gutters clean. They get clogged with leaves on top preventing water from getting in the gutters. One remedy that really works is a section of hardware cloth to fit down on top of the opening to the downspout to prevent leaves from clogging the spouts. That one piece is easily removed for cleaning and then snugged back into place.

Plants and foliage—Natural water control comes in part from plants whose root system can absorb a lot of water or most always the water is coming into your yard from other properties, follow the natural flow of water, from north to south, so your northern most property line is the areas that would most likely be the place to plant additional vegetation to help to absorb some of the excessive water flowing into your yard. From ground cover to trees and everything in between, there are many plants to choose from.

Patio, driveways and sidewalks—Concrete does not absorb water. If you are in the process of planning to install any solid areas, such as patios, driveways or sidewalks, design it to include wide spaces between the solid areas for water to drain to the soil beneath. Installing pavers is a bit costly, but you can accomplish the same result by putting large spacers in a pattern when pouring concrete. If you already have a large area of concrete or asphalt, look into drilling holes in the areas where water tends to puddle. Drill a hole large enough to accommodate a 3 inch PVC pipe, and about ten inches deep, pound the pipe vertically into the ground and then fill the inside of those pipes with large pebbles to help prevent them from filling up with dirt. This helps direct water deep into the soil where it is more easily disseminated than water standing closer to the surface.

HOW TO CONTROL RESIDENTIAL YARD FLOODING...COND'T**Step 3: Corrective measures for a licensed contractor**

Underground drain systems—This is likely to be the most important element of assisting water to flow off your property and into the street where it will (hopefully) flow to a storm water drain. Your contractor can install what is sometimes called a French drain, basically a hole in the ground (a catch basin) at the lowest points in your yard, and then attach perforated piping that will run from those catch basin to the street. He will connect all the downspouts from your gutters to the piping system. It is a precise job, to determine the right slope to create drainage. The perforations in the piping also allows water to seep out along the way, to spread the influx of water over a large underground area.

Concrete culverts—There may be areas right next the foundation of your home where the water tends to collect, especially if your home was built back in the 1950's or 1960's, when most houses were built on a slab on grade, as opposed to two or three courses above the ground. The general contractor can dig a gully about four inches deep, 12 to 16 inches wide, creating a culvert, lining it with concrete, to help direct water to a connection to the underground piping system.

Rain barrels—These are 55 gallons drums designed to catch rain water, from a downspout to use to water your plants at some later time. There are three rain barrels that collect the overflow that the gutters and downspouts cannot handle during South Tampa's famous downpours. Each has a hose to direct the collected water either to a culvert or an underground drain.

DO YOU WANT YOUR YARD TO BE A FLORIDA YARD?

It is not about turfgrass anymore!!!! Less grass is better. Be the cool homeowner by installing native plants in your yard. Every homeowner can Floridify their yard and reduce pollution runoff by following a few key guidelines.

USE TURFGRASS ONLY WHERE NEEDED FOR PETS OR PLAY AREAS

- Use Florida friendly trees, shrubs and groundcovers to reduce turfgrass in your yard.
- Match the right plants to the right places in your yard.
- Expand your landscape beds and reduce the time spent mowing your yard.

USE WATER SUPPLY

- Don't water until you can see footprints in your lawn and the leaves of your plants are starting to curl.
- Don't water when rain is expected or immediately after it rains.
- Place an inexpensive rain gauge in an open area so you can track the amount of rain falling on your yard and the amount of water used for irrigation.
- Supervise your sprinklers to make sure that the heads aren't broken and that the water is spraying on your lawn and not the street.
- When you irrigate, it is better to give the landscape at least 1/2 to 3/4 inches of water so that turfgrass and plants put down deep roots.

REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FERTILIZERS

- Remember that there is a ban on use of fertilizer for turfgrass in ALL areas of Pinellas County between June 1st and September 30th.
- When you fertilize your lawn, use a fertilizer with slow-release nitrogen and no phosphorous.
- Clean up fertilizer that lands on sidewalks, driveways or roadways. Blow it back on to your yard.
- Remember to keep fertilizer at least 10 feet away from surface water and the edge of a seawall.

REDUCE OR ELIMINATE PESTICIDES

- The No. 1 rule for the pest control is to know what insects are infiltrating your territory before you start applying pesticides
- Many insects in Florida are helpful, such as ladybugs and spiders.
- There are a variety of non-toxic horticultural soaps and sprays that keep harmful plant insects under control without using poison.

Check out the following web site for more information, including Florida Friendly Products and Landscape Services:
<http://befloridian.org/floridifying/>

GOT GAS—Clearwater Gas System has recently launched a new residential natural gas expansion program in the form of the System-wide Neighborhood Expansion Program (SNEP). Now, for a limited time, Clearwater Gas System will extend natural gas lines to homeowners in Redington Beach who wish to convert to **natural gas energy**. To qualify, the natural gas line extension must not exceed 300 feet (*from the main*) and requires a gas water heater installation.

With natural gas energy you can power a variety of appliances such as water heating, pool heating, home heating and cooking. Overall, natural gas is about 65% cheaper to operate compared to electric energy.

To help offset the installation costs; Clearwater Gas System offers the following incentives when converting to natural gas energy:

Appliance/Application	Allowance Amount (when converting to natural gas)
Tank Type Water Heating*	\$525
Tankless Water Heating*	\$575
Home Heating	\$725
Range/Dryer	\$200/\$150
<i>*To qualify, a gas water heater must be installed as an anchor appliance and purchased at Clearwater Gas System. Participating homeowners are subject to pay applicable residential installation piping charges.</i>	

Visit clearwatergas.com for general information about natural gas or contact Clearwater Gas at (727) 562-4980 and mention this article.

WHAT'S NEW IN TOWN PARK....

Now that the weather is getting warmer, it's time to check out the many improvements to Town Park! The Parks and Recreation Board, along with the talented Dave and Mike from Public Works, our amazing Town Clerk Missy, and with guidance from the Commissioner of Public Works Fred Steiermann, have been hard at work to improve Town Park. We have installed new native landscaping and lighting along Gulf Boulevard, a sail shade over the children's playground, and a regulation size soccer net and a beach volleyball net. Residents can obtain soccer and volley balls, and shuffleboard equipment from Town Hall. Last but not least, adult outdoor exercise equipment has been installed. Equipment includes a multi-trainer, rowing machine, stationary bicycle and elliptical machine. Next up for the Town is the construction of a second pavilion along Gulf Boulevard. The pavilion is made possible by a generous donation from the family of Bob Young, who was a long time Park Board member.

Basic Services:

Police: Pinellas County Sheriff

Non Emergency.....727-582-6200

Fire: Non Emergency..... 727-391-3400

Police & Fire EMERGENCY ONLY: 911

Electric:	Duke Energy	(800) 282-4067
Water/Sewer	Pinellas County Utilities....	727-464-4000
Cable	Brighthouse.....	727-329-5020
Trash	Progressive Solutions.....	727-572.6800
Gas	Clearwater Gas:.....	727-562-4980

E-Mail Addresses

townclerk@townofredingtonbeach.com

deputyclerk@townofredingtonbeach.com

General: info@townofredingtonbeach.com

Building Department

Town of Redington Beach

Florida Municipal Services Inc.

18001 Gulf Blvd, Redington Shores, FL 33708

727-202-6825 (Office)

727-258-4986 (Fax)



We are still getting complaints from dog owners and non-dog owners complaining of having to pick up dog poop from their front lawns and right of way. Dog waste left on the street is not only obnoxious and gross—it can also be dangerous, making its way into our water supply if not disposed of correctly. Dog poop is not natural (especially in the quantities that are generated by our pets) and harms the environment and threatens public health. **PLEASE BE COURTEOUS TO OTHERS, PLEASE SCOOP THE POOP.**