

Redington Beach Reporter



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Mayor's Message

Redington Beach residents,

The COVID 19 pandemic has affected all of us and the Town staff and Commission have had to make adjustments to how business is conducted. If you need to come to Town Hall, we ask that everyone wear a face covering when entering and ask that no more than two at a time be present when in Town Hall.

The Town Commission has been holding meetings virtually, using Zoom. If you want to listen or participate, the instructions are posted on the Town website.

We used "down time" to renovate the Assembly Room. New flooring, new chairs, new sound system, a fresh paint job along with new ceiling tiles and shutters for the windows. To facilitate social distancing, we are having a new dais built and two side tables to include seating for the Town attorney and Town Clerk, and Town staff members. We hope to get back to having in-person meetings as soon as we can do so safely and observing social distancing.

The pandemic also allowed us to do much needed renovations to Friendship Park with the construction activity almost complete. A pergola installed and some landscaping are all that remains.

Despite the strange times we live in, real estate values have held steady to some increases in values which has allowed us to maintain our millage rate at the same level for our 2020-2021 budget year.

Nick Simons

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

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

<http://www.townofredingtonbeach.com/>

Phone: 727-391-3875

Fax: 727-397-6911

Ask the Town Clerk...

We would like to send a warm welcome to all the new residents of the Town of Redington Beach. The following page has some important information regarding resident parking, utilities, and frequent code violations to avoid. If you have any issues you would like to discuss, you can email us at info@townofredingtonbeach.com or call 727-391-3875.

**Can I bring my dog to the beach or the parks in the Town?**

Unfortunately, no. Per Town Ordinance 13-31:

- (a) It is unlawful for any person to bring or have or ride or allow on any beach or in the water adjacent thereto any animal.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to bring or have or ride or allow on municipally owned parks or recreation areas any animal. (This does not include certified service animals.)

There are several designated dog-friendly parks and dog-friendly beach areas in Pinellas County, some just a few minutes away.

**5 Tips to Prevent Car Break-Ins and Theft**

1. Remove or Hide Valuables
2. Park in Well-Lit Areas
3. Install a Security System and Advertise it
4. Lock the Doors
5. Remove the Key Fob



NEW RESIDENT INFORMATION

Beach Parking Permits: Parking at Beach Park is restricted to residents only. Free Beach Parking permits for Town residents are available at Town Hall. Additionally, temporary Guest Passes are available at Town Hall for guests of residents.

Gulf Beaches Public Library: The local library is located at 200 Municipal Drive in Madeira Beach, directly across from Winn-Dixie. It is a member of the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative and offers a wide variety of services including various clubs, DVDs, children's story time and internet access.

Trash Collection: The Town has a contract with Waste Connections that provides residential trash collection on Tuesdays and Fridays and recycling pick-up on Wednesdays. **New residents must contact Waste Connections directly to establish a new account.**

BASIC SERVICES

Police & Fire EMERGENCY ONLY: 911

Police: Pinellas County Sheriff **Non Emergency** (727) 582-6200

Fire: Non Emergency (727) 391-3400

Electric: Duke Energy (800) 700-8744

Water/Sewer: Pinellas County Utilities (727) 464-4000

Cable/Internet: Spectrum (855) 222-0102

Trash: Waste Connections (727) 572-6800

Gas: Clearwater Gas: (727) 562-4980

Building Department (727) 202-6825 Website: <http://fmsbuildingdepartment.com/>

COMMON CODE VIOLATIONS

Commercial Vehicles: The storage, parking or maintenance of commercial vehicles and commercial equipment is prohibited in all zoning districts of the town in order to prevent traffic and safety problems, and to prevent unsightly appearances in residential areas. (Sec 21.49)

RV Parking: RVs may be parked temporarily upon the driveway of the owner to load, unload, or repair the RV for a period not to exceed four (4) days, whether consecutive or not, within any twenty (20) day time frame. Permits for RV use in excess of four (4) days are available from the Town Clerk. (Section 21.46)

Motor vehicles: Motor vehicles (including motorcycles) parked, kept or stored in the street, right-of-way, or on private land which are not in mechanical operating condition for immediate locomotion under its own power, or which are not currently licensed and registered as required by state law are prohibited. (Sec. 12.2(6))

Excessive growth: All owners, agents, custodians, lessees, and occupants of any lot, parcel of land, or premises with the town shall cut and keep cut all weeds, grasses, turf, underbrush, or other vegetation to a height not to exceed twelve inches; shall edge and trim all grass abutting street curbing; and shall remove any cuttings, trimmings, trash, debris, refuse, filth or other offensive accumulation or noxious matter located upon such property. (Sec. 12.2)

LOCAL BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS

Certain individuals may be required to apply for a Local Business Tax Receipt.

Per Town of Redington Beach Ordinance

Sec. 20-56. - Levy of business tax.

There is levied a business tax for the privilege of engaging in or managing any business, profession, or occupation on any person who:

- (1) Maintains a permanent business location or branch office within the town, for the privilege of engaging in or managing any **business** within its jurisdiction.
- (2) Maintains a permanent business or location or branch office within the town, for the privilege of engaging in or managing any **profession or occupation** within its jurisdiction.
- (3) Does not qualify under subsection (1) or (2) of this section and transacts any business or engages in any occupation or profession in interstate commerce, if the business tax is not prohibited by the United States Constitution, Art. I, § 8.

***PLEASE NOTE:** ALL CONTRACTORS THAT HOLD A CURRENT STATE LICENSE THROUGH THE **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION** AND HAVE PAID THE BUSINESS TAX IN THE LOCATION OF THEIR PERMANENT PLACE OF BUSINESS ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS REQUIREMENT.

You may be exempt from paying the annual fee:

Florida Statutes exempt certain organizations and persons from paying a local business tax receipt.

Exemptions exist for:

- Charitable, religious, fraternal, youth, civic, service and other such organizations
- Certain disabled persons, the aged and widows with minor dependents
- Disabled veterans and their unremarried spouses
- Veterans, spouses of veterans and certain service members, and low-income persons

For a complete list of exemptions, please refer to **Florida Statute, Chapter 205**

ALL PREVIOUSLY ISSUED BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS WILL EXPIRE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Fillable PDFs of all forms and applications are available on our website: www.Townofredingtonbeach.com

BY MAIL - SEND CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$30** PAYABLE TO: TOWN OF REDINGTON BEACH
105 164TH AVENUE, REDINGTON BEACH, FL 33708. WE WILL MAIL YOU A NEW BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT.

VISIT TOWN HALL WITH A CHECK OR CASH. NO CREDIT CARDS. 8AM-4PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.

CENSUS 2020

Take the 2020 Census before Sept. 30

Online: [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)

Phone: (844) 330-2020

Pinellas County residents only have a few weeks left to be counted in the 2020 Census, and our beach communities are still severely undercounted. What's at stake: political representation and billions in federal dollars for local programs over the next 10 years. Those dollars go to health care, education, roads and other vital services.

Even if you're a seasonal beach resident, you can still help this community get counted by **completing the census for your second home and filling it out as "0" inhabitants**. This will help save hundreds of hours by allowing census workers to visit the areas where they're actually needed.

Remember: Census responses are secure, confidential and protected by law, and the survey only asks a few basic questions about your household.

Take the census today at [My2020Census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) or by calling 844-330-2020.

Let's #MakePinellasCount!

VOTE 2020 Are You Election-Ready?



Are you registered to vote? The deadline to register to vote in the November 3rd election is October 5th.

Do you know where your polling place is? If you are a resident of the Town of Redington Beach, your polling place is Town Hall—105 164th Avenue 7am-7pm.

Do you have valid and current picture and signature ID? Be sure to bring the proper ID when voting at an early voting site or your polling place on Election Day to avoid delays.

Has your signature changed? Signature updates can be made at any time, but must be received before mail ballots are canvassed in order to be accepted for an election.

Need to request a Mail Ballot? Any registered voter may vote by mail. All requests for ballots to be mailed must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th day prior to an election.

HURRICANE SEASON JUNE 1—NOVEMBER 30

SANDBAG NOTICE UPDATE

During an official hurricane warning, sand and sandbags will be made available to Redington Beach residents. Sand is located across the street from Town Hall behind the double gates. Sandbags are available at Town Hall and are limited to 20 per property. A shovel will be available but residents are advised to bring their own. Please do not remove sand from the beach.



Pinellas County Evacuation Assistance / Special Needs Registration

Residents with Special Needs Should Register:

Residents with certain medical conditions can get help during an evacuation. Special needs shelters will open for those requiring **minimal** medical assistance.

If you have your own transportation to a special needs shelter, preregistration is not required, but it is **strongly recommended**. **If you are registered and need transportation to a shelter**, your local fire department will contact you before an evacuation. You may bring your caregiver and/or family with you to a special needs shelter. Please note...you are not obligated to go to a special needs shelter once registered, if you have made other safe and secure arrangements.

To register, visit: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/specialneeds.htm>

EMERGENCY ACCESS PERMITS

In an effort to prevent looting and burglary after a large-scale mandatory evacuation, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the barrier islands have joined forces to provide **free Emergency Access Permits** to all businesses and residents of the barrier islands. Once a mandatory evacuation order has been lifted, Emergency Access Permits will be required to re-enter an evacuated area.



There are nine entry points to the barrier islands. Access will be limited based on the closest entry point to your residence.

You will be asked to hang the permit from your vehicle's rearview mirror for re-entry post-evacuation. Law enforcement officers will be posted at entry points where they will scan the barcode on your permit to verify your residency. With your help, we will can keep trespassers from accessing your property.



Receive alerts about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for **Alert Pinellas**, an emergency notification service for Pinellas County, Local Municipalities, and the Sheriff's Office. This service is **FREE** to our residents. It allows you to sign up to receive urgent messages on a variety of situations, such as severe weather, boil water notices, missing persons, or evacuations.

Visit: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas/default.htm>



Important Notice!

Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Events

Saturday, September 12, 2020, 9:00am to 2:00pm

St. Petersburg College Allstate Center

3200 34th Street South, St. Petersburg

Saturday, September 26 & October 24, 2020, 9:00am to 2:00pm

North County Satellite Site

29582 US Hwy 19 North, Clearwater

Saturday, October 10, 2020, 9:00am to 2:00pm

Seminole High School

8401 131st Street North, Largo

Event Information:

- For details about accepted items and quantity limits, please visit <http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/mobileoptions.htm>
- Collection may be delayed or canceled due to severe weather.
- Electronics and chemicals generated by businesses are not accepted at mobile collection events. For business collection dates, visit: www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste
- For questions or live chat, please call Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste at (727) 464-7500 or www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste

Special instructions:

For the safety of customers and staff:

- Before the event, customers are asked place electronics and chemicals in the vehicle trunk, back of a pick-up truck, SUV, or trailer bed.
- During the event:
 - Social distancing of at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) will be observed.
 - Customers are asked to remain in their vehicles.
 - All items must be in the vehicle trunk, back of a pick-up truck, SUV, or trailer bed.
 - Staff will not remove items from vehicle interiors.

STORM WATER

What is storm water?

Stormwater is the rain that lands on our yards, streets, parking lots, and buildings and then either enters the storm drain system or runs directly into a lake or stream.

How does storm water get polluted?

As storm water flows over our lawns, driveways and parking lots, it picks up fertilizers, oil, chemicals, grass clippings litter, pet waste, and anything else in its path. The storm sewer system then transports these pollutants to local lakes and streams, and eventually Tampa Bay or the Gulf of Mexico. Anything that goes into a storm drain or the road eventually ends up in our waters. Polluted storm water can also affect drinking water sources. This, in turn can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

What is a storm drain?

Storm drains are the openings you see along curbs and in streets and parking lots. Rainwater enters the storm drain and is transported through the storm sewer system to nearby ponds, lakes, and streams, and ultimately to Tampa Bay or the Gulf of Mexico. Water that enters storm drains does not go to a treatment facility. If a storm drain is located on your property, please keep this area free from weeds, grass and other debris.

What is a sanitary sewer?

A sanitary sewer takes household water and waste from toilets, sinks, and showers, and transports it to a wastewater treatment facility. There, the water is treated and can be reused for reclaimed water. Here in Florida, the sanitary sewers are separate from storm sewers. The Law According to Federal, State, and Local regulations, no pollutants can be allowed to enter the surface waters, the storm sewer system, or even be disposed of in the roadways as roads also lead to storm drains. Pollutants that enter the water illegally are called *illicit discharges*. The rule of thumb is, if it isn't clean water, it shouldn't make it to the storm drain, street, or into any body of water. Any illicit discharge is punishable by fines of up to \$10,000 per day. Fines range in amount based on the severity of the violation.

- Illicit connections: No connection can be made to the storm sewer system to drain pools, plumbing, septic tanks, washing machines, etc. If you think you might have a potential illicit connection on your property, please contact the Town's stormwater department who will help you determine if the connection is legal.

Principal Sources of Pollutants:

- Construction, (dirt, gravel, grout, cement, etc.) Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- Fertilizers, yard debris, pet waste from residential areas, agricultural run off. Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.
- Pet waste, trash and debris: plastic bags, six pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts washed into water bodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.

Hazardous waste like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

Exceptions to the rule:

Discharges from potable water sources, fire-fighting waters, non-chlorinated pool discharges (use the water to water your lawn, it saves money and water.)



FLOOD INSURANCE INFORMATION

Did You Know?

You get a discount on your flood insurance premium because the Town participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).

Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding.

Flood insurance is mandatory for federally backed mortgages on buildings located in the special flood hazard area, which includes the entire town.

Most condominium association's flood coverage will only cover common areas.

If your subsidized flood insurance policy lapses beyond 30 days more than once you will not be eligible for a subsidized rate when you reinstate your policy.

If your subsidized flood insurance policy lapses beyond 90 days one time you will no longer be eligible for a subsidized rate.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Community Rating System (CRS)

The U.S. Congress established the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) with the passage of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968. The NFIP is a Federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for State and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages.

The NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. In exchange for a community's proactive efforts to reduce flood risk, policyholders can receive reduced flood insurance premiums for buildings in the community.

The Town of Redington Beach participates in the NFIP, making federally backed flood insurance available to you. The Town also participates in the CRS, which provides you with a discount on your flood insurance premium.

Flood Insurance Discount

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, we 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 now, 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.

Get an Elevation Certificate for an Accurate Rating

An Elevation Certificate (EC) is an administrative tool of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) used to provide elevation information necessary to ensure compliance with community floodplain management ordinances and to determine the proper insurance premium rate.

If an Elevation Certificate has been prepared for your property and it was submitted to the Town, you can get a copy by contacting the Town at (727) 391-3875.

Find a Flood Insurance Agent

Flood insurance protects your home. But, before you protect your home, you'll need to find an agent who lives near it. Visit [floodsmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) to locate an agent near you.

Contribution Opportunities

Benches: Would you like to donate a bench to help beautify the Town? Benches are available to be purchased at the town's cost. A plaque acknowledging your donation will be added to the bench. Please contact Town Hall if you are interested in purchasing a bench.

Bricks: Have you seen the engraved bricks in Friendship Park at the Twin Towers Memorial? These special pavers can memorialize a birthday, anniversary, or memory of a loved one and cost just \$50. Order forms are available at Town Hall or on our website under the "Forms and Permits" tab.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS

The following families donated **engraved bricks** for Friendship Park:

David Jacobson and Kelley Maier
Linda McIlroy
Tom Dorgan and Roxanne Love
Paul and Mary Warren

A park bench was donated by:

Redington Beach Property Owners Association

In recognition of residents joining together to save beached Pilot Whales

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to monetary contributions, there are many ways you can volunteer your time to help your local community.

- ◆ Join the Redington Beach Property Owners Association—dues are only \$25 per year and help fund events that develop and promote Redington Beach.
- ◆ When vacancies are announced, apply for a position on a Board—the Planning Board, the Parks and Recreation Board and the Board of Adjustment—meetings are usually held monthly.
- ◆ Santa's Angels is a non-profit organization based in Redington Beach which provides Christmas presents for disadvantaged children through fundraising events. Visit santasangels.org for more information.

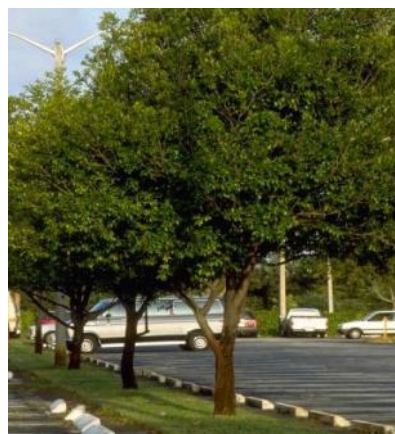
BOARD UPDATES

Parks and Recreation Board

Please be aware that in the coming weeks, there will be a tree removal company in Town Park removing the four Australian Pines which are shown in the picture, below. The removal of the trees is necessary due to their new growth encroaching into the playground area creating a safety issue. This invasive species will be replaced with a native species, *Eugenia foetida* stopper, as shown in the second picture, below.



Trees to be removed, numbered 1-4.



Trees that will replace pines.

Planning Board

The Planning Board reviews and updates the Town's Comprehensive Plan, which charts the evolution of the Town's future growth, required services and population needs.

The Board is pleased with the results of the beautification project along Gulf Blvd., and is monitoring the work on the undergrounding of utilities that began last month.

Continuing is their update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan as well as discussions regarding solutions to the ongoing drainage issues that plague parts of the Town.

Board of Commissioners

Town Commission meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month at 6:30pm.

To view agendas and meeting minutes, visit our website and click the "Government" tab, then "Agendas and Minutes."

To view the Town Charter and Code of Ordinances, visit our website and click the "Government" tab, then "Town Charter and Ordinances" then click the map of the United States.



TOWN HALL CLOSURES:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH LABOR DAY
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, VETERAN'S DAY
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 THANKSGIVING DAY
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE
 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY

REMINDER:

The Board of Commissioners meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30pm.

The deadlines for submitting Variance applications are:

September 14 for the October 15 Board of Adjustment hearing
 October 19 for the November 19 Board of Adjustment hearing
 November 16 for the December 17 Board of Adjustment hearing
 December 21 for the January 21 Board of Adjustment hearing

Calendar of Events

Monday, October 5th, 2020	Voter Registration Deadline
Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020	Election Day



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: Spectrum.....(727) 329-5020
Trash: Waste Connections.....(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.
 A wholly-owned subsidiary of Safebuilt
 727-202-6825 (Office)
 727-258-4986 (Fax)
 Website: <http://fmsbuildingdepartment.com/>