

**CITY CONNECTION** 

7047 Sunset Drive South South Pasadena, FL 33707

Quarterly Newsletter

website: www.mysouthpasadena.com



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# THE VOTES ARE IN!

We asked and you answered! With 89% of the votes, the design for the City's new dolphin statue has been chosen! Earlier this year the City "joined the pod" by purchasing a 6 foot dolphin statue as part of Amplify Clearwater's countywide Dolphin Trail program. The design chosen by the community will be painted on the statue soon.

Special thanks to everyone that participated in the voting process that took place on the City's Facebook page over the last few weeks! Check out the Facebook page at <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>CityofSouthPasadenaFL</u> for updates on the painting process.

# SOUTH PASADENA MURAL PROJECT

The City of South Pasadena has contracted with Creative Pinellas to bring murals to the local community. The project is underway with community meetings held in June and an online survey is ongoing. The locations for the first three murals have been finalized and a call for artists will start soon. The first series of murals will be featured at Leverock's Great

Seafood, Pasadena Liquors and Fine Wine, and Florida Orange Groves Winery and are expected to be painted this fall. More locations are already being secured for the second series of murals that are tentatively scheduled for painting in early 2024.

If you were not able to attend a community meeting, it's not too late to share your feedback. Tell the City what you'd like to see from the murals by completing the project's online survey. For more information and the survey link, visit: <u>www.creativepinellas.org/</u>

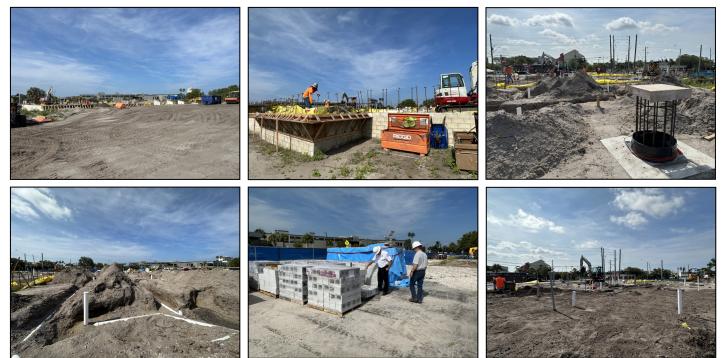


Check out pages 9 - 12 for storm preparedness information.

## New Fire Station 20 Construction Update

Construction is in full swing on the new Fire Station 20, going in at 1477 Pasadena Avenue. Work began on February 14, 2023 with the first several months being largely dedicated to elevating the site in accordance with floodproofing standards. With elevation wrapping up and retaining walls nearly complete, utilities are being installed in preparation for the slab to be poured. The project remains on schedule for completion in May 2024.

For a closer look at how the project has developed, Like and Follow the City's Facebook page at <u>www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL</u>. Updates with pictures are posted weekly and progress is really ramping up!



## **DRIVE WITH CAUTION**

Some work being performed at the fire station construction site may require intermittent lane closures along Pasadena Avenue. Please be mindful of crews and debris in the area.



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST EMPLOYEES!

The following employees recently joined the City:

Jadon Beale Maintenance Worker I Public Works Department

Mary Jo Bowman Deputy City Clerk Administration Department

Welcome aboard!



Arthur Penny Mayor, City of South Pasadena www.mysouthpasadena.com apenny@mysouthpasadena.com

MY CITY: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It

#### Local Updates

The Public Safety Department received several complaints regarding the crosswalk on Pasadena Avenue South at Majestic Way. Local businesses noticed that some pedestrians could not make it across Pasadena Avenue South before the traffic signal would turn green for motorists. With help from Public Works Director Shawn Shimko, fifteen (15) seconds were added to the crosswalk timer. This has reportedly resolved the issue.

#### New Businesses

- Green Dragon 1271 Pasadena Ave S
- Rejuvenate with Joy 728 Pasadena Ave S
- WN Body Sculpting 933 Oleander Way S
- Moonstone Myo + Medicupping 933 Oleander Way S

#### Hurricane Preparedness

City staff has been busy preparing for hurricane season with activities like practice drills for the emergency operations center and trimming trees/bushes to reduce potential storm debris. I encourage you to prepare now as well. There are plenty of steps that can be taken in advance, check out pages 9-12 for helpful tips.

Have a fun and safe summer!

Sincerely,

Mayor Arthur Penny



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

#### **Annual Budget Process**

The month of June is when the City Commission and staff work through the tentative budget for the next fiscal year. The FY 2024 budget has been reviewed and the Commission set a proposed millage rate of 4.9650 for next year. That is the same millage rate as we have in place currently. The budget will be finalized and a millage rate will be formally adopted in September. Public hearings for the budget will be held in Commission Chambers at City Hall and have been scheduled as follows:

September 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM September 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Have questions about the budget? Contact City Hall via email at <u>cityhall@mysouthpasadena.com</u> or by phone at 727-347-4171.

#### **Behind the Scenes Projects**

There are lots of exciting projects in the works for the City. In addition to major items described throughout this issue (like the new fire station and the installation of murals along Pasadena Avenue), significant updates are also planned internally. The City website will be overhauled in the coming months and new software is being implemented in order to better manage data and processes like inspections, code enforcement, and elevation certificate access. Commission Chambers is also being evaluated for upgrades. These projects may be less visible to the public than a construction site in the middle of town, but they are vital to the City's ability to serve the community.

# About Town In South Pasadena

A Series from Commissioner Lynda Thompson

Pasadena Liquors and Fine Wines 1100 Pasadena Ave So. South Pasadena, FL 33707 727-347-9607

https://www.pasadenaliquors.com/ https://www.facebook.com/ PasadenaLiquors



Pasadena Liquors and Fine Wines is a family owned and operated beer, wine, and spirits retailer in our own South Pasadena. The store has been open since 1980 and the lounge opened in 1989. If you are looking to host your next event, check with Pete, their sommelier, who has been there for 18 years and has done over three thousand tastings. They have a beautiful wine room for corporate tasting or personal gathering. They will also put together tips to make sure you're comfortable when buying your next bottle. Jim Valenty is the Owner/ President and his 98 year old mother, "Mama V," worked at the store every day until her passing in June 2022. Her famous saying was, "What do you want me to do instead ... stay in the house and dust knickknacks?" Stop by and say hello to Jimmy or give him a call at 727-347-9607.

In the *About Town in South Pasadena* series, the City Commission will be selecting local businesses to be featured in the City Connection Newsletter. If you are interested in having your business included in the series, please contact City Hall at <u>cityhall@mysouthpasadena.com</u>.



**Robert Daugherty** 

the City wit organizations including the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and was a dedicated City volunteer for many years following his term in office. The City Commission and staff extend their sincere condolences to the Daugherty family.



The City is saddened to share the news that former Commissioner and Vice Mayor Robert Daugherty passed away on June 21st, 2023. Daugherty was on the City Commission from 2003 to 2006 and served over the Public Safety and Finance Departments. He represented

City with various outside





Want to make your mark on South Pasadena? Consider sponsoring a Sun Bench! For a one-time cost of \$400, a personalized plaque will be added to the available bench of your choosing. For more information, visit:

www.mysouthpasadena.com/community/



## Thank You for Donating to the 2023 Cereal for Summer Campaign!

The City of South Pasadena has proudly served as a collection site for the Cereal for Summer program organized by Feeding Tampa Bay and Channel 10 News WTSP and participated again this year. Children who rely on free meals at school often go hungry during the summer. The Cereal for Summer campaign collects donations of breakfast foods to help fill this gap and fight child hunger. City Hall

collected several hundred boxes of cereal, breakfast bars, and oatmeal during the campaign throughout April and early May.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Cereal for Summer campaign! Special thanks to IAFF Local 747 Firefighters Union for donating over 250 boxes! For more information and ways to help, visit <u>www.feedingtampabay.org</u>.





## **Permit Reminder**

Be sure to only hire licensed contractors when having work done at your house, condo or business. No permit is

necessary for painting or installation of flooring, but most other items DO require a permit.

All contractors must have an active license with the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board before they can work or be issued a permit in the City of South Pasadena. This is done to ensure that only qualified, licensed and insured contractors are doing work for the residents of our community.

Remember, as the property owner, it is your responsibility to make sure that a permit has been obtained and posted prior to work being performed. If there are any questions as to whether or not a permit is necessary, please do not hesitate to contact the Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Rev. 03/22



## Business Tax Receipt Renewal for 2023 - 2024

Business Tax Receipt renewal fees are getting ready to be sent out for the 2023-2024 year. These are due by September 30, 2023. Please look for these renewals in the beginning of July.

After September 30<sup>th</sup>, late charges are applied and delinquent notices are mailed out after the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month following. Please note that the Community Improvement Department Office is located in the City Hall Annex Building at 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South.

Should you have any questions or need any assistance regarding your Business Tax Receipt Renewal, please contact Licensing Official, Ashley Wagner, in the Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192.

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Items such as plastic bags, cords, wires, tarps and hoses often jam and damage sorting equipment used for recycling processing. Not only can this break the equipment, but workers must manually remove them; a difficult, dirty, and potentially dangerous task.

Cords, wires, tarps, chains, rope, and hoses of any type should always be discarded in your trash cart, never your recycling cart. The same applies to other common tanglers like the plastic film used on cases of water bottles, clothing hangers, and textiles, such as clothing, towels, or linens. Check with your local dry cleaner for options to recycle wire clothing hangers and consider donating lightly worn clothing to local charities.

Trash these tanglers to help us keep our recycling equipment working to recycle items that we can successfully recover.

Rev. 07/22

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# Recognition of Service

The following employee is celebrating a milestone anniversary with the City:

Marie Stuelke - 5 years Public Works Administrative Secretary June 11

Thank you for your hard work!

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## HIBISCUS HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS!

Don't forget that City Hall has an event space available for rent! Hold your next party, seminar, meeting, or wedding reception in Hibiscus Hall.

The room features a recently updated full kitchen, sound system, and complimentary tables and chairs. The maximum capacity is 167 people. Residents of South Pasadena receive a rental discount!

For more information including fees, rental policies, and amenities visit the City website at <u>www.mysouthpasadena.com/community/</u><u>hall rental</u> or contact the Public Works Department at 727-384-0701.

Rev. 7/22



## Keep Plastic Bags Out of Recycling

Remember to keep your recyclables clean, dry, and un-bagged

when depositing them into recycling carts or local drop-off centers. Bagged recyclables aren't recycled because they can't be sorted by the recycling equipment.

Utilizing reusable bags is more ecofriendly than getting single-use plastic bags when shopping. Plastic bags can only be recycled at participating retailers. If you can't return bags to store locations, it's okay to throw them away in the garbage since they will be processed at Waste-to-Energy facilities for trash disposal – turning garbage into renewable electricity.

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## News from the Public Works Department . . .

# What happens when fats, oils, and grease are poured down the sink?

When warm fats, oils, and grease (FOG) are poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet they may not travel very far through your pipes before they begin to form large, nasty conglomerations with other debris and chemicals and stick to the walls of your pipes. These FOG deposits could cause future sewer backups in your home, condominium, restaurant, or other building.

The results of FOG buildup in pipes include:

- Severe reduction in pipe flow capacity
- Complete blockages
- Slow drains
- Sewage backups
- Contact with disease-carrying bacteria
- Unnecessary costly repairs
- Contamination of water sources



Figure A – Top view of a section of 4 inch cast iron pipe from a condominium experiencing severe FOG buildup.

- ✓ Do put oil and grease in covered collection containers.
- Do scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using the garbage disposal
- Do remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.

DO NOT pour oil and grease down the drain. DO NOT put food scraps down the drain. DO NOT rinse off oil and grease with hot water.

> For more information contact: Public Works Department 727-384-0701

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## CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH PASADENA YOUR GUIDE TO THE PERMITTING PROCESS

#### When do I need a permit?

The following are some of the most common examples of when you will be required to obtain a permit. This list is NOT all inclusive. If you are unsure, place call or email the Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192 or buildingdepartment@mysouthpasadena.com.

Additions/Remodels	Driveways	Garage doors	Shutters
Aluminum enclosures	Demolition of any kind	Kitchen remodels	Siding
Air handlers/condensers	Doors (exterior)	New construction	Sink new/replacement
Awnings	Drywall replacement	Pools and spas	Stairs
Bathroom remodels	Duct work	Railings	Toilet (new location)
Balcony repairs	Electrical Work	Roofing	Water Heaters
Carports	Fences	Screen rooms	Water lines
Cabinets and countertops	Fire alarm & sprinkler	Sheds	Windows
Concrete patios	Fireplaces	Shower/tub install	Wood decks

#### How do I get a permit?

Once you have hired a licensed contractor they will fill out a permit application and submit all necessary paperwork to the Community Improvement Department.

Once your application is submitted, we will review your plans. Depending on the nature of the project, the review could involve several departments and may take 1-3 weeks.

Once it is determined that the plans satisfy all code requirements, the contractor will be notified of the approval and fees due. Upon payment, we will issue the building permit.

Inspections will be scheduled by your contractor as required by code. You will be given a permit packet which includes plans and specs as well as a placard. The entire permit packet must be available during all inspections.

From the day the permit is issued, you have 180 days (6 months) to begin work. Every approved inspection extends the permit for 180 days.

#### How do I find a Contractor?

All contractors must be licensed either by the State of Florida or by the PCCLB (<u>www.pcclb.com</u>). Ask to see their license and verify references from past customers.

Get a written estimate from several licensed contractors and be sure that the estimate includes ALL work to be done, the materials involved, date of completion and the total cost.

#### No permit required

The following require no permits: painting, flooring, screen doors, interior doors, toilets in the same location, and screen replacement in existing screen room.

#### Permit Fees

Permit fees are based on your contract price (labor and materials).

\$70.00 for the first \$1,000.00. \$20.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 and a plan review fee of 50% of the permit fee. There is a state surcharge of 2.5% that Building Departments are required to collect on all permits.



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# **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS 2023**

Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. The peak of the season is from mid-August to late October but deadly hurricanes can occur anytime. Are you prepared for a tropical weather emergency?

Did you know that the entire city of South Pasadena, FL is in a Level A hurricane evacuation zone? This means that

any time a mandatory hurricane evacuation is issued for Pinellas County, we will be required to evacuate. Take steps to prepare now to save time and reduce stress if an evacuation does occur this storm season.

#### Stay Informed

Monitor local weather reports and warnings. If you have a cell phone, you can sign up for Ready Pinellas and local emergency notifications will be sent directly to your device. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas to find out more.

#### Have an Evacuation Plan

Be sure to have an evacuation plan in place before a storm threatens our area. Know where you will go if an evacuation order is issued and know what route you will take to get there. We recommend utilizing a public shelter as a "last resort" option. Shelter space is extremely limited in Pinellas County due to the large number of citizens that may be required to evacuate. Shelter conditions quickly become crowded and uncomfortable and social distancing may prove difficult during the disaster. Identify a host home or hotel that is located in a non-evacuation zone instead. After an evacuation, return home only after authorities say that it is safe to do so. To learn more about shelter options and evacuations, please visit www.pinellas.gov/emergency-information/public-shelters/.

#### **Prepare Supplies**

Proper hurricane preparation includes building your emergency supply kit before a hurricane watch or warning is issued. When a storm is imminent, stores become overwhelmed and essential supplies may be scarce. Consider building your supplies over time by adding a few items each week. Stock a 3 to 5 day supply of drinking water and nonperishable food items that will last the season. It is recommended that each person have one gallon of clean drinking water per day during a disaster. Pack anything specific to your family's needs and regularly replace items like water, food, medications, and batteries that may go bad over time. Make sure to organize and take important papers such as financial statements, insurance information, and legal documents.

#### Let Us Help

Now is the time to plan and the South Pasadena Fire Department is here to help. Our department offers free hurricane preparedness classes for residents and business owners. If you would like us to assist you in preparing for the storm, please call 727-344-1666 and we will work with you to deliver a program.

To view a PDF version of the 2023 Pinellas County Hurricane Preparedness Guide, visit <a href="https://pinellas.gov/make-a-plan/hurricane-guide-english/">https://pinellas.gov/make-a-plan/hurricane-guide-english/</a>. You may pick up your own printed copy of the Pinellas County 2023 Hurricane Preparedness Guide at the South Pasadena Fire Department or at City Hall.

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Storm surge is the water that is pushed onto land as a hurricane makes landfall.

- It can range from a few feet to over 30 feet.
- It will impact coastal areas first, then move further inland.
- Surge is life-threatening.
- It is fast-moving and fast-rising.
- Can wash away buildings and roadways.

Evacuations are based on storm surge. Know if you are at risk from storm surge by looking up your evacuation zone.

#### Know Your Zone

There are several ways to learn your evacuation zone:

• Online at <a href="http://www.kyz.pinellascounty.org/">www.pinellas.gov/ready-pinellas/</a> • (727) 453-3150 (landlines only)

#### **Mobile Homes**

Residents of mobile homes, manufactured homes and recreational vehicles must always evacuate no matter what area of Pinellas County they live in. Mobile homes cannot withstand strong winds.

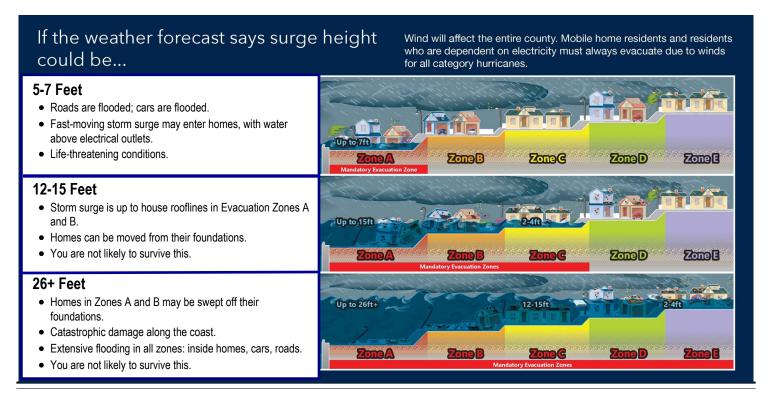
#### **Special Needs**

Residents who are dependent on electricity must always evacuate due to winds for all category hurricanes. For information visit <u>www.pinellas.gov/special-needs/</u> or call (727) 464-3800.

#### Picture the Threat

Storm surge is not just a coastal hazard. This graphic shows examples of storm surge scenarios to illustrate how far inland storm surge can be pushed and the damages it can cause. Storm surge will impact coastal waters first and continue to push inland. For Hurricane lan, storm surge reached up to 15 feet at the coast on Fort Myers Beach, and was pushed 15 miles inland. Along rivers and waterways, storm surge was pushed up to 24 miles inland, with a depth up to eight feet. Evacuation orders are issued to move people out of harm's way.

#### Run from the water. Hide from the wind.





## SURVIVING THE **STORM** IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY STORM PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES

The City of South Pasadena suggests utilizing the following guidelines in helping you prepare for storms this hurricane season.

#### PRE HURRICANE SEASON MAINTENANCE

- Cut back all trees and weak branches that could contact buildings.
- Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches, decreasing the chance that the trees/plants will be uprooted. Keep gutters and drains free of debris.
- Place trimmings at the curb on Tuesday/Fridays. The pile should not exceed 4 feet in length and 6 inches in diameter tied in bundles.
- Place small pieces of vegetation such as leaves, twigs, etc. in bags or cans that weigh less than 40 lbs. When full, place at the curb on your scheduled household waste pick up day.
- Clean your yard of any items that could become missiles in a storm such as old lumber, lawn furniture, barbecue grills, etc.
- Sign up for local alerts and warnings <u>http://www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas/</u>. Monitor local news and weather reports.
- Prepare to evacuate by learning evacuation routes, having a place to stay and packing a "go bag".
- Protect your property by reviewing insurance documents, making sure fuel tanks are anchored, installing sewer backflow valves and categorizing belongings.
- Collect and safeguard critical financial, medical, educational and legal documents.

#### **ONCE A STORM HAS BEEN NAMED**

- Follow guidance from local authorities.
- If advised to evacuate, grab your "go bag" and leave as soon as possible.
- Do not cut down trees, trim vegetation, do major yard work or construction projects that cause debris. Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the normal collection process and there is not enough equipment or manpower to collect the additional material before the storm makes landfall. You could put not only yourself at risk but your neighbors as well.
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### STORM PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES Continued from Page 11

- Do not take materials to the curb, transfer stations or landfill during a storm watch or warning period. Services may be suspended and facilities closed early to prepare for the storm.
- For protection from high winds, stay away from windows and seek shelter on the lowest level in an interior room. Install storm shutters on doors and windows.
- For protection from flooding, move to higher ground.
- Turn around, don't drown. Never walk or drive on flooded roads or through water.
- Call 911 if you are in life threatening danger.

#### AFTER THE STORM HAS PASSED Please be patient!

- Return to the area only after authorities say it is safe to do so. Do not enter damaged buildings until they are inspected by qualified professionals.
- Never walk or drive on flooded roads or through floodwaters.
- Look out for downed or unstable trees and power lines.
- Wear goggles, gloves, and sturdy shoes to protect your eyes, hands and feet when removing debris.
- Keep household garbage, recycling and vegetation and/or construction storm debris in separate piles.
- Secure all household garbage in plastic bags or cans on your scheduled pick up day.
- Do not place any debris near or on a fence, mailbox, power line equipment, poles, transformers, downed electrical wiring, water meters or storm drains.
- Be prepared to repair possible damage to yard areas from the specialized equipment used to collect storm debris.
- Contact the City of South Pasadena Public Works Department at (727) 384-0701 or City Hall at (727) 347-4171 for updates on your collection services.

## **IMPORTANT!**

There is no reimbursement provided by the City of South Pasadena to any individual resident or condominium association who hires a private contractor to remove and dispose of storm related debris.

The City of South Pasadena asks all residents to be our partners in restoring the community to its pre-storm state.

Your cooperation and support enables the City of South Pasadena to complete the entire process in the quickest, safest and most efficient manner possible.



## DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

Household Electronics & Chemical Collection Center (HEC<sub>3</sub>) 2855 109th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL

Monday-Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed on Sunday and all observed county holidays.

For more information including what items to bring and what not to bring, call (727) 464-7500 or visit <u>www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste</u>.

#### Automotive/Lead Acid Batteries/Used Motor Oil

Local drop off: Advanced Auto Parts 4901 Gulfport Blvd. (727) 323-2971 They will accept up to 5 gallons of motor oil. Most auto parts retailers accept old vehicle batteries at no charge.

#### White Goods/Appliances (electric or gas)

Contact: Waste Connections at 727-572-6800 NO FREON ACCEPTED

#### Household Grease

Use paper towels to absorb grease, place in regular trash.

## 2023 Pinellas County Recycle Guide

For more information on items that can/cannot be recycled, call 727-464-7500 or visit <u>www.pinellascounty.org/recycle</u>.



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## A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US! ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!

## Pollution Prevention Is Up To You!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Untreated pollutants such as concrete, mortar, fertilizer in the grass clippings and many more flow directly into creeks, rivers, lakes and the ocean and are toxic to fish and other wildlife. Disposing of these materials into the storm drains causes serious ecological problems - and is PROHIBITED by law.

## **Best Management Practices**

Best Management Practices, or BMP's, are procedures that help to prevent pollutants such as chemicals, concrete, mortar, pesticides, waste, paint and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains. All of these sources add up to a pollution problem. But each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean. The efforts add up to a pollution solution!

## What Can You Do?

- Never sweep or blow grass/lawn clippings into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- Always store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains and waterways.
- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drains.
- Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, landscape drains, drainage ditches or streams.
- Look for and clean up material that may have traveled away from your property after each days work.
- If you or your contractor keep a dumpster at your site, be sure it is securely covered with a lid or tarp when not in use.
- **Protect** dry materials from the wind. Don't allow dry products to blow into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- Don't place fill material, soil or compost piles on the sidewalk or street.
- During cleanups, check the street and gutters for sediment, refuse or debris. Look around the corner or down the street and clean up any materials that may have already traveled away from your property.

#### WHO CAN YOU CONTACT?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING, PLEASE CALL:

Community Improvement Department (727) 343-4192

> Public Works Department (727) 384-0701

#### **REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGES**

#### 169-25. ILLICIT DISCHARGES

Specific prohibitions. Any discharge to the stormwater system containing sewage, oil, or petroleum products, grass clippings, fertilizers, paints or paint solvents, industrial waste or other waste materials or containing any materials in violation of federal, state, county or municipal laws, rules, regulations, orders or permits is prohibited.

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Stormwater 24-Hour Watchline 727-464-5060

## ALL PROPERTY IN THE CITY LIMITS OF SOUTH PASADENA IS SUBJECT TO FLOODING!

## **CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FLOOD FACTS**

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies issued or renewed in the City of South Pasadena receives a 10% premium discount. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this discount is the result of the City's qualifying as a Class 8 in the NFIP Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System. The City has achieved this rating through activities such as maintenance of drainage facilities, regulation of stormwater discharge and distribution of this information as part of the Community Outreach Program.

#### Assistance is Available

Publications pertaining to property protection, flood safety, etc. can be obtained at South Pasadena City Hall - 7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena, FL, at the Community Improvement Department - 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL or through information links on the City of South Pasadena website: <u>www.mysouthpasadena.com</u>. Questions pertaining to flood zone, protection methods, flood elevation certificates, grant assistance, etc., please contact South Pasadena Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192.

#### Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The most recent Flood Insurance Rate Map for South Pasadena went into effect on August 24, 2021. The new flood maps are available at <a href="https://floodmaps.pinellascounty.org/">https://floodmaps.pinellascounty.org/</a>. Since all of South Pasadena is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, it is important to know the base flood elevation of the property and the flood insurance purchase requirements. The City of South Pasadena has copies of elevation certificates for many structures in the community.

#### Are you insured?

Since 1851, only 18 hurricane seasons have passed without a known storm impacting the State of Florida. Property losses due to flooding are not covered under most standard homeowner insurance policies. You can protect your home and its contents with flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP is a federal program that enables property owners to buy flood insurance at reasonable rates in participating communities. In return, participating communities carry out flood management measures designed to protect life and property from future flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through its Federal Insurance Administration administers the NFIP.

As a Special Flood Hazard Area, flood insurance is required for all properties in the City of South Pasadena with a federally backed mortgage. To find out more about flood insurance for your property and its contents, contact your insurance agent. There is usually a waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effects, so do not wait until a storm threatens before you secure the flood insurance you need.

#### Flood Threat

Flooding in South Pasadena can be caused by heavy rainfall that occurs in short periods of time, as is common during summer thunderstorms, and by tidal surges that accompany coastal storms, tropical storms and hurricanes. Hurricane tidal surges are the City's greatest threat and can cause flooding up to 24 hours before the "eye" of the storm reaches the coast. Because the City has low land elevations and abuts the Boca Ciega Bay, the flood threat is significant. FEMA has identified the entire City as a Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. These maps establish base flood elevations for development within these areas with the lowest permitted habitable flood levels ranging from 10 to 15 feet above sea level.

#### Flood Warning Systems

The Pinellas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) works with the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center, and the local municipalities to monitor flood and storm threats. This information is then used to alert communities to the threats they are facing. Flood alerts are issued by: TV 8; TV 13; TV 10; and Bay News 9. For evacuation centers or other information on flooding, you can write to: Pinellas County Emergency Management, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 OR visit the County website: www.pinellas.gov/emergency-information/public-shelters/.

#### **Storm Warnings**

- Tropical storm watch: Tropical storm conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Tropical storm warning: Tropical storm conditions are expected within 36 hours.
- Hurricane watch: Hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Hurricane warning: Hurricane conditions expected within 36 hours. All preparations should be complete.



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#### Flood Safety Measures

South Pasadena residents can protect themselves from flood hazards by taking measures to ensure the safety of life and property before, during, and after a flood occurs. These safety measures include:

#### Prepare before the storm

- Know your evacuation plan. Evacuation time for South Pasadena could take hours because the City's evacuation routes are prone to flooding early in a storm. Pinellas County has posted all primary evacuation routes with blue and white signs.
- Review your family disaster plan.
- Check your survival kit, important insurance papers, and identification ready. Verify that you have food, water, medication and toiletry
  essentials early to avoid long lines and shortages.
- Prepare your home and yard (be sure you have all materials and tools necessary to shutter windows)
- If you have special needs, be sure your caregiver begins to implement your plan and, you are registered for a special needs shelter if necessary.
- Gather special supplies for infants, children, seniors and pets.

Pinellas County EMS, the South Pasadena Fire Department and PSTA work together to provide evacuation assistance to those persons requiring special assistance enrolled in the County's special assistance program. If you are physically impaired or require special assistance to evacuate, write to: Pinellas County Emergency Management, Public Safety Complex, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 or call 727-464-3800 to register. You can also call your nearest fire department or home health care provider. Do not wait for a storm to strike! Write or call as soon as possible for an application requesting placement into the program.

#### Preparation for evacuation

Keep a battery-powered radio tuned to local stations, and if an evacuation order is given, comply with it. Even if the evacuation order turns out to be unnecessary, leaving the area is better than potentially risking the loss of life by staying.

When preparing your home prior to evacuation, it is advisable to:

- Turn off all the electricity, with the possible exception of the power to your refrigerator;
- Fill your tubs, sinks, and any available containers with water, in case fresh water is not available after the storm (Sanitize tubs and sinks with bleach, rinse and then fill);
- Shut off your water line to prevent any contaminated water from backing up into your house;
- Move as many valuables as possible to upper floors;
- Elevate furniture, if possible;
- Create floodway openings in non-habitable areas such as garage doors;
- Seal off sewer lines to the dwelling to prevent the backflow of sewer waters. After the storm the City will be working as quickly as possible to ensure a speedy and safe return to your homes.
- Keep a battery-powered radio with you so you can listen for emergency updates and news reports.
- Use a battery-powered flash light to inspect a damaged home (The flashlight should be turned on outside before entering- the battery
  may produce a spark that could ignite leaking gas, if present).
- Stay off the streets. If you must go out, watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- Do not drive through a flooded area. (Don't Drown, Turn Around)
- · Keep children away from the floodwaters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.
- Clean everything that has been wet.
- Use the phone only to report life-threatening emergencies.
- Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes.

More people are injured after a storm due to unsafe buildings, downed power lines, contaminated water, and other unsafe conditions than are injured in the storm itself. Carefully check for structural damage prior to entering a building. Use caution when re-entering the structure. Turn on electricity one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks.

#### **Property Protection**

While recent construction practices and regulations have made new homes less prone to flooding, many existing structures remain susceptible. Retrofitting non-compliant buildings is a recommended approach to reduce flooding. While the property itself remains subject to flooding, the building is modified to prevent or minimize flooding of habitable space. Several approaches to retrofitting are:

- Elevation of the structure above flood protection levels
- Construction of barriers (floodwalls, berms)

- Dry flood proofing (water tight floor and wall systems)
- Wet flood proofing (construction that allows the entry and passage of flood water). This is only allowed for non-habitable structures.
- Removing or relocating items of value to higher elevation levels.

#### **Floodplain Management**

The City's Stormwater Management Regulations require new construction and substantial remodeling to meet stringent standards in order to increase the survivability of structures, reduce the cost of repair and reconstruction after a storm event, and ensure that reasonably priced flood insurance is available.

#### Drainage System Maintenance

The City continues to improve and maintain its stormwater management system. This has reduced the amount and duration of road and yard flooding during the rainy season. The City routinely inspects and performs maintenance on drainage ditches, catch basins, and culverts that comprise the City's stormwater drainage system. If you see any areas that may need additional maintenance or if you experience any localized drainage problems, please call South Pasadena Public Works Department at (727) 384-0701.

#### Permit Requirements

The City administers flood management regulations that are designed to minimize the potential of flood losses in the City. Any development requires a permit from the City of South Pasadena Community Improvement Department, which ensures that all construction meets the Flood Insurance Rate Map (F.I.R.M.) elevation requirements. Such regulations include minimum elevations of lowest living floor areas plus an additional two (2) feet of elevation known as freeboard. Flood proofing of non-residential property will also have an additional two (2) feet of freeboard added. The placement of fill shall only be allowed for stem wall foundation and limitations on non-substantial improvements, additions and reconstruction. Following NFIP standards, the city mandates that if the cost of any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's depreciated value, then such work is considered a substantial improvement. The existing building is then required to meet the same standards as a new building.

The NFIP standards relating to substantial improvement are enforced through the development and building permitting process. Applicants for remodeling or repair of nonconforming structures (i.e. buildings which are not elevated to or above the base flood elevation) are required to submit a cost estimate of the improvement and, if necessary, an appraised value of the existing structure, to determine if the work constitutes a substantial improvement.

The building permit review is a necessary component of its participation in the NFIP, which make flood insurance available to those who want to protect their property from flood damage. Development that occurs without permits threatens the City's continued participation in the NFIP and the ability to obtain flood insurance. If you see development occurring without permits, protect your rights and immediately contact the Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192. Two funding programs are available to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

#### **Flood Mitigation Assistance**

Qualified mitigation activities include elevation of the existing home or commercial structure, acquisition of the property, or relocation of insured structure out of the floodplain. The structure must be insured under the NFIP and have suffered 2 or more flood losses; each with a claim of at least \$1,000 within any ten-year period since 1978.

#### Severe Repetitive Loss Program

A Severe Repetitive Loss property is defined as a residential property that is insured under the National Flood Insurance Program and has at least 4 Flood Insurance claim payments (building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000 within any ten-year period; Or has at least 2 separate Flood Insurance claims payments (building payments only) have been made with cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building within any ten-year period.

For more information go to:

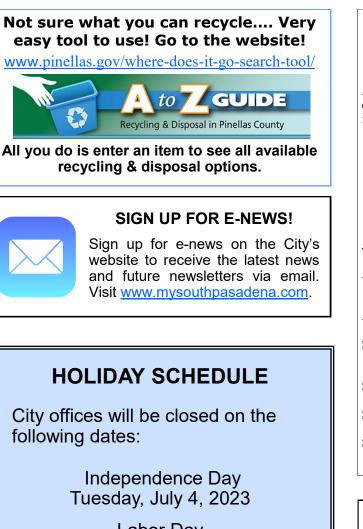
#### FEMA/NFIP at www.fema.gov/

Pinellas County Emergency Management at www.pinellascounty.org/emergency

Florida Department of Emergency Management at www.floridadisaster.org

#### The Official Hurricane Guide for Pinellas County at https://pinellas.gov/make-a-plan/hurricane-guide-english/

Rev. 3/22



Labor Day Monday, September 4, 2023

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL 9-1-1 IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, DO NOT CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION NUMBER.

#### 2023 UPCOMING SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETINGS

All meetings are tentative. Please check the City's website or call the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171 for up-to-date information about meeting dates.

#### ALL REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETINGS BETWEEN JULY 4, 2023 AND AUGUST 21, 2023 HAVE BEEN CANCELED.

Jul.	3	9:00 a.m.	Regular Commission Meeting
Aug.	22	9:00 a.m.	Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
Aug.	29	7:00 p.m.	Regular Commission Meeting
Sep.	5	9:00 a.m.	Agenda Meeting followed by Administrative Workshop Meeting
Sep.	11	7:00 p.m.	Regular Commission Meeting
Sep.	18	7:00 p.m.	Special Commission Meeting
Sep.	19	9:00 a.m.	Administrative Workshop Meeting
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#### **COMMISSION MEETINGS**

South Pasadena City Commission Meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 643 and rebroadcast the following Wednesday and Monday at 11:00 a.m.



Brochures and pamphlets on environmentally friendly landscaping are available at the Public Works Department or call 727-384-0701.

**CITY HALL** 7047 Sunset Drive South Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mayor, Commission, Finance & Administration Departments Phone: 727-347-4171 Fax: 727-345-0518 **FIRE STATION** 911 Oleander Way S.

Public Safety Department Phone: 727-344-1666 Fax: 727-381-4324

Pinellas County Sheriff Phone: 727-582-6200 **CITY HALL ANNEX** 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Community Improvement Department Phone: 727-343-4192 Fax: 727-381-4819 
 Public Works

 Department

 Phone: 727-384-0701

 Fax: 727-347-4254