



City of Belleair Bluffs

City Government Informational Publication

Summer 2010



Independence Day Celebration!



Saturday, July 3, 2010

11 a.m. ~ 2 p.m.

Belleair Bluffs Community Center & Park

Free Food! Bouncy House “Dunk the MAYOR”

Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office,

Jason the Roving Magician, The Tricky Dog Show

& Karaoke by “Doc”!!

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Belleair Bluffs Independence Day Picnic held this year on Saturday, July 3, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. co-sponsored by the Bluffs Business Association. The Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office will be on hand with their specialty vehicles for your inspection. This patriotic celebration will include entertainment, food, drink and plenty of activities for children and adults. Celebrate our nation’s 234th birthday with your friends, neighbors, local businesses, City Commission and staff.

City Commission Workshop Meetings – Every 2nd Monday at 6:00 pm

City Commission Regular Meetings – Every 3rd Monday at 7:00 pm

Phone Numbers			www.belleairbluffs-fl.gov	<u>COMMISSION</u>		
City Hall	(727)	584-2151			<u>City Staff</u> Debra Sullivan, CMC, City Clerk Robert David, Public Works Director Thomas J. Trask, City Attorney	Chris Arbutine, Sr., Mayor Joseph A. Barkley, III - Sheriff Jack Nazario – Public Works Taylour Shimkus - Administration Suzy Sofer – Fire Department
Fax	(727)	584-6175				
Public Works	(727)	581-6808				
Sheriff’s Office	(727)	582-6177				
DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES						

FROM THE CITY CLERK, Debra S. Sullivan, CMC

Summer is almost here and City Hall is very busy. We are preparing for next year’s budget and getting ready for the Independence Day Event. Watch the website www.belleairbluffs-fl.gov for budget hearing dates. The website is updated frequently with information that is important to you. The Code of Ordinances, updated hurricane information and many helpful links are on the site. You can also contact any member of the Commission members directly by using the e-mail links provided.

Hurricane News – Please use the web site Pinellas County has provided for all of the information you will need pertaining to the hurricane season. They offer many social network sites, email sign ups for their newsletter – “Stay Connected” and many other useful information links. Belleair Bluffs web site has a link to this web site as well. The Pinellas County Hurricane Guides will be available in City Hall for you to read. Please come by to get one.

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency>

THINGS TO REMEMBER– Soliciting is NOT allowed in the city without a permit! Please call city hall if anyone is coming by your residence without a permit. **We love our 4 legged friends but please be mindful of using leashes and picking up after them.** The next Household/Business Electronic and Chemical Mobile Collection Date is: September 11th Largo Recycling Center – 1551 Starkey Road. **Watering is allowed ONE day per week from 12:01am to 8:00am OR 6:00PM to 11:59PM.**

House Numbers ending in 0 or 1	Monday	2 or 3	Tuesday
Ending in 4 or 5	Wednesday	6 or 7	Thursday
Ending in 8 or 9	Friday		

THE COMMUNITY CENTER is available for rent for such events such as weddings, birthday parties, graduation parties, anniversaries etc. Please contact Mary Ellen to review the lease agreement if you are interested in using the facility.

LIBRARY SERVICE – We are not a member of the Pinellas County Library System. The city has budgeted funds to provide library services to all the citizens of Belleair Bluffs by a reimbursement policy. Citizens can purchase a library card at any member city in Pinellas County. After the card is purchased for \$100.00, the card and receipt should be brought to City Hall and a reimbursement check in the amount of \$85.00 will be sent to the citizen within one week.

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO YOU CAN GET PERTINENT INFORMATION QUICKLY.

We can notify you of storm updates, event updates and you can receive this newsletter via email!

Send your email address to: dsullivan@belleairbluffs-fl.gov

A Note from the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office – Many telemarketers are claiming to solicit funds for law enforcement programs like the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Police Athletic League (PAL). The Sheriff’s Office does not solicit funds on behalf of law enforcement or for various law enforcement programs, when in fact they are soliciting funds for police unions. It is important that the public recognize that unions are entirely separate entities from the Sheriff’s Office and from other local police departments; and that in so choosing to donate through telemarketers, the public does not have the guarantee that the entirety of their contribution will go to the claimed charity. Be sure to keep your car doors locked at all times to alleviate burglaries to your vehicles.



HURRICANE CONDO INFORMATION

Preparing Your Condo

When a hurricane approaches our coast, condominium owners need to be ready to weather the storm. Some condo-specific tips include:

Residents:

Know your evacuation zone! Even if you live on an upper floor, you may be completely cut off from rescue if the grounds flood. NEVER evacuate up!



Get shutters or panels to cover your glass doors and windows. Be sure to check with your condo association to see if they require a specific style.



Bring all balcony furniture, potted plants and other items indoors so they won't be blown around by the strong winds.

Know where your exit stairwells are located. They will be necessary if your building loses power and elevators are unavailable.



Management:

Name floor captains to check on residents with special needs before and after the hurricane.

If the building is not in an evacuation zone, find a safe place for residents to take shelter. An interior hallway or other windowless room is usually safest. Set up a system to keep track of residents who leave the building, so everyone can be accounted for. To check your evacuation zone call the Interactive Voice Response Line at (727) 453-3150. During an emergency activation only, call the Citizens Information Center at (727) 464-4333.



For more information, please contact the Pinellas County Emergency Management office (727) 464-3800, (727) 464-4024, TDD (727) 464-4431. www.pinellascounty.org/emergency

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

<p>Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days</p> <p>Food - at least enough for 3 to 7 days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices foods for infants or the elderly snack foods non-electric can opener cooking tools / fuel paper plates / plastic utensils <p>Blankets / Pillows, etc.</p> <p>Clothing - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes</p> <p>First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs</p>	<p>Special Items - for babies and the elderly</p> <p>Toiletries - hygiene items</p> <p>Moisture wipes</p> <p>Flashlight / Batteries</p> <p>Radio - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio</p> <p>Cash - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.</p> <p>Keys</p> <p>Toys, Books and Games</p> <p>Important documents - in a waterproof container</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc. <p>document all valuables with videotape if possible</p>	<p>Tools - keep a set with you during the storm</p> <p>Vehicle fuel tanks filled</p> <p>Pet care items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> proper identification / immunization records ample supply of food and water a carrier or cage medications muzzle and leash
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Always:	If time permits:
Keep a full tank of gas in your car if an evacuation seems likely. Gas stations may be closed during emergencies and unable to pump gas during power outages. Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.	Gather your disaster supplies kit.
Make transportation arrangements with friends or your local government if you do not own a car.	Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides some protection, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and a cap.
Listen to a battery-powered radio and follow local evacuation instructions.	Secure your home:
Gather your family and go if you are instructed to evacuate immediately.	Close and lock doors and windows
Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by severe weather.	Unplug electrical equipment, such as radios and televisions, and small appliances, such as toasters and microwaves. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.
Follow recommended evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts; they may be blocked.	Let others know where you are going.
Be alert for washed-out roads and bridges. Do not drive into flooded areas.	
Stay away from downed power lines.	



HAVE A PLACE TO GO

Develop a family hurricane preparedness plan before an actual storm threatens your area. If your family hurricane preparedness plan includes evacuation to a safer location for any of the reasons specified with in this web site, then it is important to consider the following points:

If ordered to evacuate, do not wait or delay your departure.

If possible, leave before local officials issue an evacuation order for your area. Even a slight delay in starting your evacuation will result in significantly longer travel times as traffic congestion worsens.

If a hotel or motel is your final intended destination during an evacuation, make reservations before you leave.

Most hotel and motels will fill quickly once evacuations begin. The longer you wait to make reservations, even if an official evacuation order has not been issued for your area or county, the less likely you are to find hotel/motel room vacancies, especially along interstate highways and in major metropolitan areas.

Make sure that you fill up your car with gas, before you leave.

Select an evacuation destination that is nearest to your home, preferably in the same county, or at least minimize the distance over which you must travel in order to reach your intended shelter location.

In choosing your destination, keep in mind that the hotels and other sheltering options in most inland metropolitan areas are likely to be filled very quickly in a large, multi-county hurricane evacuation event.

If you are unable to stay with friends or family and no hotels/motels rooms are available, then as a last resort go to a shelter.

Remember, shelters are not designed for comfort and do not usually accept pets. Bring your [DISASTER SUPPLY KIT](#) with you to the shelter.

Have a Pet Plan. Contact your veterinarian or local humane society for information on preparing your pets for an emergency.

FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

✓	Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind .	✓	Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances, the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.
✓	Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet (Rally Points); including a child's school, a neighbor or a public place.	✓	Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact. Have at least 2 ways of contact; e-mail, phone, etc.
✓	Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.	✓	Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.
✓	Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.	✓	Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a DISASTER SUPPLY KIT .
✓	Use an NOAA weather radio . Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you do with your smoke detectors.	✓	Take First Aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

PLANNING FOR YOUR PET

BEFORE THE DISASTER

- ➔ Make sure that your pets are current on their vaccinations. Pet shelters may require proof of vaccines.
- ➔ Have a current photograph
- ➔ Keep a collar with identification on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.
- ➔ Have a properly-sized pet carrier for each animal - carriers should be large enough for the animal to stand and turn around.
- ➔ Plan your evacuation strategy and don't forget your pet! Specialized pet shelters, animal control shelters, veterinary clinics and friends and relatives out of harm's way are ALL potential refuges for your pet during a disaster.
- ➔ Learn about the [AKC Companion Animal Recovery](#) Program

If you plan to shelter your pet - work it into your evacuation route planning.

DURING THE DISASTER

- ➔ Animals brought to a pet shelter are required to have: Proper identification collar and rabies tag, proper identification on all belongings, a carrier or cage, a leash, an ample supply of food, water and food bowls, any necessary medications, specific care instructions and news papers or trash bags for clean-up.
- ➔ Bring pets indoor well in advance of a storm - reassure them and remain calm.
- ➔ Pet shelters will be filled on first come, first served basis. Call ahead and determine availability.

AFTER THE DISASTER

- ➔ Walk pets on a leash until they become re-oriented to their home - often familiar scents and landmarks may be altered and pets could easily be confused and become lost. Also, downed power lines, reptiles brought in with high water and debris can all pose a threat for animals after a disaster.
- ➔ If pets cannot be found after a disaster, contact the local animal control office to find out where lost animals can be recovered. Bring along a picture of your pet if possible.
- ➔ After a disaster animals can become aggressive or defensive - monitor their behavior.

Don't forget your pet when preparing a family disaster plan.

PET DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- Proper identification including immunization records
- Ample supply of food and water
- A carrier or cage
- Medications
- Muzzle, collar and leash



NEW FERTILIZER ORDINANCE

Pinellas County recently adopted a Fertilizer Ordinance (Article XIII, Chapter 58)

This Ordinance regulates the sale and use of products containing nitrogen and/or phosphorous. The ordinance applies to all homeowners, commercial/residential applicators and businesses that sell materials containing fertilizers.

Fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorous cannot be sold (starting in 2011) or applied (starting 2010) to turf or landscape plants between June 1st and September 30th. (The summer rainy season)

Fertilizers cannot be applied if heavy rains are forecast by the National Weather Service to occur within 24 hours in Pinellas County.

Storm water runoff containing nitrogen and phosphorous promotes the growth of undesirable plants and algae in our water bodies. This can lead to poor water quality, fish kills and reduced wildlife habitat value. The quality of our water resources can be improved with your help.

Nitrogen from fertilizer shall be applied at the recommended rate up to no more than four pounds per 1000 square feet per calendar year.

Fertilizers must not be deposited or left on impervious surfaces (sidewalks, pavement, concrete, etc.) Reclaim or blow/sweep the material into turf area.

Fertilizer must not be applied within ten feet of any wetland or water body, and a recommended six foot low maintenance no-mow zone is recommended adjacent to water bodies and wetlands.

All grass clippings, vegetative material, and/or vegetative debris may not enter the street gutter, storm drain, or surface waters.

SURVIVING THE STORM... IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

KNOW YOUR ZONE

Should You Stay or Should You Go?



EVACUATION GUIDELINES (mobile homes MUST always evacuate)											
EVACUATION ZONES	<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; text-align: center;">A</td> <td>4' to 8' Evacuate red areas and all mobile homes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #ffa500; color: white; text-align: center;">B</td> <td>8' to 14' Evacuate red and orange areas and all mobile homes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #ffff00; color: black; text-align: center;">C</td> <td>14' to 19' Evacuate red, orange and yellow areas and all mobile homes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #90ee90; color: black; text-align: center;">D</td> <td>19' to 26' Evacuate red, orange, yellow and green areas and all mobile homes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #9370db; color: black; text-align: center;">E</td> <td>26' to 29' Evacuate red, orange, yellow, green and purple areas and all mobile homes</td> </tr> </table>	A	4' to 8' Evacuate red areas and all mobile homes	B	8' to 14' Evacuate red and orange areas and all mobile homes	C	14' to 19' Evacuate red, orange and yellow areas and all mobile homes	D	19' to 26' Evacuate red, orange, yellow and green areas and all mobile homes	E	26' to 29' Evacuate red, orange, yellow, green and purple areas and all mobile homes
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Areas shown in white are non-evacuation zones.											

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency>



FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR, Robert David

I told you...I told you it was coming. Who reads my articles? Please read the insert regarding the new fertilizer ordinance passed for Pinellas County. I hope you have informed your lawn service not to blow grass clippings in the road because the city is now issuing citations for that.

Summer, it's going to be hot with a lot of hurricanes, (or so it's been predicted). Please be prepared. It is just one of those things we live with here in Florida. It will give you peace of mind to know that if you need to - you can pick up and go to a safe place. Don't forget your pet; make sure they are prepared for as well. Should anyone need help in preparing, please call City hall. We have numerous contacts to help you.

On another note, a friend has attended a seminar on post cold weather palm problems held by the University of South Florida in conjunction with Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. I had the pleasure of reading over the material handed out at the seminar and found it to be very beneficial to our area. If you have any questions regarding palms on your property, I would be happy to share the information with you.

The next project is a dual project; the first part of the project is going to be on Bluff View Drive from Sunset Drive to Renatta Drive, where we left off. The second part of the project is going to be Los Altos Drive from Sunset Boulevard to Lentz Road, where we left off. Hope to see everyone at the Independence Day Celebration on July 3rd and hope to meet some new people as well. Ya'll come out and help me dunk the Mayor!

FROM THE MAYOR, *Chris Arbutine, Sr.*

It is hard to believe in just a few weeks I will be sitting in the Dunk Tank for another Independence celebration. Warm up those pitching arms early!!! I am always available for YOU to voice any concerns or questions YOU may have. Call my cell phone at (727) 458-2148. Of course, I consider our local city government the best as we make many positive changes that are readily seen and utilized by us -the residents. I look forward to seeing everyone this July 3rd for the Independence Day Celebration. Thank You. *Chris Arbutine, Sr.*

