

Redington Beach Reporter



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Mayor's Message

To all Redington Beach residents:

We are in our Tropical Storm season and I encourage all of us to update our storm mitigation plans as well as our evacuation plans. As we know, getting on the highways can lead to traffic slowdowns and short gas supplies, so bear that in mind when developing your evacuation strategy.

We are starting our FY 2018-2019 budget process and with a strong real estate market, we will see an increase in Redington Beach taxable values. We will adopt a budget by mid-September.

Due to actions taken by our 2018 State Legislature, we strengthened our beach customary use component to our Town Code, by adopting Ordinance 2018-03, clarifying customary use.

The Town is also considering the implementation of "Resident Only" parking on our Avenues and 1st and 2nd Streets. This will require car decals that can be obtained through Town Hall at a future date which will be announced to all residents.

Wishing all a safe summer,

Nick Simons



SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON IS MAY 1—AUGUST 31
SEA TURTLE HATCHING SEASON IS JULY 1—OCTOBER 31

Ask the Town Clerk...**We are going digital!**

If you would like to receive this quarterly newsletter by email, please send your name, address and email to:
deputyclerk@townofredingtonbeach.com.

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

Unfortunately, no. According to Chapter 4, Section 4-3 of the Town of Redington Beach Code of Ordinances, it is unlawful to allow animals on the beach or any Town-owned park or recreation area. There are several designated dog-friendly parks and dog-friendly beach areas in Pinellas County, some just a short drive away.



My neighbors are away for the weekend but their teenage children are throwing a very loud party. It's after midnight and they are still playing loud music, yelling, etc. What can I do?

Redington Beach has a noise ordinance which states:

Any loud noise (like music or yelling) between the hours of 11pm and 7am is prohibited.

If your neighbor's party is still loud enough for you to hear inside your own house, and it's after 11pm, please call the NON-EMERGENCY line of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. An officer will be dispatched to assess the situation. That number is **727-582-6200**.

We would like to have some trees removed from our yard. Do we need a permit?

Yes, you need a tree removal permit for **ALL** trees **except**: Australian Pine, Brazilian Pepper and Punk Trees. These are invasive species and the Town encourages their removal. A tree removal permit form can be found on our Town's website. **Your landscape or tree removal company is responsible for the disposal of all debris.** The trash removal company servicing Redington Beach has very limited capacity and focuses on household trash.



Clockwise from top:
Brazilian Pepper
Australian Pine
Punk Tree



Dealing with Unwanted Wildlife in an Urban Environment

Raccoons, Skunks, and Opossums

PROBLEMS

These animals quite often make pests of themselves by getting into garbage cans, eating pet food, getting into attics or beneath houses, and eating home-grown fruits and vegetables. Raccoons are a major carrier of rabies in Florida.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEMS

These three mammals are opportunistic and have adapted well to urbanization. They will eat any plant, insect, or other animal food that is readily available. Raccoons have learned that uncapped chimneys make very adequate substitutes for more traditional hollow den trees.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL METHODS

Garbage can raids may be prevented by using metal or tough plastic containers with tight-fitting lids. If lids do not fit tightly, it may be necessary to wire, weight, or clamp them down. The containers also should be tied to a support or held on a rack to prevent raccoons from tipping them over. These animals will not be as attracted to your property if you do not leave pet food outside at night.

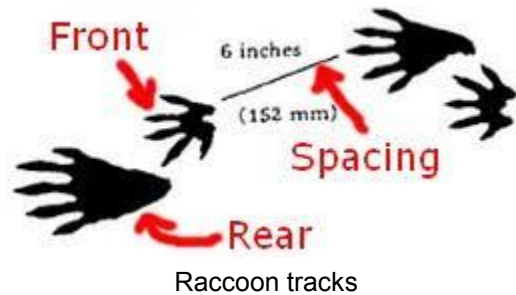
Access to chimneys can be prevented by fastening a commercial cap of sheet metal and hardware cloth over the top of the chimney. These animals can be kept out from underneath houses by sealing off all possible entrances. A good method to determine if the animal is out of the sheltered area is to sprinkle a liberal amount of baking flour near the entrance. Wait until an hour or so after dusk and see if there are any tracks leading out of the entrance. If there are, then seal it off.

Repellents such as naphthalene crystals and noise-making devices may have limited temporary effectiveness. Live traps baited with sardines or cat food are effective for garden damage situations.

Once an animal is caught, another problem is created--what to do with it. Trap and release of wildlife is seldom biologically sound. Areas that appear suitable for release probably are not. Areas without a resident population of the same species as the relocated animal most likely do not meet its habitat requirements. Relocation to already occupied areas causes problems for both the relocated animal and the resident population of the same species. Current Florida law (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Rule 68A-9.010) requires that all animals captured as a "nuisance" either be humanely destroyed or released on the same contiguous property as they are captured to prevent ecological problems or spreading of diseases. Animals can be transported only for the purpose of traveling to a place where euthanization procedures will be performed.



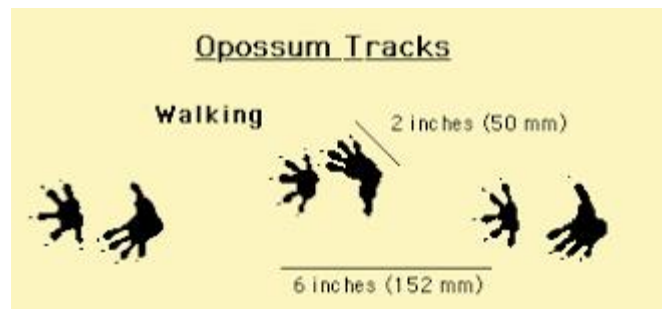
This raccoon tipped over the trash can and is eating the contents.



Raccoon tracks



An opossum makes a rare appearance during daytime hours.



BEACH SAFETY

UTILIZING THE CROSSWALKS

The Town of Redington Beach has pedestrian crosswalks for your safety and convenience.

The crosswalks were specifically located to provide a safety island when crossing Gulf Boulevard. Where there are no traffic lights at the intersection of the side streets and Gulf Boulevard, those areas are very dangerous to cross. **UTILIZE THE CROSSWALKS!**

As you enter the crosswalk, press the button to activate the high intensity flashing lights, **stop** and look for vehicles. Florida law requires vehicles to stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk. Make sure the vehicles are stopping before you cross. Make eye contact with the driver if possible. Watch to make sure vehicles in each traffic lane are stopping. **Never assume the vehicles are going to stop.**

After reaching the median, or safety island, use the same procedure as above to cross the remaining two lanes. Make sure vehicles see you and are stopping in each lane.

Thank the motorist for stopping with a friendly wave.

You, the pedestrian, can make crossing Gulf Boulevard safe by observing these guidelines.

The Town of Redington Beach will continue to work with the Florida Department of Transportation to identify and establish other safety measures for crossing Gulf Boulevard.

SUMMER IS STINGRAY SEASON

With Gulf coast waters warming up, Florida residents aren't the only ones flocking to the beaches.



Stingrays, a flat, bottom-feeding fish with a long tail and protruding barb, swarm into shallow waters between April and October and bury themselves in sand close to shore — making them hard to spot by anyone running into the surf.

The barb on a stingray's tail is a defensive mechanism; a "bony thorn" that disperses poison. Similar to a bee sting, it causes excruciating pain.

The best way to make sure stingrays steer clear of your feet is to slide your feet along the sand instead of taking big steps. The shuffling sends vibrations that scare away stingrays in the immediate vicinity, thus you won't accidentally step on one.

If you are stung, the best remedy is to soak the affected area in a bucket of water — "as hot as you can without burning your foot" — for about an hour and a half, said Dr. Anthony Acosta, medical director of the emergency department at Bayfront Medical Center. The heat will cause immediate pain relief.

And although it is rare, head to the emergency room if the stingray leaves part of a barb behind. Do not attempt to remove it yourself.

Also seek immediate medical attention if you experience an allergic reaction or symptoms such as nausea or difficulty breathing.

Finally, realize that although care should be taken to avoid injury, relax, stay calm, enjoy the beach and remember to do the stingray shuffle.

HURRICANE READINESS

Hurricane Season June 1-November 30

Storm-ready homes

Here are some basic home improvements you can make to ensure your home is storm ready.

1) Protect your windows

Your best option is to install impact resistant windows or hurricane shutters. Otherwise, be ready to cover your windows with commercial exterior plywood 7/16" minimum when a storm is approaching. Duct tape provides NO protection.

2) Brace your gable roof

Gabled roofs: two slopes that come together to a peak at the top are prone to failure if not properly braced in construction. High winds could cause your end wall to collapse. See the Florida Division of Emergency Management's Hurricane Retrofit Guide for advice: www.floridadisaster.org/hrg.

3) Brace your garage door

Old garage doors in good condition can be braced with retrofit kits while new doors must meet stringent wind requirements. After Hurricane Andrew, engineers determined four out of five homes that suffered major structural damage lost their garage door first.

4) Prepare your yard

Rock mulch, sagging tree limbs and yard furniture are among the objects that could become deadly missiles in high winds. Keep your trees pruned and clean out your gutters on a regular basis.

Flood mitigation

- Raise or elevate equipment: water heater, AC, switches, sockets, circuit breakers and wiring.
- Build with flood-resistant materials, such as cement board and marine grade wood.
- Use flood-proofing techniques, such as flood shields for doors and waterproof exterior coating.
- Add flood vents, which can reduce flood insurance costs for certain homes.
- Install sewer backflow valves.
- Clear storm drains to prevent blockages that can cause localized flooding.
- Elevate your home.
- Keep up with routine maintenance: cleaning out gutters and sealing cracks.

Be aware of the substantial improvement rules:

- Houses substantially damaged by any cause must be elevated above the regulatory flood level when repaired.
- Remodeling projects that cost 1/2 the value of the original structure will require the building to be elevated above flood level.

Review your insurance now

Because you must wait 30 days before a flood insurance policy is effective, homeowners should act quickly to review their coverage. Check your policy or talk to your agent to make sure you have sufficient coverage and to determine if any home improvements would qualify for a discount on premiums. Detailed information on insurance policies can be found through the Insurance Information Institute at www.iii.org.

Start by asking these five questions:

1. What is my standard deductible?
2. What is my hurricane deductible?
3. Do I need flood insurance?
4. Do I have enough coverage to replace my home and belongings?
5. Do I have loss-of-use coverage for temporary housing expenses?

News from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Proper Rx Disposal in Pinellas County

Consumers and caregivers

should remove expired, unwanted or unused medicines from their homes as quickly as possible to help reduce the chance that others may accidentally take or intentionally misuse the unneeded medicines.

Operation Medicine Cabinet®

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office collaborates with LiveFree! and local law enforcement to establish permanent Drop-Off Boxes.

Current locations include:

Largo (2)
Clearwater (2)
Dunedin
Tarpon Springs
Treasure Island
St. Petersburg
Pinellas Park
Kenneth City
Gulfport



To find a location near you, go to www.PinellasDrugAbuse.com

Pinellas County
makes Rx
disposal easy!



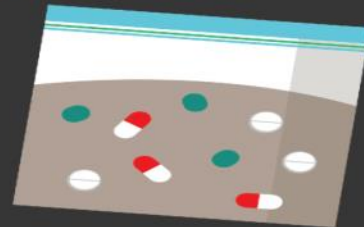
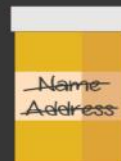
Dispose Unused
RX Here

In addition to permanent drop-off locations, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) periodically hosts National Prescription Drug Take Back events at different locations throughout the community. You will be notified of these through local media or you can go to www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback

There are also ways to dispose of your meds at home

According to the DEA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), most medicines can be thrown into your household trash but you want to follow the below steps to do so properly.

- 1 Remove drugs from their original containers and mix them with something undesirable, such as used coffee grounds, dirt, or cat litter. This makes the medicine less appealing to someone who might intentionally go through the trash looking for drugs.
- 2 Put the mixture in something you can close to prevent the drug from leaking or spilling out.
- 3 Throw the container in the garbage.
- 4 Scratch out all your personal information on the empty medicine packaging to protect your identity and privacy and throw away.



Different products are now on the market that allow for convenient home disposal. Ask your pharmacist what they have available for purchase.

Prepared for the Pinellas County Opioid Task Force
by Drug Free America Foundation, Inc. www.dfaf.org

Pinellas County
Opioid
TASK FORCE

REDINGTON BEACH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Redington Beach Property Owners Association is your local resident-volunteer group. Their mission is to foster a family-friendly and socially-active community where residents are invited to be an integral part of the community. They do this throughout the year by inviting all residents to events, activities and monthly dining experiences at local restaurants.

Important dates for upcoming events and activities ... mark your calendar!

July 5th....8am RBPOA Beach Clean Up, Beach Park

July 7th.....6pm RBPOA Annual Beach Party, Beach Park—Bring a dish to share

Looking ahead...

November 3rd...6pm—RBPOA Annual Wine and Food Gala

If you are not a member of RBPOA and are interested in joining, you can email them at info@rbpoa.com. They seek volunteers to join them at events and to volunteer whatever time they have available. This allows them to involve residents, share the some of the work, and provide opportunities for everyone to get to know your community and their community neighbors better.

Be sure to stay in touch with us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/redingtonbeach.propertyowners>

SANTA'S ANGELS



SANTA'S ANGELS *WHERE YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!*
100% OF THE PROCEEDS GOES TO SANTA'S ANGELS TO CREATE
A CHRISTMAS FOR
PINELLAS COUNTY UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN.

For more information, to volunteer or sponsorship opportunities, contact Mike Brown 727-362-3397

Or Wally Hawthorne 727-710-6327.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SantasAngelsFloridaORG/>

Upcoming events:

Saturday, October 13th in Friendship Park

Theme to be announced.



CRS COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

The CRS program determines whether or not community residents receive a discount on their flood insurance rates. Currently all residents in Redington Beach receive a fifteen (15%) percent discount due to the various activities and documentation that your Town Staff and Public Works Team perform on a daily basis. Our goal is to get our residents an improved rating, which will result in a twenty (20%) percent discount. In the months ahead we will strive to continue upgrading the program's objectives so that we can achieve this greater discount for our residents. This is just another way your Town employees are working for the residents of Redington Beach.

KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

You may be flooded one day. The streets of Redington Beach were flooded during Tropical Storms Colin and Hermine in 2016 and narrowly missed being inundated with tidal waters caused by the storm surge from Hurricane Irma. **All properties in Redington Beach are in a Special Flood Hazard Area.** Here are some things you can do to protect your family and property from flooding:

- Contact your property insurance agent to purchase a flood insurance policy. Most homeowners insurance policies do not cover damage caused by water flooding. Remember, there is a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect, so do not wait until a storm threatens before you purchase flood insurance.
- Do not walk or drive through flood waters. Currents are deceptive – six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Do not drive around barriers, as the road or bridge may be washed out.
- Talk to us about protecting your home. There are ways to modify your building to minimize flood damage. Retrofitting non-compliant buildings is a recommended approach to flooding because the property itself remains subject to flooding while 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 and also removing or relocating items of value to higher elevation levels)
- The Town enforces the flood regulations to minimize the potential of flood losses. The Town's Building Department reviews all permits for compliance with the flood regulations. Call the Building Department at 727-202-6825 before you build on, alter, regrade or fill on your property. These regulations are designed to protect your property from flood damage and to make sure you don't cause a water problem for your neighbors.
- Town Public Works staff patrol the streets after rain events to make sure the storm water inlets and pipes are clear of debris, sediments and pollutants. Removal of debris and pollutants from the storm water system keeps them from discharging to the Bay and helps reduce street flooding. The Town also makes sure that the beaches and parks are patrolled to remove litter. These efforts help keep the Bay and the Gulf clean.

NPDES: NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

HOW TO KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN

Everyone living in the Town of Redington Beach lives on a barrier island, which is a small, isolated watershed where every drop of water makes its way to Boca Ciega Bay. EVERYTHING you do on land has an impact on the Bay's water quality! Common items that become pollution in our Bay include:

- Plastic trash in our parks, beach and roadways;
- Grass clippings and yard debris blown into our streets;
- Pet waste not picked up; and
- Fertilizer, pesticide and herbicide overspray on sidewalks and streets.

It is growing season and yard maintenance is a weekly event. Did you know that commercial landscapers are required to take a class with Pinellas County to become certified to operate anywhere within the County, including the Town? A commercial landscaper must have the following certification decal on their vehicle at all times!

If you use a commercial landscaper to mow your yard and prune your shrubs, please make sure that they have this certification.

Are you interested in learning more?
Pinellas County opens their training and certification classes to the residents of Pinellas County.
Go on line to register at the following address:
www.LandscapeBMP.eventbrite.com



If you would like to participate in the ADOPT –A– BEACH Program, gloves and trash bags will be provided, and litter drop-off locations will be assigned. Fill out the form below and return to Town Hall.

"ADOPT-A-BEACH" Registration Form

Volunteer's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

HELP KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY BEAUTIFUL!

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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS

The following families donated engraved bricks for Friendship Park:

Nancy Cowley

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**

Beach Park– Beach Park is located just south of 161st Avenue. There is a large “Resident Only” Parking Lot, shower and benches. The mural on the north side of the parking area was designed and painted by local artist, Mike Jenney, who also designed and painted the mural at Moon Park. To obtain a “Resident Only” parking permit, contact Town Hall, 727-391-3875.

Moon Park - Moon Park is located on Gulf Boulevard near 157th Avenue. It is a 3 block walk south from Beach Park. The highlight of the park is a 75-foot mural by locally renowned artist Mike Jenney. You may know Mike’s work, he revitalized the Beach Park mural in 2016 and his work adorns many homes in Redington Beach.

Friendship Park - Public Works has been maintaining the grounds and Garden Club members have been working in the Butterfly Garden area. The Twin Towers Memorial is located here, with many areas for quiet reflection.

Town Park - Lots of families are taking advantage of all this Park offers, evidenced by the parties in the shelters and throngs of children playing basketball and soccer and using the playground equipment.

The Parks and Recreation Board meets monthly on, usually, the first Monday of the month at 10:00am.

Planning and Zoning Board

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

Presently, the Board is overseeing the implementation of the undergrounding of utilities and a beautification project along Gulf Blvd., through a grant from the FDOT and Pennies for Pinellas. In addition, the Board, in cooperation with staff at the Building Department, is recommending updates to a few of the Town's Ordinances.

Board of Commissioners

Town Commission meetings are 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.”

**TOWN HALL CLOSURES:**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 LABOR 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:

July 16 for the August 16 Board of Adjustment hearing

August 20 for the September 20 Board of Adjustment hearing

September 17 for the October 18 Board of Adjustment hearing

**Calendar of Events**

Thursday, July 5 RBPOA Beach Clean-up at Beach Park 9am
 Saturday, July 7 RBPOA Beach Party at Beach Park 4pm-9pm
 Monday, August 13 First Day of Public School
 Tuesday, August 28 Primary Elections

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/>**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

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Safebuilt
18001 Gulf Blvd, Redington Shores, FL 33708

727-202-6825 (Office)

727-258-4986 (Fax)

Website: <http://fmsbuildingdepartment.com/>