



St. Pete Beach eNews

The Official Electronic Newsletter of St. Pete Beach

April 11, 2019

POOL INFORMATION

Water temp. always 82°!

POOL HOURS

January—March 31st

ADULT LAP SWIM

Mon: 7a-11a—(11a-1p & 3-6p limited lanes)
Tues-Thu: 7a-11a—(11a-1p & 4-6p limited lanes)
Fri: 7a-12p—(12p-1p & 3-6p limited lanes)
Sat: 8am-11am—(11am-3pm limited lanes)

PUBLIC SWIM

Mon & Fri: 11a-1p & 3-6p
Tues—Thurs: 11a-1p & 4-6p
Sat: 10a-3p
Sun: Closed

COMMUNITY CENTER HOURS

Mon-Fri: 7a-8:30p
Sat: 9a-1pm
Sun: Closed

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Held at City Hall

~
City Commission
Budget Workshop
April 12 @ 9:30a

~
Planning Board
April 15 @ 4p

~
Fire Pension Board
April 18 @ 8:30a

~
Police Pension Board
April 18 @ 10:30a

~
General Pension Board
April 18 @ 1:30p

~
City Commission
April 23 @ 6p

~
Commission meetings
replay on Ch. 642 on a
continuous loop

-LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS-Friday, 10:00 am-2:00 pm - AARP Tax-Aide prepares and e-files Federal tax returns, free; this is the final day for this service; Monday, 11:00 am - Storytime Sing & Learn (ages 0-5): Start your toddlers on the road to reading and school readiness as they learn numbers, colors, and the alphabet through stories, music, and dance; Monday, 5:30 pm - Family Movie: *Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse*; Tuesday, 10:30 am - Book Discussion: *Middlesex*; Tuesday, 3:00 pm - Tech Tuesday: Any Help (no repairs, no reservation required); Wednesday, Movie Day at the Library: *Welcome to Marwen*, 2:00 pm matinee & 5:30 pm encore presentation; Thursday, 11:00 am - Jeopardy: Challenge fellow library patrons; Friday, 11:00 am - Learn to Protect Yourself Against Fraud: presented by Pinellas County Consumer Protection. St. Pete Beach Public Library: Celebrating 50 years at 365 73rd Ave.

-SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS AT ST. PETE BEACH COMMUNITY CENTER—Registration starts March 18th at the St. Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive, for full and half day summer camps. Programs are being offered for children completed kindergarten through 6th grade. Our full day camp programs will keep kids entertained all summer long with weekly field trips, swimming and indoor/outdoor activities. If your child has more specific interest we are offering half-day specialty camps such as archery, basketball, robotics and more. For more information, including registration paperwork, [visit www.spbrec.com](http://www.spbrec.com)

-UNDERWATER EGG HUNT AND EGGSTRAVAGANSA AT THE ST. PETE BEACH AQUATIC CENTER AND HORAN PARK— Dip and Dive for Easter eggs in the pool! The event will be held at the St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center and Horan Park, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr., **Saturday April 20th from 10a-12p.** The egg hunt begins at 10am, to participate be here no later than 10:30am. Stay and play in the park with Eggcellent activities like egg races, egg decorating, egg toss, egg rolling and even meet Peter Rabbit! The Underwater Egg Hunt costs \$5 per child and the Eggstravaganza is FREE to all. Children are encouraged to bring Mesh bags to gather their eggs. For more information on this event, contact the Aquatic Center at 727.363.9264 or visit www.spbrec.com

-BECOME A CERTIFIED AMERICAN RED CROSS LIFEGUARD— The St. Pete Beach Recreation Department is offering certified lifeguard training from the American Red Cross. Get the training you need to be a confident and knowledgeable lifeguard and get a great summer job! More information can be found on our website at www.spbrec.com or call us at 727.363.9245.

-MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS SAFE IN THE WATER THIS SUMMER! - St. Pete Beach Recreation is once again offering spring and summer swim lessons at the St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center. Each session consist of eight 30 minute sessions. For more information call 727-363-9245 or visit www.spbrec.com

Session I: April 8-12

Session II: April 22-May 2

Session III: May 6-16

Session IV: May 20-27



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~MESSAGE FROM THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH AND THE PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE—

Just a reminder to all the South County communities and St. Pete Beach area that vehicle burglaries continue. Please be sure and lock your car doors and take anything that is or could look valuable out of your car. Many of these thieves work in groups and target all types of different communities. Don't fall into the trap of thinking your neighborhood wouldn't be targeted for these types of crimes.

Check out the [Sheriff's website](#) for access to programs and services to learn how to protect yourself, your family and your possessions. To contact our Community Policing Officers call 727.582.5721.

~COMMUNITY INFORMATION & EVENTS~

- Sunday Market on Corey Avenue from 10a-2p
- Salute to Veterans at Horan Park Sunday April 28th from 10a-4p



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~MESSAGE FROM COMMISSIONER TERRI FINNERTY ED.D., DISTRICT 1~

Home Rule: The Florida constitution empowers citizens with the right of local self-government, or Home Rule. As the only form of voluntary government, Florida's municipalities are the embodiment of this right. A city is created by its citizens to provide additional functions and services for the particular benefit of the community. Local citizens develop a charter to specify the form, functions and power of their city government. The incorporation and city charter are approved by voters in a local referendum.

Home Rule authorizes all governmental, corporate and propriety powers necessary to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services. Home Rule is why not two cities are alike. City residents take pride in this diversity and responsibility. Strong Home Rule powers ensure that government stays close to the people it serves. Intrusion on Home Rule from the state or federal government undermines the constitutional right of citizens to govern themselves.

Well, I have returned from being in Tallahassee lobbying with our legislatures on behalf of the Florida League of Cities, Suncoast League of Cities and St. Pete Beach for the last two weeks. It appears things are changing rapidly day-to-day. While there I was able to visit with Representatives Newton, DiCeglie, Webb, Diamond, Latvala and Senators Hooper and Brandis. Four bills were discussed with each. These bills were priorities of both the Florida League of Cities and the Suncoast League of Cities. They were: (1) short term rentals; (2) micro mobility devices; (3) telecommunications infrastructure (wireless deployment); and (4) community redevelopment agencies. All active bills have passed through subcommittees and are now on their way to committees, with the last stop being the Floor.

Yesterday early afternoon I received an update from Florida League of Cities informing me the Short-Term Rental bill HB 987 and the Telecommunication Infrastructure (Wireless Deployment - 5 Gs) SB 1000 had both passed through committees. Later yesterday afternoon I received the article below written by Scott Powers entitled "Vacation Rental Bill Appears Dead from Inaction in Senate Committee". As I said, things in Tallahassee are changing moment to moment.

"Legislative efforts to pre-empt local regulations statewide of vacation rental homes may have died again this year on Wednesday as the Senate bill seeking to do so was temporarily postponed in a committee that is not scheduled to meet again.

Senate Bill 824 would pre-empt regulations and instead require vacation rental home owners to register with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, which could then regulate their uses.



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The bill got postponed Wednesday at the Senate Committee on Industry, Innovation and Technology's last scheduled meeting, meaning it's not going to be heard there. Chair **Wilton Simpson** did not offer any explanation during the meeting. The bill also was set to go before the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"It looks like it might be dead in the water," said **Dennis Hanks**, executive director of the [Florida Vacation Rental Management Association](#).

It's the third year in a row that bills with similar intentions died, though SB 824 is more clearcut than previous versions in its intentions to do away with local control of such rentals, often marketed through Airbnb, HomeAway, and other internet-based listing sites. [HB 987 has done better](#) in the House, clearing all committees, but it no longer has a live companion.

The sponsor, state Sen. **Manny Diaz**, a Republican from Hialeah, was not immediately available to comment.

Diaz's bill and HB 987 argued the cases of vacation rental homes' owners as a property rights issue, stipulating that the property owners should have the right to rent out their property for a few days at a time. They were titled as property rights' bills.

The postponement came after a key group of opponents, concerned Florida homeowners organized by Our Neighborhoods, a coalition of community leaders, child safety advocates, homeowners, parents and homeowner association presidents, rallied at the Capitol Wednesday urging the bill be killed.

"What about our rights as real homeowners and neighbors?" **Bonnie Sullivan**, an Indian Rocks Beach homeowner, asked at the Our Neighborhoods event.

She and others argued many of the same points that have been pressed for years: that too often vacation rental homes can become neighborhood nuisances and that local communities know better than the state what is going on or appropriate for their areas, and so should have rights to decide how vacation rental homes would be regulated. [Some recent polling has found Floridians agree with them.](#)



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The regulation efforts have pitted Florida's traditional hotel industry against the internet-based marketers such as Airbnb and HomeAway, and state lawmakers against cities and counties not wanting to give up their home rule control.

Hanks said relief is increasingly necessary for the tens of thousands of vacation rental home owners, and many more who would like to join them, because since the Florida Legislature opened up local regulation in 2014, some cities and counties have introduced regulations "that almost prohibit vacation rentals." The patchwork of local rules can go block-by-block, causing what he called "crazy inequality, all across the state."

He predicted that Florida may see a significant rise in litigation as property owners challenge inequality in individual cases.

"We really don't have any set of standards to run them," Hanks said."

Stay tuned. I am sure I will have much more to report next week about the bills I was in Tallahassee lobbying against.

Terri Finnerty, Ed.D
Vice Mayor
727-641-2314
tfinnerty@stpetebeach.org

THE DIRECTOR OF **FORREST GUMP**
INVITES YOU TO A MOST UNEXPECTED PLACE



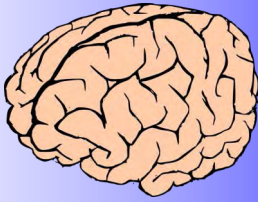
DATE: Wed, April 17

TIME: 2&5:30

**LOCATION:
St. Pete Beach Public Library**



Thursday, April 18
11:00 a.m.

Come show off that big  of yours and become
Our Jeopardy champion

St. Pete Beach Public Library
365 73Rrd Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706
727-363-9238
SPBLibrary.com



Protect Yourself Against Fraud

Presented by



Friday, April 19

11:00 a.m.

Celebrating

50

Years!

St. Pete Beach Public Library
365 73rd Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706
727-363-9238
SPBLibrary.com





Utilities
(727) 464-4000

March 2019

Important Drinking Water Notice from Pinellas County

Effective Monday, April 22, Pinellas County will begin a routine system maintenance program to optimize water quality. The water treatment method is being temporarily changed from chloramine to chlorine disinfection. The switch to chlorine will be in effect from April 22 to May 11, 2019.

The water is perfectly safe to drink during this period, though you may notice a slight difference in the taste or odor of the water.

Users of kidney dialysis machines and owners of aquatic life should not be impacted, but should contact their respective service providers for more information.

If you have questions, please visit the Pinellas County Utilities website at www.pinellascounty.org/utilities or call Customer Service at (727) 464-4000.



Water System Maintenance Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the “Water System Maintenance Program?”

This program is a temporary conversion from chloramine to chlorine disinfection and is a routine maintenance measure designed to reduce the potential for occurrences of coliform or other types of bacteria in the water delivery system.

Why is the maintenance program being conducted?

This is a planned treatment designed to provide protection to our customers against potentially harmful bacteria in the water supply. Many utilities using chloramine disinfection find it helpful to switch periodically to a free chlorine treatment program to maintain water quality. Based on water quality monitoring and sampling data, Pinellas County will perform the water system maintenance program once or twice a year.

What other benefits does the maintenance program provide?

This method of water quality maintenance is an effective alternative to flushing millions of gallons of drinking water. As a result of enhanced water quality monitoring and flushing strategies, flushing volumes continue to be reduced.

Who will be affected?

The program will include all water customers of Pinellas County as well as customers in the cities of Clearwater, Pinellas Park and Safety Harbor.

Will customers notice any changes in the water during the program?

Pinellas County water customers may experience a slight difference in the taste and/or smell of the water during this temporary change in treatment. These are normal occurrences and carry no negative health effects for the general population. The impact to the customer will be similar to that experienced when a water main is replaced or other routine maintenance is performed on the water distribution system.

Can I drink the water during this maintenance program?

Yes. The water will continue to meet federal and state standards for safe drinking water during this period. Health concerns associated with disinfection byproducts—total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids five (HAA5s) are related to long-term exposure and not short-term maintenance actions. Additional information can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, by visiting www.cdc.gov and the World Health Organization website, by visiting www.who.int.

Do I need to boil the water?

No, boiling the water is not necessary.

Will the program affect dialysis patients?

Users of kidney dialysis machines should not be impacted, but should contact their dialysis care provider for more information about water testing and precautions regarding chlorine removal. Chlorine, like chloramine, is fatal if it enters the bloodstream during the hemodialysis process.

As a result, strict water purification standards are already followed by the kidney dialysis industry as established by the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation.

Will the chlorine affect aquatic life?

The temporary change to chlorine should not affect fish owners if a system is already in place to remove chloramine. Those with questions should contact their local pet suppliers.

Why do we flush the water distribution system?

Having a written flushing plan is a regulatory requirement, however, Pinellas County Utilities has always employed flushing as one of the methods for keeping water quality at its best. Flushing the water mains improves water quality by removing sediment in the pipes and by eliminating stagnant water found in dead-end pipes in various locations throughout the system.

What if I have a water softener or any other type of water treatment device?

Residents with any type of water treatment devices should follow the manufacturer's specifications.

When will the program be conducted?

The first maintenance program of 2019 is scheduled to take place from **April 22nd through May 11th**. The second maintenance program for 2019 is scheduled to take place from **September 23rd through October 12th**. If there are any changes in the duration, customers will be notified through a news release and on www.pinellascounty.org/utilities.

If I have questions, how can I find more information?

For more information, please visit www.pinellascounty.org/utilities or contact Pinellas County Utilities Customer Service at (727) 464-4000 or your water service provider.