



St. Pete Beach eNews

The Official Electronic Newsletter of St. Pete Beach

August 22, 2014

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Community Garage Sale
Sept. 27th
Community Center
7701 Boca Ciega Dr.

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Before & After Childcare
Registration is on-going
See article or call 363-9245

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POOL INFORMATION

Water temp. always 82°!

HOURS

Adult Lap Swim
Monday-Friday
7a-10a

M-Th 11a-4p (1 lane)
6-7p (3 lanes)
Fri. 11a-6p

Open Swim
Mon.-Fri.
10-11a

(Activity Pool Area Only)
M-Th 11a-4p, Fri 11a-6p

Sat. 10a-3p
Sun. 12-3p

Water Aerobics
Tues./Wed./Thurs.
10:15-11am

\$5 SPB Res./\$6 Non-Res.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Held at City Hall

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City Commission
Budget workshops
Aug. 25 9am

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City Commission
Regular meeting
WED. Aug. 27 6pm

-LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS- Monday, 5:30 pm, An Evening at the Movies, Mister Roberts; Tuesday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm, Pinellas County Healthcare Navigator information table; Tuesday, 10:30 am, Book Discussion Group film, The Power and the Glory; Thursday, 11:00 am, Mother Goose Time for ages 0-3 (weather); Thursday, 4:00 pm, I Want to Be a Skeeter Reader, skill building for beginning readers.

-BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE REGISTRATION IS ON-GOING - Before School care is for Gulf Beaches Elementary only Kindergarten- Fifth Grade, the program is licensed by the Pinellas County Licensing Board and includes activity and breakfast. Transportation is provided to Gulf Beaches Elementary. License #52-51-1420819. Hours are Mon-Fri: 6:30 am - Start of school, Fee: \$25.00 per week or \$90.00 per month (if pre-paid); Sibling discounts available.

After School Program is for Kindergarten- Fifth Grade. The program is licensed by the Pinellas County Licensing Board and includes homework time, snack, sports, crafts, games, and more. Transportation is provided from Azalea Elementary, Pasadena Fundamental Elementary and Gulf Beaches Elementary. License #52-51-1420819. Hours are Mon-Fri: Afterschool ends until 6:00 pm, Fee: \$45.00 per week or \$150.00 per month (if pre-paid); Sibling discounts available. All the information needed can be found at this link: <http://www.spbrec.com/recreational-programs/youth-teen/>, look under the Licensed After School Program tab.

-COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE TABLES are on sale for the Sept 27th garage sale. Go by the Recreation Office at 7701 Boca Ciega Drive or call 363-9245 for more information or to reserve your table.

-BEACH NOURISHMENT is taking place in the Upham Beach area. Click [here](#) for all the latest information from Pinellas County .

-YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE - Sign up is going on now at the Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Drive for kids K - 8th grade, fee \$75. Games will be held on Saturdays starting Oct. 4th.

-RED TIDE UPDATE - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission reports that the 90-mile long and 60-mile wide patchy bloom of Red Tide remains offshore, hasn't reached any beaches and is still moving parallel to the coast, albeit very slowly. According to updated FWC forecasting models, there is still no timetable on when, where---or even if---landfall could happen given the number of variables (most notably wind and water currents). Florida Red Tide is a naturally occurring algae in the Gulf of Mexico and has been traced back to the 1500s. It occurs most years, but a bloom happens whenever there is a higher-than-normal concentration of the algae. Consistent with previous weeks, we'll get an update Friday from [FWC's Red Tide report](#), which maps the bloom and is released every Friday. Another good source of updated info is the [MOTE Marine Laboratory & Aquarium's reporting system](#), which publishes the results from 36 water testing sites around the state, including Caladesi Island and Fort De Soto Park.

The City of St Pete Beach is working on a contingency plan to respond in the event of a Red Tide coming ashore. The plan will ensure that our beaches are cleaned and debris is removed from the shores in a timely manner.

City Commission meetings
replay on Ch. 615 on Thurs-
days at 6 pm and Saturdays
at noon



RED TIDE

TOP 10 RED TIDE FACTS:

1. In Florida, red tide is caused by a microscopic alga (a plant-like microorganism) called *Karenia brevis* or *K. brevis*.
2. The organism produces a toxin that can affect the central nervous system of fish, birds, mammals and other animals.
3. At high concentrations (called blooms), the organism may discolor the water – sometimes red, light or dark green, brown or clear.
4. Red tides or Harmful Algal Blooms occur worldwide. *K. brevis* is found almost exclusively in the Gulf of Mexico but has been found on the east coast of Florida and off the coast of North Carolina.
5. Red tide blooms can last days, weeks or months and can also change daily due to wind conditions. Onshore winds normally bring it near the shore and offshore winds drive it out to sea.
6. Red tide was first officially recorded in Florida in 1844.
7. A red tide bloom needs biology (the organisms), chemistry (natural or man-made nutrients for growth), physics (concentrating and transport mechanisms). No one factor causes it. Tests are being conducted to see if coastal nutrients enhance or prolong blooms.
8. Report fish kills to FWRI at 1-800-636-0511. Check current red tide status information by county at www.floridamarine.org.
9. To learn more about human health effects and Beach Conditions Reporting, please visit www.mote.org/beaches. To learn more about Red Tide, go to www.start1.com or www.redtideonline.com.
10. Red Tide Health Hotline is a FREE, 24/7 service staffed by medical professionals, 1-888-232-8635.



07/06

RED TIDE & YOUR PETS

- If your pet swims in a red tide patch at the beach, a thorough freshwater rinse as soon as possible is essential. Most dogs lick themselves after swimming and they will consume any toxin/organisms on their fur.
- Don't let your pet play in any sea foam - the foam has been shown to be 10X more toxic than water.
- If your pet has asthma, do not take him to the beach when red tide toxins are in the air. How do you know if it's in the air? Go to www.mote.org/beaches or call 941-BEACHES.
- If your animal is acting differently
 - experiences a seizure
 - is clumsy
 - has diarrhea
 - is shaking
 - loses his balance
 - appears confused
 - seems to not be able to see

Seek veterinary care immediately. Red tide toxins can sometimes cause neurological symptoms.

- If you live near the water and your dog or cat has asthma, be vigilant about giving daily medication (in consultation with your veterinarian) during red tide.
- Do not let your dog or cat eat or play with dead fish. The toxins accumulate in the viscera (guts) and are very resistant to cooking and freezing.
- Birds - if you live near the water and your bird lives outside on a lanai or porch, consider bringing him inside to air conditioning. Depending on wind speed and direction, the toxins can travel at least 1 mile inland.