

SUNSHINE LINES

Beautiful News From Bay to Beach



City Budget Discussions Open to the Public

The city manager's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016/17 has been released. The first public hearing to adopt the tentative budget and millage rate is Sept. 15 at 6 p.m., and the second public hearing to adopt the final budget and millage rate is Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. The meetings will be in Council Chambers at City Hall, 112 S. Osceola Ave., and the public will be able to comment on the budget. The tentative millage rate of 5.1550 mills is the same as the current rate. To view the proposed budget, visit myclearwater.com.

Become a Recreation Card Plus Member For Less Than \$10 Per Month

You can now access Clearwater recreation centers for a low monthly price. For less than \$10 per month, a resident can enjoy use of all fitness centers, pools, gymnasiums and more. Non-residents can enjoy all those benefits as well for less than \$25 a month.

"We wanted people to be able to purchase a recreation card or recreation plus card without having to pay the full amount upfront," said Jason Beisel, public information coordinator for the city of Clearwater. "Installment billing allows them to make affordable payments throughout the year."

With a recreation card or recreation plus card, you can enjoy six recreation centers (Long Center, Countryside, North Greenwood, Ross Norton, Clearwater Beach and Morningside Pool), which include five swimming pools, 22 basketball courts, four volleyball courts and a variety of other options. The Long Center's indoor Olympic-size swimming pool is the biggest in the state, and swimmers are able to use the pool year-round.

Clearwater residents can obtain a recreation card by completing an application at any recreation center and showing two proofs of residency, such as a utility bill, voter identification card, tax receipt or rent slip. Recreation cards can also be purchased for those living outside Clearwater. Get all the information you need by visiting myclearwater.com.

Labor Day: City Offices to Close

City offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of Labor Day. The Solid Waste/Recycling Department will operate as usual, and the collection schedule will not change. If you have questions, call (727) 562-4920.



Clearwater's After-Care Program Provides a Safe, Fun-Filled Environment For Children

Clearwater Parks & Recreation centers are some of the coolest places to hang out and have fun after school. The city's after-care program provides a safe, fun and active environment for children in grades K-5th. Those who attend the after-care program will play fun games, make awesome crafts, do fitness activities, get help with homework and meet new friends. The program is Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. and is limited to 25 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. Those attending must also provide their own transportation. The cost for the after-care program is \$80 per month with a recreation card and \$88 per month without one.

Water Maintenance Program Resumes

The city of Clearwater and Pinellas County will conduct routine maintenance on the water system from Sept. 6-26. The method of water treatment will be temporarily changed from chloramines to chlorine disinfection in order to optimize water quality. The first segment began in May and ended in June.

Some residents may notice a slight difference in the taste or odor of their drinking water. Although the disinfectant is slightly more noticeable, the water is perfectly safe to drink. Residents and businesses with kidney dialysis machines and tropical aquatic life tanks should not be affected, but should contact their respective industries with questions about this temporary change. Call the Public Utilities Department at (727) 562-4960 with questions.

Clearwater Happenings

Bright House 2016 Clearwater Super Boat National Championship

Friday to Sunday, Sept. 30 to Oct. 2

Cleveland Street, Coachman Park and Clearwater Beach

This offshore powerboat race will feature some of the fastest powerboats in the world competing for the title of national champion. The boats will race from Pier 60 north for about a half-mile and back, doing laps around the loop. The races are free and open to the public. Those wanting a closer view can pay between \$5 and \$20 for a spot on Pier 60, which offers amazing views of the race.



A Reminder about Yard Waste, Trash and Bulk Items

- Items for collection should be placed out at the curb no earlier than 24 hours in advance of a scheduled pickup (Ord. No. 8025-09).
- Please do not place any yard waste in city-issued black or blue barrels. Loose yard waste should be placed in a bag or container other than the city-issued barrels and set at the curb by 7 a.m. on your collection day, separate from other trash.
- Single articles such as palm fronds, tree branches and limbs shall be cut or broken into pieces. Those articles should be less than 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet long, and they shall be stacked at curbside for collection, separate from other trash.
- A reminder to residents who use professional lawn services, tree surgeons and other such contractors: Clearwater ordinance states that it is the responsibility of these contractors to remove from the premises all residue and rubbish resulting from their work.

For more information, call the Solid Waste Department at (727) 562-4920.

Clearwater Library Celebrates 100 Years!

The Clearwater Public Library System will celebrate its 100th birthday in September with a week of centennial celebrations. Each branch location will host a party during the week-long celebration:

- Beach Library: Monday, Sept. 12, 2 p.m.
- North Greenwood Library: Tuesday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m.
- East Library: Wednesday, Sept. 14, 4 p.m.
- Countryside Library: Thursday, Sept. 15, 11 a.m.
- Main Library: Saturday, Sept. 17, noon

For more information, call (727) 562-4970 or visit myclearwater.com/cpl.

Safe Storage During Storm Season

As temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico heat up, be sure to properly safeguard chemicals in your home and storage spaces during hurricane season. During tropical storm events, waters can flow into garages, sheds, kitchens and bathrooms where families usually store chemicals such as fertilizers, paints, automotive fluids, pesticides and cleaners. Elevating such dangerous chemicals onto shelves, for example, can keep them from getting introduced into the environment during a storm.

Rid your home of chemicals you no longer use. Residents can take them to the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center, operated by Pinellas County Utilities at 2990 110th Ave. N., St. Petersburg. Don't mix chemicals, and transport them in cardboard boxes in your trunk. The HEC3 Center cannot accept automotive/marine batteries, biological/infectious waste, empty paint cans, explosives, fire extinguishers, propane tanks, radioactive waste or smoke detectors. Call (727) 464-7500 for more information.

Save Even More On Tankless Water Heaters

Did you know you might be able to qualify for federal tax incentives to offset the purchase costs of a new gas tankless water heater for your home? The performance and efficiency of a gas water heater already make them a smart, economical choice; now discover how much more you can save by using tankless technology. For a limited time, you can save up to \$800 when replacing your residential gas water heater with a tankless unit. For complete details, call Clearwater Gas System at (727) 562-4980, ext. 7454.



CLEARWATER
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myclearwater.com



Para información en español, llame al (727) 562-4682.
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