

# CityScape

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## Effects of Hurricane Irma on Safety Harbor's Tree Canopy

by: Art Finn, City Arborist

On September 10, Hurricane Irma rolled through our area. In my opinion, the storm was nature pruning the trees of poorly attached branches, thinning the canopy, removing diseased trees, removing weak wooded tropical and exotic invasive trees that were improperly pruned in the past. The city's tree canopy was largely left intact because of the majority of high-wind resistant live oak trees.

The City lost power during the storm from downed power lines caused mainly from the failure of chinaberry trees and other weak wooded tropical trees. Please, remove or trim these trees that target powerlines and homes. These trees do not require a tree removal permit.

We also learned that trees that were improperly pruned had many branch failures, and in some cases, caused tree failure. When pruning your trees, retain the trees' lower branches and most of the branch sprouts in the tree canopy for high wind resistance. Branch sprouts thicken the main branches, and when a branch gets too long, there is a branch to cut back too.

Do remove diseased trees and trim away large deadwood and branches with decay over the roof. Trees do not need a lot of trimming. Have a certified arborist check your trees to see if you need a permit for removal. The city arborist will come out for free for a tree inspection. Call or email for an appointment at 727-724-1555 ex. 1303 or by email at [afinn@cityofsafetyharbor.com](mailto:afinn@cityofsafetyharbor.com)

## Walkability Audits Result in Pedestrian Improvements

by: Marcie Stenmark, Community Development Director

At their goal setting session on March 30, 2017, the City Commission approved a walkability audit pilot project and entered into a contract with Forward Pinellas to lead the audit. Twenty five people, including residents, City Commissioners, Planning and Zoning Board members, and staff from several agencies participated. A training was held on Thursday, October 12, and the audit and summary session were held on Sunday, October 15. One group walked from Marshall Street Park to City Hall and one group walked from the intersection of SR 590 and McMullen Booth Road to City Hall. Along the walk, participants noted pedestrian facilities that worked well or needed improvement.



Forward Pinellas staff presented the summary report to the City Commission on November 20, 2017. A link is below:

<http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com/DocumentCenter/View/11315>

The City Commission discussed a draft list of pedestrian and parking signage improvements on February 5, 2018. Several improvements were completed or are scheduled to be complete this year, including:

- Enhanced public downtown parking signage and new downtown parking web page
- Sidewalk repairs in numerous locations
- New sidewalk on 10th Ave. S.
- Shade tree planting on 9th Avenue N.
- Restriping and striping of stop bars north and south of Main Street
- Bicycling and walking route maps

Staff has also been coordinating with other jurisdictions that maintain streets within Safety Harbor regarding pedestrian facility improvements. As a result of these discussions, high visibility pedestrian crosswalks are being installed by Pinellas County on Enterprise Road near the entrance to Harbor Woods and by the City of Clearwater on S. Bayshore Drive south of the Alligator Lake bridge.

Safety Harbor was the first community to conduct a walkability audit with Forward Pinellas and other cities in Pinellas County are scheduling audits. The City wishes to thank Forward Pinellas staff for their expertise and assistance with the walkability audit, which resulted in numerous improvements and provided a valuable tool for the community to evaluate pedestrian facilities.

For more information, contact Marcie Stenmark at [mstenmark@cityofsafetyharbor.com](mailto:mstenmark@cityofsafetyharbor.com).

## **Non-Profit Volunteer Fair Set for May 23, 2018**

**by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director**

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities but don't know where to start? The public is invited to attend a City-Wide Volunteer Fair, on Wednesday, May 23, 5:30 to 8:00 PM at the Safety Harbor Public Library. Residents will have the opportunity to meet with over 20 local non-profits to learn about volunteer opportunities inside and outside the City.

Interested non-profit organizations looking to recruit volunteers and promote their organizations can reserve a table, space permitting, by emailing [lkoth@cityofsafetyharbor.com](mailto:lkoth@cityofsafetyharbor.com). A six foot table and chairs are provided. Groups must provide their own tablecloths, information, and other items to promote their organization. There is no charge to participate.



This event is sponsored by the City of Safety Harbor and the Safety Harbor Chamber of Commerce. The Library is located at 101 2nd Street North.

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## **Recycling Update**

**by: Renee Cooper, Assistant Public Works Director**

The way the City of Safety Harbor's Public Works Department handles the recyclables that it collects from Safety Harbor residents will change temporarily. Services and collection days will not be affected and residents are encouraged to continue recycling efforts. Safety Harbor partners with the City of Clearwater and utilizes Clearwater's transfer station for disposal of recyclable materials. There was a fire at the Tampa Bay facility that the City of Clearwater sends its collected recyclables to for processing. Damages at the facility were extensive, and it cannot receive recycled materials for four to six weeks.

As alternative recovery facilities are sought to process recyclables, it is possible that Public Works may have to send city recyclables to the Pinellas Waste-to-Energy Plant. While recycling is always the city's preferred method of waste processing, sending waste to be used in the county's Waste-to-Energy Plant is another beneficial option—as the plant burns 90 percent of its waste received in order to provide power to 40,000 local homes each day. The plant also recovers all aluminum and metal from burned waste, sending these materials to be recycled. Recyclables will be sent back to the Tampa Bay processing facility as soon as it resumes normal operations.

Residents with questions should call City of Safety Harbor Public Works Department, (727) 724-1550.

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## **Mayor's Tree Plant Challenge**



Mayor Ayoub has challenged city residents, businesses and non-profit groups to accept his Tree Plant Challenge. There are several ways you can participate. As a resident and homeowner, you can work with the city to plant new trees on your property and/or street trees near the sidewalk and road. As a neighborhood, you can work together to plan a larger project in common space or on a street in your neighborhood. Non-profits and private organizations can get creative on tree planting projects and initiatives. Whatever you are doing we want to hear from you. Please email your tree planting successes and nominations (deadline September 1st) for Mayor Joe Ayoub's Tree Challenge Award to [MayorsTreeChallenge@cityofsafetyharbor.com](mailto:MayorsTreeChallenge@cityofsafetyharbor.com).

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## **Yard Waste Collection Reminders**

**by: Sherri Kennedy, Sanitation Manager**

Since Safety Harbor's Spring Clean-up amnesty months have ended, please remember to prepare your yard waste in arm size manageable bundles or placed in 32-gallon trash cans out by 6:30am on Wednesday's for collection. Yard waste must be placed in the right of way, clear of any poles, wires, storm drains or fire hydrants.



# Harbor Happenings



[www.SafetyHarborEvents.com](http://www.SafetyHarborEvents.com)

## May

### City Meetings

*All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted*

- 7** City Commission, 7pm
- 8** Library Advisory Committee (Library), 7pm
- 9** Board of Appeals, 6:30pm
- 9** Planning and Zoning Board, 6:30pm
- 10** Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30pm
- 16** Code Enforcement Board, 7pm
- 23** City Commission - Workshop, 6pm
- 23** City Commission, 7pm
- 28** *All City Facilities Closed - Memorial Day*

### Special Events

- 5** Bouchard Insurance 5K (Marina), 7am
- 5** Bike Rodeo (Youth Ranch), 9am
- 12** Paddle the Bay (Waterfront Pk.), 7am
- 18** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Music Series (Main St.), 6pm
- Sundays** Market on Main (Gazebo), 10am

### Library

*All Events @ Safety Harbor Library*

- 1** Pokemon Club (Ages 5-12), 4:30pm
- 1** Teen Marker Mania (Grades 6-12), 6pm
- 2** Preschool Story Time, 10:30am
- 2** ESOL Conversation Club, 4:30pm
- 3** Anime Club (Grades 6-12), 5-7pm
- 3** TLAB Summer Planning (Grades 9-12), 5pm
- 3** Getting Started with Your Novel Author Talk with Steve Kistulentz, 6:30pm
- 4** Baby & Me Story Time, 10am
- 4** Summer Fun Club, 1pm, registration required
- 4** Star Wars Day: May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You Teen Movie *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (PG-13, 2017), 3pm
- 5** Moogician: Cowmedy, Magic, and Moosic, 2pm
- 8** SCORE Small Business Counseling, 10am
- 9** ESOL Conversation Club, 4:30pm
- 11** CoderDojo, 5:30pm, registration required
- 14** Garfield Party, 2pm
- 15** Books & Bagels, 10:30am
- 17** Vietnamese Cooking, 6:30pm
- 18** AARP Driver Safety Course, 10am
- 20** Heart & Soul Cinema, 1:30pm
- 20** Paws for Friendship (Family), 2pm
- 21** Words & Wine Book Club at Whistle Stop Cafe, 6:30pm
- 22** SCORE Small Business Counseling, 10am
- 22** Advanced Ukulele, 6:30pm
- 31** Japanese Origami Stories, 6pm

## June

### City Meetings

*All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise noted*

- 4** City Commission - Budget Workshop, 6pm
- 4** City Commission, 7pm
- 13** Board of Appeals, 6:30pm
- 13** Planning and Zoning Board, 6:30pm
- 14** Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30pm
- 16** City Commission, 7pm
- 20** Code Enforcement Board, 7pm

### Special Events

- 2** Best Damn Leftover 5K (Marina), 8am
- 9** Family Fitness Day (Waterfront Pk.), 9am
- 15** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Music Series (Main St.), 6pm
- Sundays** Market on Main (Gazebo), 10am

### Library

*All Events @ Safety Harbor Library*

- 2** Summer Reading Kick-Off Party with Tampa Taiko Drumming, 2pm
- 4** Adult Summer Reading Begins
- 5** Katie Adams- American Tall Tales, Songs, & Storytelling, 1pm
- 5** Pokemon Club, 4:30pm
- 5** Teen Marker Mania (Grades 6-12), 6pm
- 6** Teen Rock Painting (Grades 9-12), 6pm
- 7** Tween Art Explore, 2:30pm
- 9** Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9am-3pm
- 12** SCORE Small Business Counseling, 10am
- 12** Fritzy Brothers One Man Circus, 12pm
- 13** Tween Karaoke (Ages 9-12), 5:30pm
- 14** Children's Movie *Paddington Bear 2*, 10:30am
- 14** Teen Fandom (Grades 6-12), 5pm
- 15** Make-N-Take Father's Day Craft (Ages 12 & Under) 10am
- 17** Heart & Soul Cinema, 1:30pm
- 18** Words & Wine Book Club at Whistle Stop Cafe, 6:30pm
- 19** Mad Science- Sounds Like Science, 1pm
- 19** Teen Open Mic Poetry (Grades 9-12), 6pm
- 20** Tween Cookbook Club (Ages 9-12), 5:30pm
- 23** Book-a-Trip: Culture & Crafts for Kids – Polynesia, 11am
- 26** SCORE Small Business Counseling, 10am
- 26** Pirate Krewe Extravaganza, 1pm
- 26** Strum & Sing Jam, 6:30pm
- 27** Tween Craft-Tie Dye Weather Permitting (Ages 9-12), 5:30pm
- 28** Wee Discoveries (Ages 5 & under), 11am
- 28** Teen Movie (Grades 6-12), 5pm
- 28** Jeff Klinkenberg – Son of Real Florida, 6:30pm

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring at the Library, afternoon and weekend appointments available.**

## ***CityScape***

CityScape is a publication of the City of Safety Harbor. For the latest updates on these and other stories visit us online at [www.cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com).

## ***City Officials***

Joe Ayoub, Mayor  
Carlos Diaz, Vice Mayor  
Nancy Besore, Commissioner  
Cliff Merz, Commissioner  
Andy Zodrow, Commissioner  
Matthew Spoor, City Manager

## ***City Directory***

City Hall: 727-724-1555  
Community Center: 727-724-1530  
Fire Station #52: 727-724-1520  
Fire Station #53: 727-724-1536  
Library: 727-724-1525  
Museum & Cultural Ctr.: 727-724-1562  
Public Works: 727-724-1550  
Rigsby Recreation Center: 727-724-1545

## **City of SAFETY HARBOR**

*Home of the Mineral Springs*



750 Main Street  
Safety Harbor Florida

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(727) 724-1555  
[www.cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com)

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## **Flood Zone Information**

The City of Safety Harbor is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program/Community Rating System (NFIP/CRS). We offer FEMA flood map determinations on property located in the city. Elevation certificates, if available, may be obtained through the Building Department. For more information regarding this program, please contact the City of Safety Harbor at 727-724-1555.

## **Help clean-up Safety Harbor's curbside recycling problem.**



Once a week, the City collects recycling for City residents and businesses. Our goal is to keep recycling easy for the residents in order to keep increasing participation levels, keep the contamination level low, and prevent hauling to the landfill.

These are the things you can do to help prevent contamination in your recycling containers:

- 1. Do not place any plastic grocery style bags or "tanglers" in the recycling.**
- 2. Look for recycling labels on packaging to help identify whether it is recyclable or not.**
- 3. Empty and rinse all containers.**
- 4. Don't forget to recycle items from all rooms in the house - e.g. shampoo bottles from the bathroom.**
- 5. If in doubt, check the City website or call Public Works before disposing of any goods in the recycling container.**

Improper recycling can cause accident or injuries to our employees along with possible processing delays, hazardous working conditions, and damage to the processing facility. Let's do our best to help keep Safety Harbor beautiful and our recycling contaminant free.

## **SAFETY HARBOR SUPER SUMMER**

727-724-1530  
[safetyharborcamps.com](http://safetyharborcamps.com)

