

CityScape

photo by: Kevin Moore

www.CityofSafetyHarbor.com

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SAFETY HARBOR RECOGNIZES CITY COMMISSION TENURE *by: Matt Spoor, City Manager*



Front Row L to R: Nancy Besore, Joe Ayoub, Cliff Merz
Back Row L to R: Andy Steingold, Carlos Diaz

The Safety Harbor Commission has five members consisting of a Mayor and four City Commissioners elected at large to numbered seats on a non-partisan basis. The Mayor appoints a Vice-Mayor annually. Typically, the Mayor is recognized as the political head of the municipality and is a member of the legislative body. Safety Harbor operates under a Commission-Manager form of government meaning the Commission sets the policy direction and the City Manager and Department Directors facilitate their vision while overseeing and directing the day-to-day operations of the City.

At Safety Harbor, we are fortunate to have over 55 years of combined elected leadership experience with Mayor Ayoub (13 yrs.), Vice-Mayor Steingold (12 yrs.), Commissioner Merz (11 yrs.), Commissioner Besore (10 yrs.), and Commissioner Diaz (9 yrs.). All five City Commissioners have served as Vice Mayor during their tenure and both Mayor Ayoub and Vice-Mayor Steingold have served as Mayor.

Thank you to our elected leaders for your dedication and service to the citizens of Safety Harbor!

RECYCLING - WHERE DOES IT GO? *by: Renee Cooper, Public Works Director*



Residents of the City of Safety Harbor currently receive once-a-week curbside recycling services as a part of their monthly sanitation service fees. These services are provided by the City's Public Works Department, Sanitation Division (current staff of 14). Until 2006, the City had contracted with a private recycling service hauler to provide curbside services. Once the City began self-performing curbside recycling services, the recycled materials were hauled to the City of Clearwater's transfer station until recently.

The City recycles approximately 125 tons of materials per month. In 2020, the City participated in a countywide recyclable composition study completed by Pinellas County Solid Waste. Municipal single stream recycling was found at just over 80 percent acceptable material (20 percent contaminated). Contaminants included textiles, household items, construction and demolition debris, food waste, non-recyclable paper and plastics, and bagged goods. The City of Safety Harbor results were 82.2% recyclable and 17.8% contaminated. Help keep recycling clean and uncontaminated by keeping food waste, yard waste, and other non-recyclables out of the recycling containers. Contaminated recycling loads must be disposed of as garbage. Refer to the 2023 Recycling Guide and on-line search tool to ensure your item is recyclable: <https://pinellas.gov/news/2023-recycle-guide-now-available/>.

In light of the news surrounding the City of Clearwater's handling of recyclable materials in January 2023, City staff began speaking with local recycling processors. The City began hauling our recycled materials to Recycling Services of Florida, Inc., located in Clearwater, at the end of March, 2023. Recycling Services of Florida, Inc., holds a Florida Department of Environmental Protection Recovered Materials Dealer Certification and processes, markets, and distributes recycled materials worldwide. The City continues to support recycling and the environmental benefits of recycling programs.

Questions?
Contact Public Works:
724-1550 x 2002



Quarterly Clean-Up Schedule
June 12 – 14: Hurricane Prep Clean-up
for more details: CityofSafetyHarbor.com/sanitation



WHAT'S
INSIDE

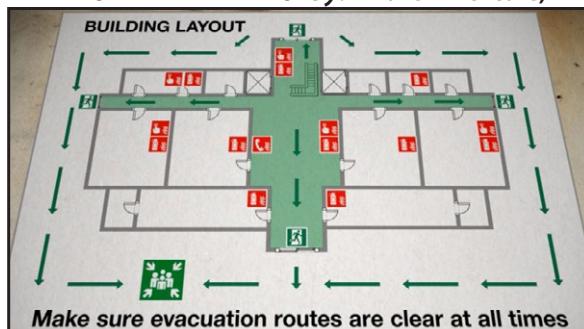
CITYWIDE
pages 2 & 3

LIBRARY
pages 4 & 5

RECREATION
pages 6 & 7

AROUND SAFETY HARBOR

FIRE SAFETY TIPS *by: Andrew Portale, Firefighter/Paramedic*



Summer is quickly approaching, which means it's nearly time for that well-deserved vacation with family or friends. If you are like most people, the last thing on your mind after clocking out is fire safety at your destination. Unfortunately, the risk of hotel/motel fires is all too real, which was made evident by a recent 2nd-alarm fire in downtown Safety Harbor. Thanks to aggressive firefighting tactics and never-ending fire prevention efforts, Safety Harbor Fire Department and neighboring agencies were able to isolate and stabilize the incident. Please let us take one more thing off your plate and offer a few lodging-related fire safety tips to ensure a safe travel experience.

When staying in a hotel/motel, always maintain situational awareness. Does your lodging arrangement come with a sprinkler system and hard-wired smoke detectors? While this life-saving feature is beyond your control, there are certainly safety considerations everyone can consider. As you locate your room, identify the fire alarms on your floor and at least two exits from your room. Another pre-emptive measure includes counting the number of doors from the exit to your room to ensure an expeditious evacuation. Once in your room, take a quick moment to familiarize yourself with the evacuation plan on the back of the entrance. In the rare event of a fire alarm, please evacuate immediately, closing doors behind you to slow potential fire progression. If it is unsafe to leave the room, turn off your HVAC system, stuff damp towels under your door, and immediately call 911 to notify emergency services of your location.

Everyone at Safety Harbor Fire Department wishes you safe travels during your next voyage.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK *by: Terri Kearnes, Human Resource Director*

Public Service Recognition Week is celebrated each year in May to honor the people who serve our nation as federal, state, local, and tribal government employees. This year, the recognition is May 7 – 13, 2023, and the City of Safety Harbor is joining in. To kick off the week, we asked City Manager Matt Spoor a few questions:

Why did you choose a career in public service?

“You don’t choose the wand, the wand chooses you!” Growing up I swam competitively and one of my first jobs was lifeguard and swim instructor at a city pool. A few years later I went off to college and majored in Accounting at Florida State University. Like most students in college I changed my major to Leisure Services Administration as I felt a strong sense to work in government, bettering communities around me. No different than helping a child or adult learn how to swim and better themselves. After graduating FSU I moved back to Pinellas County and started working for local governments while pursuing my MBA from the University of South Florida. It was during this time that I learned more about the various roles of city management, that curiosity continues today. I like to think the profession chose me!

What issues facing the City keep you awake at night?

The cities long term financial health and quality improvements to city services. I believe we can and should strive to do better, nothing is perfect or complete. In this position I get to hear many different issues and concerns facing our residents, businesses, employees, etc. If we tried to solve all the issues in one day we wouldn’t have enough financial resources to do so and we would likely lose our minds trying! We must constantly remind ourselves that if we as individuals and as a city can improve by 1% each day, our future is extremely bright!



City Manager Matt Spoor

Why do you serve?

I serve because of the people, all of them! Residents, business owners, employees, neighboring government entities, outside organizations we work with, etc. I enjoy working with people to solve problems. YES, I even enjoy working with people who don’t agree with me or flatly don’t care for the role of local government officials. The bigger the challenge the more rewarding it is to work together to find a solution. I have a strong internal compass and fully understand we cannot make everyone happy or solve every issue, but we can try to find common ground and work towards a better community. When needed, we can professionally agree to disagree so long as we work to educate each other along the way.

To join in the celebration, follow the City of Safety Harbor on Facebook and Instagram and learn more about the people who serve the Safety Harbor community.

HARBOR HAPPENINGS

MAY

CITY MEETINGS

Check cityofsafetyharbor.com for meeting locations

- 1 City Commission, 7PM
- 9 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
- 10 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30PM
- 11 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30PM
- 15 City Commission, 7PM
- 17 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30PM
- 18 Firefighters' Pension Board, 9AM
- 18 Diversity Advisory Board, 6PM
- 29 *All City Facilities Closed - Memorial Day*
Trash Collection will happen as usual

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 5 1st Friday Flicks (Waterfront Park), 8PM
- 13 Hippie Dash (Marina), 6:30AM
- 19 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10PM
- 27 Best Damn Leftover 5K (Marina), 7:15AM

JUNE

CITY MEETINGS

Check cityofsafetyharbor.com for meeting locations

- 5 City Commission, 7PM
- 8 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30PM
- 13 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
- 14 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30PM
- 19 City Commission, 7PM
- 21 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 3 Free Life Jacket Event (Fire Station 52), 9:30-11:30AM
- 3 Kick in the Grass Kickball Tournament (City Park), 9AM-9PM
- 16 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10PM

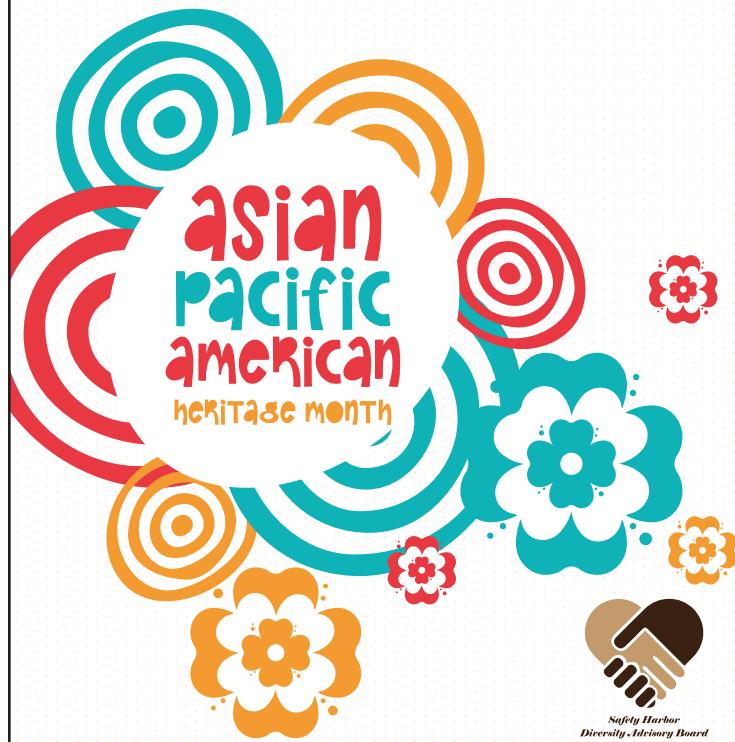
Market on Main

Sundays ↗ 10AM - 3PM ↗ Gazebo on Main Street

Looking for a job? Visit cityofsafetyharbor.com/662/employment to check out open positions and to apply. On the job training and schooling is available for certain positions. Please call 727-724-1555 x1401 with questions or assistance in applying.

City of Safety Harbor

Celebrates Diversity



City of Safety Harbor

Celebrates Diversity

JUNE IS...

**PRIDE
MONTH**



SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

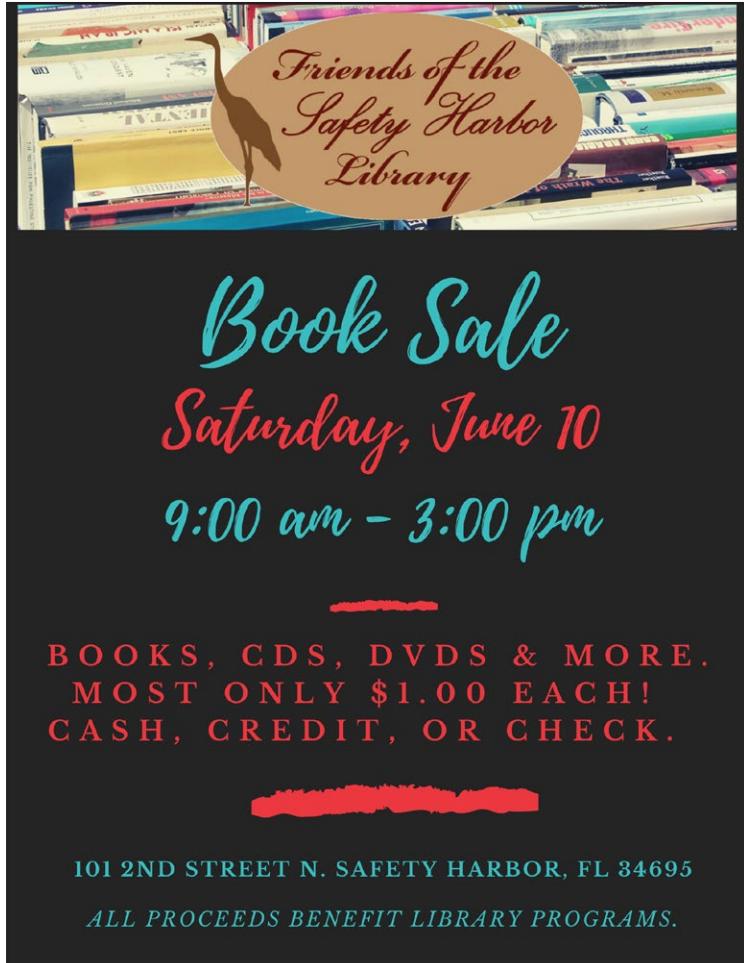
ACHIEVING THE AMERICAN DREAM AT THE LIBRARY

by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director



Every Wednesday morning conversations are buzzing in ESOL Conversation Class with enthusiastic students practicing English with other non-native speakers. Together they brush up on conversational skills learning the nuances of our complicated language. Since 2010, in conjunction with the Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas (LCUP), the library has offered one-on-one ESOL tutoring and classes. Under the direction of Safety Harbor residents, Maryann Brennan, ESOL Program Coordinator and tutors like Shelly Rasico, students are successfully learning English and studying for their citizenship test. After their morning Conversation Class is complete, students opt to stay for the Citizenship Class where naturalization and citizenship processes are discussed, along with test preparation. Recently, one student achieved her dream of becoming a United States citizen and four others are in the process. LCUP provides N-400 grant application assistance for ESOL students.

ESOL tutors are always needed. No experience teaching is needed, but good command of English language and grammar required. Training is available through LCUP with continuous support to learn strategies to teach reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Visit: LCUP.net for more information on training or contact the Library's Answer Desk for information: 727-724-1525 x4112 or shplre@cityofsafetyharbor.com to complete an application and make a difference in someone's life by becoming a volunteer tutor.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Story Tots: (Ages 19 months to 4 years) Wednesdays May 3,10 & June 7,14,21 at 10:30 am.
- Baby & Me Story Time: (Ages 18 months and under) Thursdays, May 4,11 & June 8, 15,22,29
- Ukulele Sing-Along in the Art Park: (Family) Saturday, 5/13 at 10:30 am.
- *STREAM TEAM: (Ages 4-8) Mondays, June 12,19,26 at 2:00-3:00pm
- Pete The Cat Story Time Party: (Ages 5 & under) Wednesday, 6/14 at 11:00 am.
- Terrific Tuesday- Fritz Brothers One Man Circus: (Ages 12 & under) Tuesday, June 6 at 11:00 AM.
- Terrific Tuesday- Windell Campbell:Storyteller (Ages 8 & under) Tuesday, June 13 at 11:00 am.
- Terrific Tuesday- Mr. Richard Sing Along Fun (Ages 8 & under) Tuesday, June 20 at 11:00 am.
- Terrific Tuesday- Atlantic Coast Theater: (Ages 8 & under) Tuesday, June 27 at 11:00 am.
- Book-a-Trip-Scotland: (Ages 12 & under) Saturday, June 24 at 10:30 AM .

* REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG

TWEEN LIBRARY PROGRAMS AGES 9-12

All Ages Left Over Crafts: 5/27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tween Summer Reading: 6/5-7/29

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse Party: 6/7, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

*Tween Cupcake Wars: 6/13, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

*Read to Reel Book Club: 6/20, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

*Chef Adam's Exotic Fruits and Vegetables: 6/28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.



***REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
Register at events.safetyharborlibrary.com

TEEN LIBRARY PROGRAMS

*Registration required
Register at events.safetyharborlibrary.org

All Ages Left Over Crafts
5/27 , 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Teen Summer Reading
6/5 - 7/29

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse Party
6/7, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Teen Rainbow Room
6/14, 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Teen Cooking- Popular Café Drink Dupes*
6/21, 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Chef Adam's Exotic Fruits & Vegetables*
6/28, 5:30 - 6:30 PM

LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Non Profit Volunteer Fair
5/4 | 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Saturday Movie Matinee
5/27 & 6/24 | 2:00 pm

ESOL Conversation Club
Weds. | 10:00 am

Citizenship Class
Weds. | 11:30 am

Book Clubs:
Words & Wine
5/15 & 6/19 | 6:00 pm

Books & Bagels
5/16 & 6/20 | 10:30 am

All Together Now:
Adult Summer Reading
6/5 to 7/29

Roots of Black Music
6/8 | 6:30 pm

Friends of the Library
Book Sale
6/10 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Intro to Line Dancing
6/15 | 6:30 pm

Visit us at SafetyHarborLibrary.com for a complete listing of upcoming events.

SAFETY HARBOR RECREATION

REAL FUN! SUMMER CAMPS & SCHOLARSHIPS *by Kelliann Gerlach, Recreation Facility Manager*



SUMMER CAMPS

The City of Safety Harbor Recreation Department is planning a fun-filled summer of part-day specialty camps, full-day camps, and Teen Leadership programs that will cater to over 300 youth and teens each week. Our **REAL Fun!** full-day camps include arts and crafts, games, water days, swimming, special events, field trips, and more.

Our specialty part-day camps have something for everyone! Kids can enjoy the great outdoors out on the water in one of our camps like kayak, pram sailing, paddle boarding, or fishing camp. Join one of our enrichment camps to learn about cooking, science, nature, theatre, magic, and more. Looking for a chance to use your creative side? Sign up for our creative camps, including dance, drumming, magic, and art to name a few. Let us wear out your active

little ones with sports camps like soccer, tennis, volleyball, softball, baseball, football, basketball, or archery. To see our full list of part-day and full-day camps and to register, visit: SafetyHarborCamps.com.

RECREATION YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

All children can benefit from a camp experience! Our summer camps are filled with great opportunities for children to develop new friendships and create special memories. For those children and teens who may not be able to afford camp, we offer scholarships to Safety Harbor residents who need financial assistance.

The Safety Harbor Recreation Youth Scholarship provides a safe, educational, healthy outlet for our community's at-risk children by sending them to summer camp. This year, our goal is to raise \$10,000! For only \$150, you can sponsor one child for one week of full-day camp.

If you'd like to support youth scholarships while leaving your mark on Safety Harbor, you can purchase a Commemorative Brick at the John Wilson Park Gazebo. It is a wonderful opportunity to create a keepsake with a personalized message for someone special and become a permanent part of Safety Harbor. All proceeds of the brick sales benefit our Youth Scholarship Fund. To learn more or to order a brick, visit: CityofSafetyHarbor.com/Bricks



WANT TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

If you'd like to apply for our scholarship, complete an application and provide documentation.

You must meet the following criteria:

- Safety Harbor Residents
- Florida Income Eligibility Guidelines for the free or reduced-price meal program (a letter from the school confirming participation must be provided) or proof of family income.

Applications are available at safetybarborrecreation.com or you can stop by any of our Recreation Centers to pick one up. If you have any questions, please call Kelliann Gerlach at the Safety Harbor Community Center at 724-1555 ext. 3306 or email at kgerlach@cityofsafetyharbor.com.

WANT TO DONATE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND?

Fill out the form below and return to the City of Safety Harbor.

Make checks payable to: City of Safety Harbor

Mail to: City of Safety Harbor
Attn: Kelliann Gerlach, Scholarship Fund
750 Main Street
Safety Harbor, FL

\$50 \$100 \$250

\$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

For more info: 727-724-1555 ext. 3306 or kgerlach@cityofsafetyharbor.com

SWIM SAFER by Julie Inman, Recreation Facility Manager

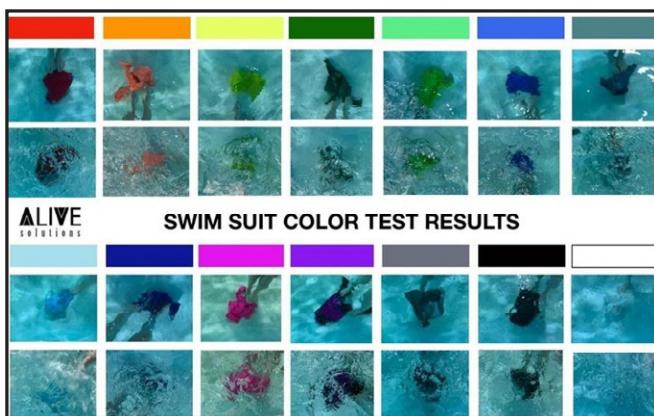


Image: Alive Solutions

Summertime is what dreams are made of: summer camps, family trips, friends, and swimming! No summer is complete without trips to the pool, lake, or beach. As you plan with your family for outdoor water adventures, whether it be kayaking, swimming, or boating, take the time to review water safety.

May is National Water Safety Month. To celebrate here are 7 ways to help keep your family safer this summer:

1. Never Swim alone. Never swim alone, never boat alone, never kayak or paddleboard alone. Lifejackets and flotation devices do not replace a water watcher. Never leave your kids swimming alone, even if they are wearing a floaty.

2. Provide constant attention when supervising children in or near water. Stay within arm's length of infants, toddlers, and inexperienced swimmers. Eliminate distractions, like cell phones and chores while supervising swimmers. Do not attempt to multi-task when responsible for swimmers. Designate that time to the important task at hand- water safety.

3. Use barriers. According to the National Drowning Prevention Alliance, "Lack of barriers around water contribute to majority of drowning deaths." Fences, pool gates with self- closing and self-latching mechanisms, safety covers, and alarms are smart precautions. If you have a pool at home, and your child is out of sight, always check the water first.

4. Always designate a water watcher. Did you know 23% of child drownings happen during a family gathering near a pool? (NDPA.org) Be sure to designate a water watcher, when hosting or attending a pool party or family gathering. Rotate Water Watchers and be sure your water watcher is not drinking alcohol.

5. Learn to Swim and Self Rescue. Swimming is a skill. Skills need to be practiced. Kids don't always retain their swimming skills from the prior year. Their bodies grow tremendously from year to year, they need to learn, relearn, and practice their swimming skills just like they do multiplication or skateboarding. Skills become rusty when not used. Sign your child up for swim lessons or work with them at home under close supervision to build new skills and practice. Adults need to practice their skills as well, especially if they're going to be a water watcher or supervising. According to NDPA.org, "Swim lessons can reduce the risk of drowning by 88% for 1–4-year-olds who take formal swim lessons."

6. Set Boundaries Teach your children to ask permission before they enter the water. This gives you a chance to review their swim boundaries or current water conditions and hazards. Show them the deep end, shallow end, where steps are, where can they jump in, and if they can dive or not.

7. Wear Bright Colors Brightly colored swimsuits and swim shirts can help make your child more visible while under water. There is a reason PFD's are orange - bright orange can be easier to spot! According to a study done by Alive Solutions, colors that contrast the pool bottom or the surroundings are best. (See image above.)

Look for upcoming classes and camps for swim lessons, kayaking, paddleboarding this will help you learn more ways to safely navigate Safety Harbor's waterways. And as you explore our parks, beaches, and pools, use these tips to have REAL Fun and REAL safe adventures!



CITYSCAPE

CityScape is a publication of the City of Safety Harbor. For the latest updates on these and other stories visit us online at cityofsafetyharbor.com.

CITY OFFICIALS

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

CITY DIRECTORY

City Hall: 727-724-1555
Community Center: 727-724-1530
Fire Department: 727-724-1520
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 Florida



750 Main Street

Safety Harbor Florida

34695

(727) 724-1555

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.

National Public Works Week
May 21-27, 2023



SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC WORKS

CALL PUBLIC WORKS FIRST

Call Public Works for any of the following:

- Sidewalk Issues
- Potholes
- Water Leaks
- Sanitary Sewer Back-Ups
- Low Hanging Limbs (over roadways/sidewalks)
- Garbage, Recycling, and Special Pick-Ups
- Stormwater Drainage Issues
- Street Sign Issues
- Work in the City Right-of-Way

Call 727-724-1550

PUBLIC WORKS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Help to prevent sanitary sewer back-ups in your home and the City's gravity sewer system by following these simple steps:

- Do not flush napkins, wipes, paper towels, cotton balls, "flushable" wipes, dental floss, etc. These items tend to clog a home's sewer lines as they do not break down in water like toilet paper.
- Do not pour food, oils, and grease down the drain. This creates a blockage as grease and solids build-up over time in a home's sewer pipe and restrict flow.



presented by:



PARKING MAP AT:

CITYOFSAFETYHARBOR.com/PARKING

SafetyHarborEvents.com