

# CityScape

photo by: Kevin Moore

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Volume 35 | Issue 4  
July/August 2025

## HURRICANE SEASON, RAINY SEASON – EVERY SEASON IS FLOOD SEASON!

by: Derek Reeves, Community Development Assistant Director

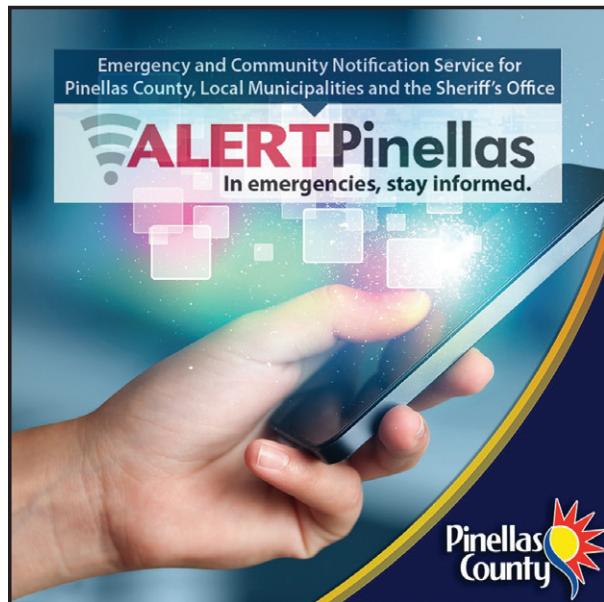
Why do we need flood insurance? Flooding can happen anywhere at any time. In fact, more than 20% of the National Flood Insurance Program's claims come from outside of high-risk flood zones. It is important to protect your property and possessions with flood insurance even if you live in an area with low-to-moderate flooding risk. Anywhere it rains, it can flood.

A few inches of water can cause thousands of dollars in damage to walls, floors, furniture, carpets, and appliances. This damage resulting from rising waters is not typically covered by homeowner or renter insurance policies. Fortunately, flood insurance for buildings and the contents is available to property owners and renters.

The cost of a policy depends on your flood risk. The City of Safety Harbor works diligently to maintain a discount on flood insurance premiums for residents and businesses in all flood zones. Look for the discount on your flood insurance policy invoice.



I encourage you to consider flood insurance for your property as you prepare for future contingencies. To find out more about flood insurance for your property, contact your insurance agent or visit [pinellascounty.org/flooding/advocates.htm](http://pinellascounty.org/flooding/advocates.htm) to learn about Pinellas County's flood insurance advocates that provide a step-by-step process to purchasing flood insurance. Additional information is available at the [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov) website. You can also call the City at 727-724-1555.



## HURRICANE, STORM & FLOOD WARNING

Be aware, prepared, and know what you are going to do:

Listen to your local radio and TV during foul weather for weather warnings and possible instructions. Go to [pinellascounty.org/emergency](http://pinellascounty.org/emergency) or go to [weather.gov](http://weather.gov) for real-time weather alerts.

Be prepared to evacuate. HAVE A PLAN! Know how and what to secure if a hurricane threatens.

Sign up for the ALERT PINELLAS, a free emergency notification service. This service provides multiple ways to notify you, such as landlines, mobile phones, email and text messages, whenever an urgent situation, such as flooding, arises in your location. Your contact information will be confidential.

How to sign up:

Visit: [pinellas.gov/alert-pinellas/](http://pinellas.gov/alert-pinellas/)  
Call: (866) 484-3264

WHAT'S  
INSIDE

CITYWIDE  
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RECREATION  
pages 6 & 7

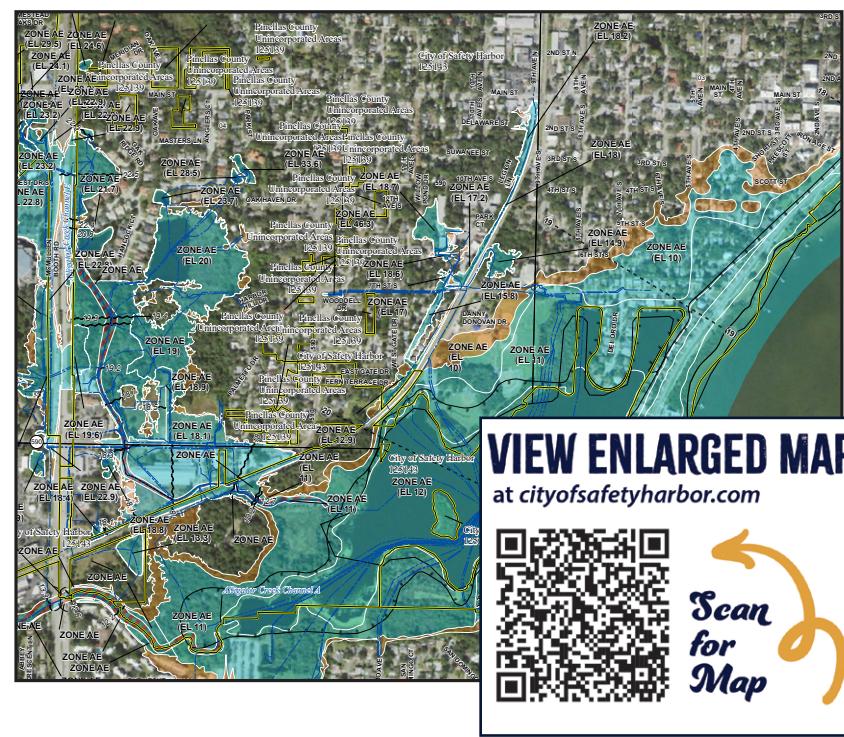
# AROUND SAFETY HARBOR

## NEW FLOOD MAPS FOR ALLIGATOR CREEK WATERSHED

by: Carol Stricklin, Community Development Director

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has conducted a new Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for the Alligator Creek Watershed. A portion of the watershed included in the study is in Safety Harbor. To determine a community's risk to flood hazards, FEMA performs the FIS, which is a compilation and presentation of flood hazard areas along rivers, streams, coasts, and lakes within a community. The results of the FIS are shown on FEMA's flood maps called Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and in the accompanying description of the study called an FIS report.

FEMA has asked that the public be made aware of the updates to the flood hazard areas based upon the FIS study for the Alligator Creek Watershed. The results are expected to be finalized later this year and may result in some changes to the flood zone designations for individual properties. The map shows the preliminary results for the Safety Harbor portion of the watershed. The full FIS and preliminary FIRM maps can be found on FEMA's website: [hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload](https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload).



# HARBOR HAPPENINGS

Check [cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com) for meeting locations

## JULY

### CITY MEETINGS

4 **Independence Day - City Closed;  
Trash Collection Occurs as Usual**

- 8 Library Advisory Committee, 7 PM
- 9 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30 PM
- 10 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30 PM
- 16 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30 PM
- 21 Budget Workshop, 6 PM
- 21 City Commission, 7 PM

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- 4 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade (Main Street), 10 AM
- 4 Independence Day Celebration (Waterfront Park), 5-9 PM
- 18 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10 PM

## AUGUST

### CITY MEETINGS

- 4 City Commission, 7 PM
- 12 Library Advisory Committee, 7 PM
- 13 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30 PM
- 14 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30 PM
- 18 City Commission, 7 PM
- 20 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30 PM

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- 15 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10 PM



**Market on Main**  
July 6 & 13 ☰ 10 AM – 3 PM  
Gazebo on Main Street



## 2025 Quarterly Clean Up Schedule\* End of Summer Clean Up: Sep 8 – 10

\* Collection occurs only once during the clean-up cycle.

Be sure to place items at the curb by 6:30AM on your regular collection day.

For more details  
& what will & won't  
be collected:



## Skip the Fertilizer\*

from June 1 to September 30

**\* Keep fertilizers out of our waterways.**

Fertilizers that enter stormdrains flow directly into our waterways, and without treatment, will contaminate our lakes, ponds, and streams.



## SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD APPLICANTS WANTED



Do you have expertise, experience, training, or education in sustainability related fields? Are you passionate about making a difference through recommending sustainability initiatives?

The **Sustainability Advisory Board** is looking for qualified applicants to fill board.

Interested? Apply here:  
[cityofsafetyharbor.com/52/Boards](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com/52/Boards)

# SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

## COLOR MY WORLD – SUMMER READING PROGRAM FOR ALL AGES: WHERE ART & READERS UNITE

by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director



Libraries are cool when it's hot outside, and we're not just talking about the temperature. We work hard to serve the needs of our community and provide unique programs for everyone. If you haven't been here in a while, stop by or visit our website for our monthly newsletter or sign up online to have it delivered to your email.

For more information on the items below and other programs, visit [SafetyHarborLibrary.com](http://SafetyHarborLibrary.com) or call the Answers Desk, 725-1525 x4112. We're happy to help.

- 1. Stream and download with hoopla and Kanopy** hoopla is free with your library card and provides free access to audiobooks, eBooks, comics, and more. Download the hoopla app on your device. Looking for a new movie, documentary, or indie film? Try Kanopy.
- 2. Libby – Digital Content** Libby is your resource for digital eBooks, eMagazines, audiobooks, and streaming video on your favorite device. Perfect to take with you on your summer vacation!

**3. Free Museum Passes** Planning a staycation? Thanks to partnerships with thirteen local museums, the library offers free family admissions. Passes are available on a first come, first serve basis.

**4. Borrow Things** The library has games to check out for family game nights, pickleball racquets, and ukuleles so you can learn to play. We have WIFI hot spots, themed Reading Adventure Backpacks, STEAM kits for kids, and cake pans to check out.

**5. Borrow Tools** Planning a summer DIY project? Check out the tool library before you buy. From miter and tile saws, to drills, pressure washers and garden tools, we probably have what you need. Visit: [SafetyHarborToolLibrary.com](http://SafetyHarborToolLibrary.com)

**6. Home Delivery** Are you unable to get to the library or know a resident who cannot due to illness, disability, or injury? Our outreach librarian can deliver and pick up from your home.

**7. Exploring Family History through Ancestry** Researching your family tree? Access [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) inside the library with your own laptop or one of our computers. Download census records, immigration information, passenger lists, birth, marriage, death, and military records.

**8. A Place to Work & Study** Find a comfortable chair for yourself or reserve a study room for a small group meeting or use our NEW quiet Public Work Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Access our Wi-Fi and print to our public copier.

**9. Learn a Language** Planning a trip or simply want to brush up on your high school French? Then Pronunciator is for you. Available online with 164 languages, including ASL.

**10. Start a Garden** Visit the Seed Library and start thinking about your bean, okra, squash, and pumpkin fall harvest.

**11. Borrow Books** We can't forget why libraries started in the first place. We have books for all ages and genres and reading programs throughout the year where you can win prizes, just for doing what you love. Ask a librarian to recommend a new title!

NEED A QUIET PLACE TO STUDY OR WORK?

CHECK OUT OUR NEW PUBLIC WORK ROOM!

WiFi Available & Charging Outlets

Study Carrels & High Top Desks

LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OPEN MON-FRI 10:00AM-5:30PM

# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- STORY TOTS: (AGES 19 MOS. TO 5 YRS.) WEDNESDAYS, JULY 9, 23 & 30 AT 10:30AM
- BABY & ME STORY TIME: (AGES 18 MOS. AND UNDER) FRIDAYS, JULY 11, 18 & 25 AT 10:30AM
- ICRE8-ART CLASS: (AGES 5-95 YRS.) MONDAYS, JULY 14 & AUGUST 11 AT 5:30PM
- MONDAY FUNDAY: (AGES 4-7 YRS.) MONDAY, JULY 7, 14, 21 & 28 AT 2:00PM
- WEE DISCOVERIES: (AGES 0 MOS. TO 5 YRS.) WEDNESDAY, JULY 16 AT 11:00AM

## TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

- TICKET TICKETS WILL BE GIVEN OUT 30 MIN PRIOR TO EACH PROGRAM - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
- TICKET BIG IDEA BUBBLE SHOW: (FAMILY) JULY 8 AT 11:00 AM
- TICKET ALL ABOUT BEES: (ALL AGES) JULY 15 AT 11:00 AM
- BOOK A TRIP: GREECE: (FAMILY) JULY 22 AT 11:00AM
- TICKET MR. BRAD'S ONE MAN BAND FOR KIDS (AGES 0-5) JULY 29 AT 11:00AM
- TICKET GIVING TREE DRUMS (FAMILY) AUGUST 5 AT 11:00AM.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT [EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG](http://EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG)

## Teen Library Programs

Ages 12-18

TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CAFE	7/9, 5:00 PM
*COLLEGE APPLICATIONS WORKSHOP	7/14, 6:30 PM
INTRODUCTION TO NATIONAL PARKS	7/16, 5:00 PM
*TEEN COOKING - QUESADILLAS	7/23, 5:00 PM
TEEN RAINBOW ROOM	7/30, 5:00 PM
SUMMER READING WRAP-UP PARTY	8/2, 12:00 PM
*PLANNING FOR COLLEGE WORKSHOP	8/11, 6:30 PM
*SAT AND ACT TEST PREP BASICS WORKSHOP	8/18, 6:30 PM

\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT [EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG](http://EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG)

\*THIS IS A VIRTUAL PROGRAM



SUMMER READING ENDS ON 8/21 REGISTER AT [SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG](http://SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG)

## COLOR OUR WORLD



READ UP TO 24 HOURS TO EARN BADGES AND WIN PRIZES. EVERY CHILD WHO FINISHES READING 24 HOURS WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING FOR THE GRAND PRIZE!

REGISTER ON THE BEANSTACK APP OR AT [SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG](http://SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG)



## TWEEN LIBRARY PROGRAMS AGES 8-12

- FAMILY MOVIE: (ALL AGES) 7/5, 10:30 AM
- \*TWEEN GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB: 7/8 @ 5:30 PM
- BOOK BUS: (YOUTH) 7/9, 12:00 PM
- \*TWEEN CREATIVE WRITERS GROUP: 7/9 @ 6:00 PM
- \*ZINES FOR TWEENS: 7/12, 2:00 PM
- \*TWEEN PAINTING: 7/15, 5:30 PM
- \*TWEEN COOKING: 7/22, 5:30 PM
- \*TWEEN CRAFT: 7/29, 5:30 PM



\*REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTER AT [EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG](http://EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG)

## LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

*Color Our World* Adult Summer Reading  
Register at [SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG](http://SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.BEANSTACK.ORG)  
6/2 through 8/2

How to Clone Your Houseplants  
7/10 | 6:30 pm

Saturday Movie Matinee  
7/26 & 8/23 | 2:00 pm

*Nuthin' But the Blues*  
Performance by the Jazz Phools  
7/17 | 6:30 pm

Wholistic Wellness Lifestyle  
7/8, 7/22, 8/12, 8/26  
1:15 - 2:45 pm

Cooking with Wine  
7/31 | 6:30 pm

Book Clubs  
Words & Wine

*Women in Jazz*  
Concert & History with Galen Abdur-Razzaq  
8/21 | 6:30 pm

Books & Bagels  
7/15 & 8/19 | 10:30 am

Visit us at [SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.COM](http://SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.COM) for a complete listing of events.

# SAFETY HARBOR RECREATION

CELEBRATE NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION MONTH WITH SAFETY HARBOR!

by: *Shannon Schafer, Interim Leisure Services Director*

NRPA'S PARK AND RECREATION MONTH



July is National Park and Recreation Month, and this year's theme – "Build Together, Play Together" – highlights the power of parks and recreation in building stronger, more connected communities. It's a time to recognize the vital role public spaces play in creating a more vibrant, healthy, and resilient Safety Harbor.

## WHY IT MATTERS?

From green spaces and playgrounds to fitness trails and community centers, parks and recreation services enhance our quality of life. They promote wellness, foster connections, and provide safe, inclusive spaces for all ages and abilities to play, gather, and grow.

## CELEBRATE ALL MONTH LONG!

Safety Harbor is planning a variety of activities and events throughout July to engage and inspire our community. Whether you're looking for family fun, outdoor adventure, or relaxation in nature, there's something for everyone.

### HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP...

- Ultimate Nerf Event | Friday, June 13 | 12:00 – 3:00 PM | City Park | \$5
- Foam Party | Friday, June 27 | 12:00 – 3:00 PM | City Park | \$5
- Summer Carnival | Friday, July 11 | 12:00 – 3:00 PM | City Park | Ticketed Event
- End of Summer Party | Friday, July 25 | 12:00 – 3:00 PM | Waterfront Park | \$5

Be sure to check our website and social media channels for a full calendar of events!

### SHARE YOUR PARKS AND RECREATION STORY

We want to hear from YOU! What do parks and recreation mean to you and your family? What are your favorite memories or spots in Safety Harbor? Share your stories, photos, and experiences with us on social media using #REALFunFL #WhereYouBelong

### HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE IN SAFETY HARBOR

Your feedback matters. Take a few minutes to complete our Leisure Needs Survey and help us plan future programs, parks, and amenities that best serve our community. You can take the survey at [CityofSafetyHarbor.com/LeisureNeeds](http://CityofSafetyHarbor.com/LeisureNeeds) or by scanning the QR code.

### GET OUT AND CELEBRATE!

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a wide range of parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, courts, and trails right here in our own backyard. This July, take a moment to enjoy them – walk a trail, attend an event, or simply relax in the shade. Let's build together, play together, and celebrate everything that makes Safety Harbor special.



## PART DAY CAMPS

**Mural Creating Camp** Ages: 10–14, Mon–Fri, 7/7–7/11, 9AM–12PM, \$125, Folly Farm Nature Preserve

**Kayak Camp** Ages: 10–15, Mon–Fri, 7/7–7/11, 9AM–12PM, \$185, Waterfront Park

**Stand Up Paddleboard Camp** Ages: 10–16, Mon–Fri, 7/14–7/18, 9AM–12PM, \$185, Waterfront Park

**Basketball Camp: Beginners** Ages: 8–15, Mon–Fri, 7/14–7/18, 9–11AM, \$105, Safety Harbor City Park

For full list of summer camps: [SAFETYHARBORCAMPS.COM](http://SAFETYHARBORCAMPS.COM)



Passport to REAL Fun!

# SUMMER EVENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays | 12-3PM

**JUNE  
13**

**Ultimate Nerf Event**  
*Safety Harbor City Park*

\$5

**JUNE  
27**

**Foam Party**  
*Safety Harbor City Park*

\$5

**JULY  
11**

**Summer Carnival**  
*Safety Harbor City Park*

Ticketed  
Event

**JULY  
25**

**End of Summer Party**  
*Waterfront Park*

\$5

## 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](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com).

## CITY OFFICIALS

Joe Ayoub, Mayor  
Carlos Diaz, Vice Mayor  
Nancy Besore, Commissioner  
Jacob Burnett, Commissioner  
Andy Steingold, Commissioner  
Josh M. Stefancic, City Manager



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## CITY DIRECTORY

City Hall: 727-724-1555  
Community Center: 727-724-1560  
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

## PIER & MARINA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Post 2024 hurricane season restoration continues. Demolition and Construction at the Marina and Pier is scheduled to begin in July, with an 18 month construction contract time. Construction fencing and barricades will be placed around the construction zone on Veterans Memorial Lane.

Some waterfront areas, including the boat ramp, will be closed to the public. Please do not enter the construction zone. Waterfront Park and bathrooms will remain open.



PLEASE CONTACT PUBLIC WORKS WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNs AT 727-724-1550.

CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR'S  
**INDEPENDENCE**  
**DAY CELEBRATION**  
at WATERFRONT PARK

5-9PM \*  
**FIREWORKS AT 9PM**

**SafetyHarborEvents.com**

PARKING map: [CITYOFSAFETYHARBOR.COM/PARKING](http://CITYOFSAFETYHARBOR.COM/PARKING)