Welcome to May!!!

This month's newsletter is all about getting ready for summer!

School is almost over for the year and with that comes a shift in the needs for our children and community as a whole. There are summer rec programs, internships and youth employment opportunities available for those who desire to do more with their summer than occupying the couch! If you need more information about any of these resources, please reach out and we will put you in touch with those who can help. In addition, summer is the time when we see the most food insecurity in our youth. If you or someone you know is under the age of 18 and in need of healthy meals, dial 2-1-1 or Text “FoodFL” to 877-877 to find locations that serve lunch all summer long!

In addition, Hurricane season is right around the corner. The official start of the season is June 1st but I encourage you to start getting prepared now! Next month I will share with you all the resources you need to keep your family and friends safe in the event of a disaster. With the start of rainy season we also encourage everyone to observe the fertilizer ban (more information below) and keep debris out of the storm drains. I hope you will join me in working together to make us a more resilient and environmentally responsible community.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't wish all the mothers out there a very HAPPY MOTHERS DAY on May 12th! Mother's and the love they spread around the world doesn't come in one distinct package. Motherhood takes on many forms. If you care for anyone or anything else in your life, you deserve so much more than just one day of thanks. From the bottom of my heart I want to wish all the role models, support systems, cheering squads and overall nurturing souls reading this a very happy Mothers Day on May 12th and everyday!

Brandi
Effective October 1, 2019, upon City Council approval, the City of St. Petersburg will be implementing a tiered billing structure for stormwater rates for single-family properties. This new tiered structure will classify single-family properties into tiers, based on the square footage of impervious surface area (surfaces that water runs off), so that a property’s fee more accurately and equitably reflects its impact to our stormwater system. Non-single-family (commercial) properties will continue to be assessed a fee based on the number of Single-Family Residential Units (SFRU’s) their impervious area represents. More information on this new structure can be found at the links below.

Starting April 15, customers are able to view their property’s fee assessment in the Stormwater Review and Appeals Portal, which can be found below. Through this portal, customers will be able to submit an appeal for reassessment if they feel the property has been measured incorrectly.

City Council conducts a first reading of the proposed rate ordinance on September 5, 2019 and considers the proposed rates for final adoption following a public hearing on September 19, 2019. Upon adoption, rates will become effective as of October 1, 2019.

More Information?
Link to Stormwater Rate Page HERE
Link to FAQ HERE
Link to Portal for Review and Appeals HERE

Questions?
Email the Stormwater Tier Rate Program at stormwater.appeals@stpete.org or call 727-893-7280.

Integrated Sustainability Action Plan (ISAP)

The City is developing its first ever Integrated Sustainability Action Plan (ISAP). The ISAP will:
• Define the City’s and community’s existing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and identify reduction strategies
• Develop a roadmap for 100% clean energy in the City
• Guide the City and community partners to implement programs and strategies that will enhance sustainability and resiliency across municipal department operations and throughout the community.

Adoption of the comprehensive ISAP is a tremendous milestone that will build on current programs and will provide guidance for new initiatives like greening the city’s fleet. Community and business outreach will continue to develop the detailed steps and work needed to accomplish many initiatives and trending toward the ambitious targets for success.

Next steps following adoption include leveraging the Bloomberg American Cities Climate Challenge (ACCC) accelerator program for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the building and transportation sectors. Other early actions include the development of environmental and green infrastructure and addressing climate change and resiliency on a regional level as part of the recently formed Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition.

For more information see the full report Here

Cereal For Summer

Did you know that one in four children in our community suffer from hunger and
food insecurity every single day? This problem is especially critical during the summer months when school is out and our children no longer have access to the meals they receive when school is in session.

To meet this ever growing need, the City of St. Petersburg is once again joining with Feeding Tampa Bay, Channel 10 News, businesses, schools, and charitable and faith-based groups in a special food drive called “Cereal for Summer.”

Those who want to contribute are encouraged to drop-off the following food items to one of the donation sites listed below:

- Dry cereal
- Breakfast bars
- Pop Tarts
- Oatmeal

Please bring your donations to any of these city facilities:

- City Hall, 175 5th Street North (basement)
- Fire Department Administration, 400 Dr. Martin Luther King Street South
- Main Library, 3745 9th Avenue North
- Municipal Services Center, 1 4th Street North (1st floor)
- Parks and Recreation Administration, 1400 19th Street North
- Police Department Administration, 1300 1st Avenue North
- Sanitation Administration Office, 2001 28th Street North
- Water Resources, Administration Office, 1650 3rd Avenue North

**Deadline for Donations: Friday, May 17, 2019**

You can also make a monetary contribution online at [www.cerealforsummer.com](http://www.cerealforsummer.com)

---

**Summer At City Hall**

**Interns Wanted!!!!**

Students have the unique opportunity to meet with City leaders weekly to further their understanding of local government and municipal policy. Through specialized workshops and meetings facilitated by selected departments, students will become familiar with the day to day tasks and the planning that happens behind the scenes to bring ideas to fruition.

**The program runs June 13 - July 18, 2019**

**Deadline for Applications is Midnight on May 12, 2019**

For More Details and to Apply Click [HERE](http://www.cerealforsummer.com)

Questions about the Program Contact:

Kyandra.Darling@stpete.org
727-551-330
Eco-Reminder: Fertilizer Ban

St. Petersburg and Pinellas County bans the sale and use of any lawn or landscape fertilizer with nitrogen or phosphorous from June 1 to September 30 to protect our aquatic environment during the rainy season. Use Florida-friendly yard products that contain iron and other micronutrients to ensure healthy lawns.

2020 Budget Open House

St. Petersburg City Council is reviewing items and expenditures for the upcoming FY 2020 Budget. Please come and share your thoughts and priorities with City Officials and the Mayor.

Monday, May 20, 2019
6:00 p.m.
St. Petersburg
Main Library
3745 9th Ave. North

Summer Move

On June 17, 2019 the City Council and Mayor's office will be temporarily relocating to the old Police Department building while City Hall receives some needed renovations.

Beginning in July all public meetings will be held at the Sunshine Center
330 5th St N.
St. Pete, 33701

Let's Work Together: Affordable Housing

As many of you know one of the main reasons I decided to run for a seat on the St Petersburg City Council was to make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable of us and to make sure that St Pete continues to be a place where all can continue to thrive. Last month I published a detailed opinion editorial on this very subject. I believe that renting or owning an affordable home in the city of St. Petersburg should be an attainable and sustainable goal for all. Click HERE to read the full article.

Brandi Gabbard
Councilmember, District 2
brandi.gabbard@stpete.org
www.stpete.org/council/district_2
727-893-7148