

BEACH COMBER



Town of MELBOURNE BEACH Florida

PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR

**Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
at the Melbourne Beach Community Center**



Guest Speakers:

Scott Spratt, Staff Meteorologist at National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration – Melbourne

David Heckard, Spectrum News Channel 13, Weather on the Ones -Meteorologist.

Joseph Hatchcock, Vegetation and Power Restoration representative from Florida Power and Light.



Hurricane Season starts June 1st and runs through November 30th, so now is the time to prepare. The following are steps each of us should take living on a barrier island:

The most important decision is where are you going to go?

Decide NOW where you will go if an evacuation is ordered during hurricane season. The best place is to a friend or a relative who lives inland or out of the projected path of the storm. Secure your home and go, giving yourself plenty of time to get to where you are going with your pets and important papers.

The next place would be an inland hotel. Make sure the hotel has a generator and sufficient staff.

The last option is an evacuation shelter. The shelters are a last resort because they do not have any comfort items. Make sure you have cots or blankets for sleeping, any medications, and some camping chairs for sitting. Have games and books ready to go with you and keep a supply of personal hygiene items on hand. They will provide food and emergency medical attention should something happen.

This option is not for those individuals who are sick and require special attention. Those residents need to pre-register for a special needs shelter and can do so by calling the Emergency Operations Center, at 321/637-6670. If you need assistance evacuating, they will schedule assistance. Planning now will make your evacuation go smoothly in the future. Also, the Animal Control facility will house your pet during a storm. Contact the Brevard County Sheriff's Office for information and again, plan ahead.

Why should I evacuate, my home made it through the last two hurricanes?

First, every hurricane is different and wind from one direction and wind from another direction or increased speeds can have a devastating effect. Also, police, fire and rescue may not always be able to reach you quickly, such as if trees and power lines are down or if they're overwhelmed by demand from an emergency. They also will not be able to respond once the sustained winds reach 40 mph for their own safety. During Hurricane Irma in the Fort Myers area, a resident suffered a heart attack and the rescue unit could not respond for 50 minutes resulting in that individual dying. The best option is to **heed the evacuation warnings**. Is it worth your life not to evacuate?

The most important step you can take in helping your local responders is being able to take care of yourself and those in your care. Households, businesses and organizations should prepare in the event an emergency causes you to be self-reliant for three days without utilities, electricity, or water, without access to a supermarket or local services or maybe even without response from police, fire or rescue. Take action now to make sure your family, neighborhood and community are ready for emergencies and disasters of all types.

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507 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951-2523

(321) 724-5860 ♦ FAX: (321) 984-8994 ♦ www.MelbourneBeachFL.org

Gear up for the season with a rain garden

(Written by Christina Keshishian who sits on the Environmental Advisory Board)

The rainy season is just around the corner and before you know it the afternoon showers will be keeping our rain gutters and storm drains very busy. All of that storm water washes into our streets, drains and eventually the River, carrying dirt, chemicals and debris with it. One of the ways that home owners can help reduce the amount of storm water runoff from their yards, is through the installation of rain gardens.

Rain gardens are landscaped areas, installed ten to 30 feet from a rain gutter downspout, typically in the shape of a kidney bean or tear drop. The gardens are planted in slight depressions to help collect the storm water. The gardens help capture and filter the excess storm water while attracting pollinators and birds and improving the aesthetic of any yard. When designed properly, the storm water will slowly percolate through the soil in the garden, so that pollutants in the water are processed biologically and filtered physically through the soil. Lucky for us Floridians, there is a wide selection of plants which thrive in conditions of drought and flooding, making them ideal for rain gardens. Since rain gardens are designed to hold water for less than 48 hours, they are unlikely to be breeding grounds from mosquitos.

If you are interested in creating a rain garden (or two) on your property, please visit the Melbourne Beach Environmental Advisory Board's Facebook page for a link to a detailed handbook on rain gardens. You can also contact the UF/IFAS extension in Brevard County for more information.

Another good resource for learning more about rain gardens can be found here: <http://www.raingardennetwork.com/>



STREETLIGHT SAFETY

Streetlight out, damaged or malfunctioning? Please report any of these problems to Town Hall. Call 724-5860 or send an email to :

townclerk@melbournebeachfl.org

Provide as much information as possible such as address, proximity to address, what type of problem, accessibility, etc. We will contact FPL to get the light fixed.



WATERING RESTRICTIONS

Homes with odd numbered addresses can water on Wednesday & Saturday

Homes with even numbered addresses can water on Thursday & Sunday

Water only when needed and not between 10am and 4pm

Water for no more than one hour per zone

NOTE: Consider turning off the timers on your irrigation systems since quite often they come on during a downpour!

Melbourne Beach Founder's Day Saturday, May 5, 2018 8am - 10 pm Ryckman Park

Enjoy visiting with your friends and making new ones during a day of fun. Food vendors, beer tent, arts & crafts and music.

Applications for vendors are available on our website at www.melbournebeachfl.org. Contact Town Hall at 321.724.5860 for more information. See you there!

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What else should I do to prepare?

- Have a stash of cash in case you get caught in a power outage after a storm.
- Find a facility to store your boat or plan to sufficiently secure your boat in safe harbor. Lash your boat and trailer down securely for hurricane season. Protect lines from chafing during a storm by covering rub spots with garden hose
- Stock up on enough canned and dried goods to feed your family for several days
- Keep spare batteries for your radio and flashlights
- Instead of recycling all your plastic drink containers, keep a few clean ones on hand for storing water
- As soon as a hurricane WATCH is posted, keep your gas tank full
- Don't wait until a hurricane threatens to arrange for shutters
- Save all your receipts for hurricane repair expenses
- Fill your bathtub before you evacuate so you have water to wash with when you return
- Find out if your insurance company will allow you to fill an extra prescription to have with you when you evacuate
- Keep a first aid kit stocked and on hand
- If the power goes out during or after a hurricane, turn off all your major appliances to avoid damaging them.
- When you evacuate, turn off all your major appliances, electricity and gas
- Notify your family or friends outside the affected area that you are evacuating
- Keep an inventory of your home and office and take it with you when you evacuate
- If you are evacuating with your pets, bring their shot records
- Keep yourself and your pets clear of puddles after a storm
- Get a battery-powered radio and keep extra batteries on hand
- Don't forget to take a manual can opener with your canned goods
- Trim your trees and bushes before hurricane season so they do not clog the storm drains during a storm.

A hurricane WARNING means:

Hurricane-force winds are expected in your area within 24 hours.

A hurricane WATCH means:

Hurricane-force winds are expected in your area within 36 hours.

Brevard County Emergency Management has extensive information on their website which is well worth viewing before, during and after a severe weather event. During such an event, the Town of Melbourne Beach will also be posting updates on our website and facebook page. *Nextdoor* is a private social network and community forum where information can be exchanged and questions answered. Prior to the hurricane season, it would be wise to sign-up for alerts and become familiar with available emergency information and resources as part of your preparedness plan.

<http://www.brevardfl.gov/emergencymanagement>

Message from Town Manager

One of my goals when I started in our community of Melbourne Beach is to improve our Stormwater System. The first step in our action plan is to repair five priority areas that are critical to maintain washed out properties and roadways. Those areas are:

- Oak Street South of Cherry Drive
- 500 Block Riverside Drive
- Riverside at Avenue A
- Rosewood at Dogwood
- Andrews Drive

The Town Commission approved the engineering studies required before we can publish the projects for bid. Those studies should be completed in April and we will quickly complete the request for proposals to complete the repairs. After those projects are completed, the focus will be on the updated Stormwater comprehensive plan and the second tier problem areas. Those areas are:

- Second Avenue at Pine Street
- Poinsettia Road
- Pelican Key/Harbor East Area

After these locations area resolved, the focus will be an annual review and replacement of aged infrastructure in connection with the Stormwater System and the Town's roadways.



**Food and Desert Trucks - Billy Chapman Band
Family Friendly - Scavenger Hunt - Kid Activities
Long Dogger's Beer Truck
Free Admission**

**April 6 from 5-10pm
Nance Park, Indialantic FL**

www.EatsAndBeatsBeach.com

www.Facebook.com/EatsAndBeatsBeach

**Additional details can be found on website
and Facebook**

**Sponsored by the Towns of
Indialantic & Melbourne Beach**



Town of Melbourne Beach
507 Ocean Avenue
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Upcoming Town Meetings



Meeting	Dates	Time	Location
Town Hall Closed - Holiday	May 28		
Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	Apr 3, May 1 & June 5	7:00 p.m.	Community Ctr
Town Commission Workshop	Apr 4, May 2 & June 6	5:30 p.m.	Town Hall
History Center Board Meeting	Apr 5, May 3 & June 7	5:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
Parks Board Meeting	Apr 11, May 9 & June 13	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Historic Preservation & Awareness Board	Apr 10, May 8, & June 12	4:30 p.m.	Ryckman House
Town Commission Regular Meeting	Apr 18, May 16, & June 20	6:30 p.m.	Community Ctr.
Environmental Advisory Board	Apr 25, May 23 & June 27	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Dept.	Every Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
AA	Every Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall

CURRENT BOARD & COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Are you interested in serving your Community? The Town of Melbourne Beach has several vacancies on a variety of boards and committees. For more information, please visit the Town website at www.melbournebeachfl.org, email the Town Clerk at townclerk@melbournebeachfl.org, or call Town Hall at (321) 724-5860.

Board of Adjustment	2 alternate members
Code Enforcement Board	2 alternate members
Environmental Advisory Board	1 alternate member
History Center Board	2 alternate members
Historical Preservation & Awareness Board	1 member, 1 non-resident members
Parks Board	2 alternate members
Planning & Zoning Board	1 alternate member

The volunteer application is located on the Boards & Committees page on the Town website or at Town Hall.

Visit our new Facebook page for current news and information.

<https://www.facebook.com/townofmelbournebeachfl>



Your feedback and comments are welcome!



Melbourne Beach - Ryckman Park
March 31, 2018

STAY INFORMED! Check out the **NEWS** link on our website for information on community events and Town News: www.MelbourneBeachFL.org