

# BEACH COMBER



*Town of* **MELBOURNE BEACH** *Florida*

## Ryckman Park Playground

The Town of Melbourne Beach enjoys a superior quality of life that many people across the nation wish they were fortunate enough to enjoy. Living in a beach community affords our residents a lifestyle that we can be proud of. We all enjoy Ocean Park and Ryckman Park; many of us use those facilities on a daily basis.

Over the past 16 years the Ryckman Park Playground has received very high usage from the children of Melbourne Beach. It has been a wonderful place for our children to play and just make new friends. It has been a safe place for families to enjoy and meet their neighbors.

The Town Staff has tried to maintain the Playground to the best of their abilities however the structure is in need of major repairs and should be replaced. Many of the areas that have rusted away were replaced with lumber because the replacement parts from the manufacturer are just not available. The combination of the usage and environmental factors living so close to the ocean has led to the decay of the structure.

The playground was constructed approximately 16 years ago and many manufacturers have indicated that 10-15 years is maximum life expectancy of this type of equipment before major failures occur.

It is the goal of the Town Commission and Town Staff to move as quickly as possible to develop a plan for the replacement of the Playground Equipment for the Children of Melbourne Beach.

This is **not** a budgeted item for the town and we are looking at alternative fund raising activities for this replacement.

Costs range between \$ 150,000 to over \$200,000 to replace the equipment that is on site with new Modern Playground Equipment for our children to enjoy.

We are asking residents, property owners, business owners, or corporations that feel this is a worthwhile endeavor and have to ability to donate funds contact the Town Manager or Town Staff to discuss how they might like to participate in this project. Please remember that **ALL** funds raised will be used **SOLEY** for the Replacement of the **Playground Equipment** at Ryckman Park for our children.

The Town of Melbourne Beach appreciates your taking the time to familiarize yourself with this situation and any assistance you might be able to lend to this cause would be greatly appreciated. We have taken on this endeavor to the children of the Town of Melbourne Beach.



**507 Ocean Avenue,  
Melbourne Beach, FL 32951-2523**

**(321) 724-5860 ♦ fax: (321) 984-8994  
www.melbournebeachfl.org**

**Out and About and Around the Town.....**

Since we last met, there have been several improvements in our lovely Beach Town that you may have noticed:

Town Pier

The biggest improvement is the Town Pier that was badly damaged by Hurricane Matthew. The Town went through a bidding process and hired Land & Sea Marine Inc. to perform the necessary work which began on March 6<sup>th</sup> and was completed on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Extensive repairs were made to the “T” piers and a 100 ft. section of the main platform. All this was completed, as promised, two weeks prior to Founder’s Day!

6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Boat Ramp

This ramp was damaged by Hurricane Matthew and needed an overhaul, especially because it is used by the Fire Department to access water-front properties. Improvements include a new ramp, handrails, a safety fence, slab and a garbage can. The Commission decided to allow unfettered access by the public to this ramp.

Ocean Park

Replaced BBQ grills and restained picnic table “huts”;

Muhly Grass and Green Buttonwoods, native and drought tolerant plants, were installed along the walkway and in the park by Nicole Perna-Brevard County, Scott Hunter and Tammy Williamson.

Brush was cut down to improve ocean visibility and bench seating was installed; a new gate was installed at overlook for Fire Access to beach for boat rescues. Fencing was also installed.

Bicentennial Park

The area was weeded and 145 bags of mulch were laid.

Sunset Boulevard

Volunteers and Town staff worked to clean-up the median strip that runs down Sunset Blvd.

Coming Soon.....

Town-wide paving on approximately 5 miles of roads

Repairs to Ryckman Building

Gazebo repairs in Ryckman Park

**Upcoming Town Meetings**



<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Town Hall Closed—Holidays	July 4th and September 4th		
Planning & Zoning Board Meeting	July 11 , August 8, Sept. 12	7:00 p.m.	Community Ctr
Town Commission Workshop	July 5, August 2, Sept. 6	5:30 p.m.	Town Hall
History Center Board Meeting	July 6, August 3, Sept. 7	5:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall
Historic Preservation & Awareness Board	July 11, August 8, Sept. 12	4:00 p.m.	Ryckman House
Parks Board Meeting	July 12, August 9, Sept. 13	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Town Commission Regular Meeting	July 19, August 16, Sept. 20	6:30 p.m.	Community Ctr.
Environmental Advisory Board	July 26, August 23, Sept. 27	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Melbourne Beach Volunteer Fire Dept.	Every Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall
AA	Every Wed.	7:30 p.m.	Old Town Hall

**Permitting**

**Not sure if you need a permit for your upcoming project? If you are uncertain, chances are a permit is required. For more information, go to our website at [melbournbeachfl.org](http://melbournbeachfl.org), click on the **Departments** drop-down menu then click on **“Building Official.”****

**Don’t hesitate to call us at 724-5860 to ensure you are in compliance with the Town’s Code.**

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The Town of Melbourne Beach road paving project will take place between July 5th and July 11th . The following streets are included: 3rd Avenue, Andrews Drive, Hibiscus Trail, Rosewood Drive, Birch Avenue, Elm Avenue, Dogwood Avenue, Surf Road, Acacia Boulevard, Citrus Court, Poinsettia Road, Coral Avenue, Neptune Drive and Fir Avenue. Please refer to our website under “News” for updated information about this project.**

**Save Our Lagoon and cease any fertilization between June 1st - September 30th.**

**2017 Municipal Elections**

Yep, it’s that time again; November 7<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner. Do you want to run for public office in Melbourne Beach? The seats open for the 2017 election are the Mayor’s seat (3 year term) and a Commission seat (1 year term). The qualifying period will begin at 12:00 p.m. on August 28, 2017 and end at 12:00 p.m. on September 1, 2017. Qualifying packages will be available in July. If you have any questions, contact the Town Clerk at 321-724-5860.





## Hurricane Preparedness List

You can't be over prepared—keep this list handy  
(complete list can be found on our website at [melbournebeachfl.org](http://melbournebeachfl.org))  
Thanks go to Chief Duncan for providing this information

### General Supplies

Use this list to help you collect items you'll need during and after a storm.

**Pack a to-go bag:** This overnight bag should be easy to take with you if you have to evacuate in a hurry and should include a change of clothes, bottled water, flashlight and important documents.

**Cash:** ATMs and credit card machines may not work for a while after the storm.

**Battery-operated radio:** Make sure you have extra batteries too, so that you can keep up with news reports and alerts. Hand-crank radios work well, too.

**Secure a two-week supply of prescription medicine:** Anyone on prescription medications, as well as pregnant women, should pack a two-week supply of their meds in a sealable plastic bag, clearly labeled. Include instructions for taking the medications, too.

**Flashlight and lanterns:** Make sure you have a couple of flashlights, candles, matches, lanterns and other alternate sources of light.

**Personal hygiene items:** It might be hard to get to the store to buy toilet paper, tissues, soap and other sanitary items after the storm.

**Extra keys:** Having an extra set of keys in your kit is a good idea in case people get separated or if they're lost in a flood or the confusion.

**Pet items:** Remember food, medicine and water for your pet, too.

**Disinfectant:** You never know what mess you'll have after a storm.

**Checklist:** This printable checklist can serve as a guide for your own personal checklist. Give one to each family member to personalize.

**Extra batteries:** You'll need extra batteries for your radio, flashlights, and other items. Get these early before they all sell out.

**Prepare early:** Emergency items sell out quickly at the stores, so stock up your kit before hurricane season even starts, and replenish food supplies every six months.

### First Aid

These first aid items are a must for every household.

**Antiseptic solution:** Keep this on hand to keep infections at bay.

**Allergy medicine:** Storms can blow in all kinds of icky stuff that drive your allergies wild.

**First aid instructions:** Print out instructions for the Heimlich, CPR and other basic aid in case you panic in an emergency.

**Mosquito repellent:** If it floods — or even rains a lot — your area could have a serious and potentially dangerous mosquito problem.

**Prescription glasses:** If you run out of contact solution or all the nastiness in the air after a storm irritates you, you'll have back-up glasses.

**Adhesive tape:** You can use this to fasten bandages, hold large lacerations together and even splint broken bones.

**Gauze, bandages and band-aids:** Even little cuts and scrapes need to be dressed, so have a range of bandages on hand.

**Hand sanitizer:** Nothing compares to soap and water, but in a fix, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will help.

**Sunscreen:** If you have to evacuate, take sunscreen with you in case you get stuck on the highway.

### Food and Water

Know which foods to keep on hand during a storm.

**Food and water should last for 72 hours:** Make sure you have enough supplies to last everyone in the house for at least 72 hours.

**Replace stored goods every six months:** If you're keeping a kit stocked around the year, replace food items every six months to ensure freshness and safety.

**Be aware of boil water alerts:** After a storm, you may have to boil water for a few days at least due to flooded wells, spilled sewage and other contamination.

**Prepare your refrigerator ahead of time:** Stock your freezer with dry ice to keep food frozen longer if the power goes out.

**Get out your ice chest:** Fill an ice chest with dry ice before and after the storm to keep food cold.

**Canned foods:** Canned meat, fish, fruits, soups, milk and vegetables are all smart, easy-to-prepare options.

**Pick higher calorie foods:** You'll need to eat foods with more calories and nutrition per serving to sustain your energy.

**Buy perishable foods right before the storm:** When everyone else is out buying canned items, you can buy cookies, raisins, dry cereal, pepperoni and cheese that doesn't need to be refrigerated. These will give you more variety but will still last a few days if you don't have power.

**Use camping gear:** If you have basic camping gear like a small grill, you can make simple meals while the power's out.

**Baby formula:** Don't forget to store enough baby formula and baby food.



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

PRSR STD  
 ECRWSS  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL  
 POSTAL CUSTOMER

**Evacuating**

Find out what to do if an evacuation is in order.

**Find a place for pets ahead of time:** If you're unable to take your pets with you, make arrangements ahead of time, and never leave your pet chained up or alone on your property. It's cruel.

**Get a real map:** You may not be able to rely on your GPS, especially if roads are blocked or flooded. Get a real map to help you find your way out.

**Plan meeting places:** Pick two or three meeting places — one inside your home, one inside your neighborhood, and one outside your neighborhood for whenever the storm hits or where you plan to evacuate.

**Sleeping bag:** Get a sleeping bag, blankets and pillows ready if you have to evacuate.

**Keep your gas tank at least half full:** Fill it up all the way unless authorities are rationing it, but even when you're on the road, try not to let your tank get lower than half full.

**Familiarize yourself with evacuation routes:** There should be standard routes, but listen to the news to learn about any new or updated routes.

**Plan to stay with friends:** Hotels will book up quickly, so plan to stay with friends or family who live inland at least for the first couple of nights.

**Find out if you live in an evacuation zone:** You may not even have to worry about evacuating.

**Leave when you're told:** Avoid the worst traffic, road closures and getting stuck behind by leaving right when you're told to go.

**Carefully inspect your home upon return:** Before letting children back, watch for snakes, rats, hanging electrical wires and loose debris.

**WHAT IS A FATBERG?**

Do you wonder where our wastewater goes? This was recently a subject for discussion and it was found that our wastewater is treated at the South Beaches Wastewater Treatment Plant here in Melbourne Beach on S. A1A. This plant also serves Satellite Beach, Indian Harbor Beach and Indialantic. Brevard County has six facilities spread throughout the county, plus, many of the municipalities within the county operate their own wastewater systems. While reading about this lovely subject on Brevard County's website, there was information regarding *flushable wipes* and how they should not be flushed down the toilet contrary to what is stated on product labels. As stated on Brevard County's website, their use (and subsequent flushing) causes:

- ◆ Clogs in homeowner's plumbing
- ◆ Sewer lines clogging
- ◆ Lift stations clogging
- ◆ Sewer systems clogging
- ◆ Sewer overflows into the environment
- ◆ Sewer backups inside customer's homes
- ◆ Increased maintenance costs

*Titantic Fatbergs Of Grease And Wet Wipes Are Clogging City Sewers*  
 - Forbes Magazine

*15-ton "fatberg" blasted out of London sewer*  
 - CBS News

These backed up masses of wipes have been given a name - *fatbergs*. Wikipedia defines *fatbergs* as: **congealed lumps of fat, sanitary items, wet wipes, and similar items found in sewer systems, which do not break down like toilet paper.**

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

**[www.MelbourneBeachFL.org](http://www.MelbourneBeachFL.org)**