



CITY CONNECTION

Fall Newsletter – September 2026



CELEBRATE THE SEASON IN SOUTH PASADENA

Join us for an afternoon of family fun at **Trunk or Treat** in October, then keep the festive spirit going as we kick off the Winter holidays with our **Tree Lighting Ceremony** in November. And be sure to mark your calendars for one of the most dazzling traditions of the year—the **Holiday Lighted Boat Parade** in December, where the water comes alive with sparkling displays.

Find all the details on pages 7-10.



2026–2027 Millage Rate and Budget Adopted

At the September 16, 2026 Special Commission Meeting, the City Commission passed Resolution No. 2026-07 adopting a final millage rate of 5.8106 mills for the levying of ad valorem taxes. Also at that meeting, the City Commission passed Ordinance No. 2026-03 adopting the fiscal year 2026/2027 budget.

For more information about ad valorem taxes and the City budget, please contact the Finance Department at 727-347-4171.

Notice of General Election Qualifying Period

The City of South Pasadena, Florida is scheduled to hold a municipal election on Tuesday, March 9, 2027. The election will be for two Commissioners to serve 4-year terms. Qualifying begins at 12:00 noon on Monday, November 2, 2026 and ends at 12:00 noon on Monday, November 16, 2026. Candidates shall have been a resident of the city for one year and shall be a duly qualified elector of the city. An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 10:00 AM at City Hall for anyone interested in becoming a candidate for the March 9, 2027 election. This meeting is informational only and attendance is not required in order to run for election.

For more information about qualifying or the election, please contact the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171 or via email at cityhall@mysouthpasadena.com.



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Your City in Action

Serving, supporting, and strengthening South Pasadena.

Florida League of Cities Annual Conference

Representing the City of South Pasadena, City leadership attended the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference in August.

Mayor Penny, Vice Mayor Reid, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Neidinger joined municipal leaders from across the state to learn, share ideas and explore new strategies for serving Florida communities.

Sessions covered a range of timely topics, including disaster preparedness, data centers, artificial intelligence, and effective social media for local governments.

The conference was a valuable opportunity to gain new ideas that can help strengthen the City's work and better serve our community.



Representing Your Community



In August, the Florida League of Cities announced that Vice Mayor Tom Reid was appointed to serve on its 2026-2027 Finance & Taxation Committee, one of the League's five Legislative Policy Committees. Vice Mayor Reid was also recently elected to the newly created at-large seat for the Florida League Of Cities Board of Directors. Board members help guide the League's strategic direction and programs that support more than 400 member cities statewide.

Additionally, Vice Mayor Reid was recently re-appointed to serve on the PSTA Board of Directors.



Arthur Penny Mayor, City of South Pasadena apenny@mysouthpasadena.com

"MY CITY: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It."

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

During August, several Commissioners and I attended educational training sessions provided by the Florida League of Cities. Municipal leaders from all 411 Florida cities attended. Sessions covered property taxes, Home Rule, data centers, disaster response, and using artificial intelligence (AI) to speed up city processes (e.g., site plan reviews to expedite permit approvals).

The conference was a great opportunity for local officials to network and learn from each other. We are honored to serve our city and gain knowledge to improve our community.

Upcoming Events

Don't forget to mark your calendars for this year's fall and winter events, including Trunk or Treat on October 24th, the Holiday Tree Lighting on November 20th, and the Lighted Boat Parade on December 11th. For more information, check out the City website or social media pages. Boater registration is already open. To register as a boater, contact Bella Moore at MarineMax: (727) 561-7887 or bella.moore@marinemax.com.

Flood Insurance Discounts

We completed our 5-year Community Rating System Verification Visit in June 2025 and received a letter stating that we have moved to Class 7, which provides our residents with a 15% discount on their flood insurance.

Public Works

It's not just us; unprecedented rain events and flooding have been happening across Tampa Bay and across Florida. There's been a significant amount of rain in a short time, which is causing flooding throughout the city. Grounds are completely saturated. This means that rainwater that would normally soak into the ground is now running off into the street. The City's drainage system, designed decades ago to handle 7 inches in 24 hours, was overwhelmed when 2 inches fell in less than an hour during a high tide (9/1/26). Standard systems in Florida aren't built for such quick water volume. Hot spots in South Pasadena include Oleander Way S, Sunset Dr S, and Grande Vista Way.

Public Safety

Prevention – Fire prevention remains a top priority for the South Pasadena Fire Department and is essential for protecting residents, businesses, and visitors. The Department's proactive inspections and code enforcement work with business owners, condo associations, and property managers to identify hazards, ensure code compliance, and lower fire risk. The Mobile-Eyes platform has improved inspection efficiency, documentation, and tracking. So far in 2026, 105 recurring fire inspections have been completed, including all pending re-inspections from 2025 that were delayed by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. These efforts continue to enhance our community's safety, resilience, and preparedness.

Over the past three months, South Pasadena responded to 423 service calls, while (Rescue) R20 and (Truck) T20 responded to 646, averaging 7.0 calls daily. Call volume is about 27% lower due to vacant high-rises and nursing facilities from storm repairs. Overall, call volumes are manageable, and deployment remains effective.

Sincerely,

Mayor Arthur Penny



Thank you, Publix!

Publix Super Market at South Pasadena stopped by Fire Station 20 in September to treat our firefighters to subs and cookies as a thank you for all they do for the community.

Our firefighters are dedicated to serving South Pasadena, responding when help is needed, and working to keep residents and visitors safe.

Thank you to Publix for recognizing their service and showing support for our Fire Department!

Hurricane Preparedness Presentation

Nearly 40 residents from Chateau Tower and Les Chateaux Condominiums joined Chief Mixson Hurricane Preparedness Presentation in August.

Thank you to everyone who attended and took the time to learn how to better protect their families, homes, and neighbors this hurricane season.



COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS STARTS WITH BEING INFORMED.

Interested in bringing a Hurricane Preparedness Presentation to your neighborhood, HOA, condo association, or community group?

The South Pasadena Fire Department is available to provide educational presentations throughout the year. Contact the South Pasadena Fire Department at 727-344-1666 or fireadmin@mysouthpasadena.com to learn more and schedule a presentation for your community.

LIBRARY CARD FEE UPDATE



Effective October 1, 2026, the annual library card rate for residents of South Pasadena will be \$50.

Residents of South Pasadena may obtain a library card for use at any Pinellas Public Library Cooperative (PPLC) library countywide.

Interested residents should visit South Pasadena City Hall with proof of residency, pay the appropriate fee, and receive a voucher. The voucher is then redeemable at the St. Pete Beach Library where a card is issued.

Please note that unlike many other jurisdictions, residents of South Pasadena do not pay for countywide library services as a separate tax. Only those residents who wish to use library services are asked to pay the fee.

The total cost for a library card for a South Pasadena resident is \$100 with the City subsidizing the remaining \$50 of the cost once a resident's fee is paid.

For more information about library cards, please visit

www.mysouthpasadena.com/government/departments/administration/library_cards

PERMIT REMINDER



Be sure to only hire licensed contractors when having work done at your house, condo or business. Almost all items require a permit. These items must be included in substantial improvement/damage packets per FEMA guidance.

All contractors must have an active state license and submit certificate of liability and worker's compensation documentation from their insurance company before they can work or be issued a permit in the City of South Pasadena. This is done to ensure that only qualified, licensed and insured contractors are doing work for the residents of our community.

Remember, as the property owner, it is your responsibility to make sure that a permit has been obtained and posted prior to work being performed. If there are any questions as to whether or not a permit is necessary, please do not hesitate to contact the Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192 between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm.

LET'S CELEBRATE

Recognition of Service

The following employee is celebrating a milestone anniversary with the City:

**Firefighter/Paramedic
Ryan Bartlett - 5 Years**

Congratulations!



CONGRATULATIONS TO SALON CANVAS AND SOCIAL!

Mayor Penny visited new local business Salon Canvas and Social, located at 728 Pasadena Avenue South.

Owned by husband and wife team Alessandro and Erica Delia, Salon Canvas and Social is a full-service hair salon and social gathering space with rotating art installations, now open and ready to serve the community.

Congratulations and welcome to South Pasadena, Salon Canvas and Social!

PULLING PERMITS FOR STORM REPAIRS?

To obtain permits for storm repairs in South Pasadena, you'll need to visit the Community Improvement Department.

Their office is located at 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL 33707.

The department operates Monday through Friday, from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm and is open to the public from 7:30 am - 12:30 pm.



For more information about permitting activity or substantial damage determinations, contact the Community Improvement Department at buildingdepartment@mysouthpasadena.com or 727-343-4192.

BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT RENEWAL FEES ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2026.

After September 30th, late charges are applied and delinquent notices are mailed out after the 1st of each month following. Please note that the Community Improvement Department Office is located in the City Hall Annex Building at 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South.

Should you have any questions or need any assistance regarding your Business Tax Receipt Renewal, please contact Licensing Official, Renee' Reid, in the Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192.

Rev. 7/24





TRUNK OR TREAT

A SAFE AND EXCITING
WAY FOR KIDS TO
TRICK-OR-TREAT ALL
IN ONE PLACE.



CITY COMMISSION,
CITY STAFF, AND
PUBLIC SAFETY ARE
DECORATING
THEIR TRUNKS!

SATURDAY
**OCT
24**

**BAY VIEW PARK
7054 SUNSET DR S**

KIDS (AND ADULTS!) ARE ENCOURAGED
TO DRESS UP AND JOIN IN THE FUN.

**3PM
TO
5PM**



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[@CityofSouthPasadenaFL](https://www.instagram.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL)

BE HALLOWEEN Safe

Halloween is a fun and spooky time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



Sparky® is a trademark of the NFPA®.

HALLOWEEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- **When choosing a costume**, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.
- **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks, and crepe paper catch fire easily. **Keep all decorations** away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- **Use a battery-operated** candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways, and yards.
- **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations so nothing blocks escape routes.
- **Make sure** all smoke alarms in the home are working.
- **Tell children** to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop, and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in more than **800** reported home fires each year. Nearly one-third of these fires were started by a candle.



YOUR SOURCE FOR SAFETY INFORMATION
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



www.nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2024



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SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL

Holiday Tree Lighting

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 AT 6:30PM

**BAY VIEW PARK
7054 SUNSET DRIVE**

**JOIN US AS MAYOR PENNY FLIPS THE
SWITCH TO LIGHT UP OUR PARKS FOR THE
SEASON WHILE ENJOYING LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC!**





CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

Holiday Lighted Boat Parade and Viewing Party

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 6:00 PM

Barbara Gilberg Habitat
1600 Pasadena Avenue South

CALL FOR BOATERS! SIGN UP NOW!

Prizes will be awarded in two categories—
boats 25' & under and boats over 25'.

First place in each category - \$1,200

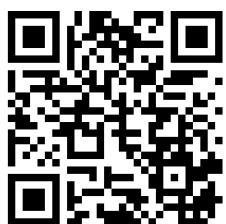
Second place in each category - \$750

Third place in each category - \$500

**To register for the parade as a boater,
contact Bella Moore at MarineMax—
bella.moore@marinemax.com
or 727-561-7887**

Get a \$100
gas card for
participating
as a boater!

Claim your
spot today!



**Visit the City's website or
Facebook for more details!**

www.facebook.com/CityofSouthPasadenaFL

Special Thanks to our Partners at:

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South Pasadena Charges into Fire Safety

As autumn settles in, South Pasadena joins communities nationwide in marking Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10. Led by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), this annual observance reminds residents that many fire hazards are preventable with awareness, preparation, and action.

Key Steps Residents Can Take

Here are simple but vital actions to safeguard your home and family:

- Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Replace batteries and test devices so they're always working.
- Make (and practice) an escape plan. Every household should map two exits from every bedroom and agree on a meeting place outside.
- Keep fire hazards away. Clear away dead leaves, store flammable materials safely, and watch that space heaters are placed with enough clearance.
- Be cautious in the kitchen. Cooking remains one of the leading causes of home fires. Never leave hot surfaces unattended.
- Know your neighborhood's emergency contacts. Have the South Pasadena Fire Department's non-emergency and emergency numbers handy.



A Message from Chief Mixson

"In South Pasadena, we take pride in our community and its safety" said Fire Chief David Mixson.

"Fire Prevention Week is more than just a reminder — it's an opportunity for every resident to make small changes that save lives."

"We all share responsibility for keeping our homes and neighbors safe. Let's use this week to talk about fire safety around the dinner table, check those smoke alarms, and help each other stay prepared."





Safe Charging Is a SUPERPOWER

Charge into Fire Safety™

Safe charging means making smart choices every time you plug in. Everyday charging habits can help prevent lithium-ion battery fires.

Safe charging is a SUPERPOWER!

USE YOUR CHARGING SUPERPOWERS



CHEAP CHARGER? DON'T CHANCE IT.

Use the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer.

Why it matters: Using the wrong charger can damage the battery and increase the chance of fire. Cheap or off-brand chargers may not meet important safety standards.



SOFT SURFACE? HARD PASS.

Charge on a hard, flat surface like a table, desk, or bare floor.

Why it matters: Devices and chargers create heat during normal charging. Soft surfaces like beds, pillows, and couches can trap heat and block airflow, which can cause a battery to overheat.



FEELS HOT? STOP USING IT.

Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, smells strange, leaks, smokes, or makes popping or hissing sounds.

Why it matters: A damaged battery can overheat and start a fire.



FULLY CHARGED? TIME TO UNPLUG.

Unplug your device when it is fully charged.

Why it matters: Leaving a device plugged in can increase heat and stress on the battery.



FOR TOOLS AND RIDES, CHARGE OUTSIDE.

Charge large items like e-bikes, scooters, and power tools outside when possible. Do not block exits when charging.

Why it matters: These batteries are larger and store more energy. Fires can grow quickly if the battery fails.



OUT OF SIGHT? NOT IN FLIGHT.

When on a plane, keep devices where you can see them while charging. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on the plane. Tell a flight attendant if you notice a problem with your device, such as if it feels very hot, starts to swell, is smoking, or has a strange smell.

Why it matters: If a battery overheats or fails, it is important for the flight crew to be able to respond quickly.

— Working smoke alarms and a home fire escape plan can help make a life-saving difference. —



BATTERY SAFETY STARTS BEFORE YOU PLUG IN

Buy products listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL, ETL, or CSA.* Listed products meet important safety standards.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The Leading Information and Knowledge Resource on Fire, Electrical, and Related Hazards

nfpa.org/education | ©2026 NFPA®

*The listing of specific commercial products or services herein is solely for educational purposes and does not imply endorsement by NFPA, nor discrimination against similar services not mentioned.



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WHY SOUTH PASADENA RESIDENTS MUST EVACUATE DURING A MANDATORY ORDER

The City of South Pasadena lies entirely within Level A, the highest-risk evacuation zone in Pinellas County. When a Mandatory Evacuation Order is issued by Pinellas County Emergency Management, it is based on a serious and imminent threat—storm surge flooding, the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths.

Why Evacuate?

Evacuation orders are not issued lightly. They are designed to save lives. In Level A zones like South Pasadena, storm surge can quickly overwhelm homes, roads, and infrastructure. Even a Category 1 hurricane can produce dangerous flooding in our community. If you're in the evacuation zone, you must leave when an order is given.

In addition, residents of mobile homes and manufactured homes must always evacuate, regardless of evacuation zone, due to the risk of wind damage.

Know Your Zone

Evacuation zones are based on storm surge risk. Know your zone before the hurricane season and monitor local updates. Visit disaster.pinellas.gov to confirm your zone and stay informed.

When a Storm Is Approaching

- Fill your gas tank or charge your electric vehicle
- Gather cash, medications, important documents, and valuables
- Prepare your emergency kit
- If registered for special needs transportation, expect a call from the county
- Check on neighbors who may need help evacuating

When the Evacuation Order Is Issued

- Finalize your preparations and leave as early as possible
- Turn off utilities if you're leaving your home
- Monitor disaster.pinellas.gov for updates and shelter openings
- If using special needs transportation, be ready for pickup
- Be out of the area before storm-force winds arrive

Timing Is Everything

Delaying your evacuation is dangerous. Roads may close, emergency services may not be able to assist, and your options may disappear. Leave early, stay informed, and take action when the order is issued. Your safety—and the safety of your loved ones—depends on it.



“Run from the water. Hide from the Wind.”

Picture the Threat

Storm surge is not just a coastal hazard. This graphic shows examples of storm surge scenarios to illustrate how far inland storm surge can be pushed and the damages it can cause. Storm surge will impact coastal waters first and continue to push inland. For Hurricane Ian, storm surge reached up to 15 feet at the coast on Fort Myers Beach, and was pushed 15 miles inland. Along rivers and waterways, storm surge was pushed up to 24 miles inland, with a depth up to eight feet. Evacuation orders are issued to move people out of harm's way.

If the weather forecast says surge height could be...

5-7 feet

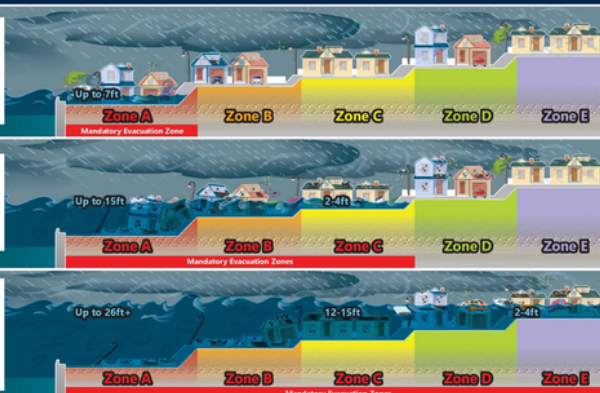
- Roads are flooded; cars are flooded.
- Fast-moving storm surge may enter homes, with water above electrical outlets.
- Life-threatening conditions.

12-15 feet

- Storm surge is up to house rooflines in Evacuation Zones A and B.
- Homes can be moved from their foundations.
- You are not likely to survive this.

26+ feet

- Homes in Zones A and B may be swept off their foundations.
- Catastrophic damage along the coast.
- Extensive flooding in all zones: inside homes, cars, on roads.
- You are not likely to survive this.



SPECIAL NEEDS

Hurricane Preparedness

The best time to prepare for an emergency is well ahead of time. When you prepare from a position of safety and calm, you and your caregivers can better cope with an emergency or disaster situation when it happens. An emergency or disaster may present unique challenges for people with disabilities and special needs. If you or someone you care for has a disability or special need, you may have to take additional steps to prepare yourself and your family.

Here's what you need to get ready for an emergency or disaster:

Form a Personal Support Network:

These are the people you should involve in your emergency planning and can help you in an emergency situation. They include your nearby family, friends, caregivers, neighbors and co-workers. Be sure to give at least one trusted member of your support network a key to your house or apartment. Also, let members of your support group know where you store your emergency kit. Most importantly, you should not rely on just one person, but have at least three or more people you can call on for help.

Complete a Personal Assessment:

Make a list of your personal needs and your resources. You need to take into account what you will be able to do for yourself and what assistance you may need before, during and after a disaster such as a hurricane. This should include daily living needs (personal care/personal care equipment, adaptive feeding devices and electricity-dependent equipment), your ability to get around before, during and after a disaster (cleaning up disaster debris, transportation and blocked roads) and evacuating if necessary.

Get Informed:

Know about the specific hazards that threaten your community (hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, etc.). Learn about community disaster plans and community warning systems and find out more about special assistance programs. Local citizens with disabilities and special needs should register with <https://pinellas.gov/special-needs>.

Write It Down:

Keep a copy of important phone numbers and other contact information for loved ones, medical providers and emergency services as part of your emergency communications plan.

Create an Emergency Kit:

Your emergency kit should have supplies specific to your special needs. A complete list of suggested items can be found on page 17.



SURVIVING THE STORM

IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



STORM PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES

The City of South Pasadena suggests utilizing the following guidelines in helping you prepare for the upcoming Hurricane Season. As we've seen in past seasons, even a single storm can have a dramatic impact on the community. The South Pasadena Fire Department urges all residents to prepare for hurricane season, regardless of the forecasted activity, as storms can affect us in unexpected ways. Be sure to have your emergency plans in place and stay informed as the season approaches.

PRE HURRICANE SEASON MAINTENANCE

Preparations should be completed long before the beginning of hurricane season, June 1st.

- Cut back all trees and weak branches that could contact buildings.
- Thin your foliage so wind can flow freely through branches, decreasing the chance that the trees/plants will be uprooted. Keep gutters and drains free of debris.
- Place trimmings at the curb on Tuesdays/Fridays – the trimmings should not exceed 4 feet in length and 6 inches in diameter, tied in bundles.
- Place small pieces of vegetation, such as leaves, twigs, etc., in bags or cans that weigh less than 40 lbs. When full, place at the curb on your scheduled household waste pickup day.
- Clean your yard of any items that could become missiles in a storm such as old lumber, lawn furniture, barbecue grills, etc.
- Sign up for local alerts and warnings – <http://www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas>.
- Monitor local news and weather reports.
- Prepare to evacuate by learning evacuation routes, having a place to stay and packing a "go bag."
- Protect your property by reviewing insurance documents, making sure fuel tanks are anchored, installing sewer backflow valves and categorizing belongings.
- Collect and safeguard critical financial, medical, educational and legal documents.



ONCE A STORM HAS BEEN NAMED

- Follow guidance from local authorities.
- The City of South Pasadena is in an "A" evacuation zone.
- If advised to evacuate, grab your "go bag" and leave as soon as possible.
- Do not cut down trees, trim vegetation, do major yard work or construction projects that cause debris.
- Mass cutting places a tremendous burden on the normal collection process and there is not enough equipment or manpower to collect the additional material before the storm makes landfall. You could put not only yourself at risk but your neighbors as well.
- Do not take materials to the curb, transfer stations or landfill during a watch or warning period. Services may be suspended and facilities closed early to prepare for the storm.
- For protection from high winds, stay away from windows and seek shelter on the lowest level in an interior room. Install storm shutters on doors and windows.
- For protection from flooding, move to higher ground.
- Turn around, don't drown. Never walk or drive on flooded roads or through water.
- Call 911 if you are in life-threatening danger.

AFTER THE STORM HAS PASSED – PLEASE BE PATIENT!

- Return to the area only after authorities say it is safe to do so. Do not enter damaged buildings until they are inspected by qualified professionals.
- Never walk or drive on flooded roads or through floodwaters.
- Look out for downed or unstable trees and power lines.
- Wear gloves and sturdy shoes to protect your eyes and feet when removing debris.
- Keep household garbage, recycling and vegetative and/or construction storm debris in separate piles.
- The City of South Pasadena's number one priority is the collection of household garbage.
- Secure all household garbage in plastic bags or cans on your scheduled pickup day.
- Do not place any debris near or on a fence, mailbox, power line equipment, poles, transformers, downed electrical wiring, water meters or storm drains. Place it near the road so that it can be easily picked up from the debris removal trucks.
- Be prepared to repair possible damage to yard areas from the specialized equipment used to collect storm debris.
- Contact the City of South Pasadena Public Works Department at 727-384-0701 or City Hall at 727-347-4171 for updates on your collection services.

Rev. 04/2025

IMPORTANT!

****There is no reimbursement provided to any individual resident or condominium association who hires a private contractor to remove and dispose of storm-related debris.****

The City of South Pasadena asks all residents of the City to be our partners in restoring the City to its pre-storm state. Your cooperation and support enables the City of South Pasadena to complete the entire process in the quickest, safest and most efficient manner possible.





DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

General

- ☐ Two week minimum supply of medication, regularly used medical supplies, and a list of allergies
- ☐ A list of the style, serial number, and manufacturer information of required medical devices
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Flashlights
Do not use candles
- ☐ NOAA Weather Radio
Battery operated or hand cranked
- ☐ Cash
Banks and ATMs may not be available after a storm
- ☐ Cell phone chargers
- ☐ Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Phone Numbers

- ☐ Maintain a list of important phone numbers including:
County emergency management office, evacuation sites, doctors, banks, schools, veterinarian, a number for out of town contacts, friends and family

Clothing

- ☐ Rain gear such as jackets, hats, umbrellas and rain boots
- ☐ Sturdy shoes or boots and work gloves

Special Needs Items

- ☐ Specialty items for infants, small children, the elderly, and family members with disabilities

First Aid

- ☐ First Aid Manual
- ☐ Sterile adhesive bandages of different sizes
- ☐ Sterile gauze pads
- ☐ Hypoallergenic adhesive tape
- ☐ Triangular bandages
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Sewing needle
- ☐ Moistened towelettes
- ☐ Antiseptic
- ☐ Disinfectant wipes
- ☐ Hand sanitizer
- ☐ Thermometer
- ☐ Tube of petroleum jelly
- ☐ Safety pins
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Latex gloves
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Aspirin or other pain reliever
- ☐ Anti-diarrheal medicine
- ☐ Antacid
- ☐ Laxative
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Q-tips

Food and Water

- ☐ Food
Nonperishable packaged or canned food and beverages, snack foods, juices, baby food, and any special dietary items to last at least 7 days
- ☐ Water
1 gallon per person per day
- ☐ Non-electric can opener
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Napkins
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Utensils

Important Documents

- ☐ Insurance cards
- ☐ Medical records
- ☐ Banking information
- ☐ Credit card numbers
- ☐ Copies of social security cards
- ☐ Copies of birth and/or marriage certificates
- ☐ Other personal documents
- ☐ Set of car, house, and office keys
- ☐ Service animal I.D., veterinary records, and proof of ownership
- ☐ Information about where you receive medication, the name of the drug, and dosage
- ☐ Copy of Will

**Items should be kept in a water proof container*

Vehicle

- ☐ Keep your motor vehicle tanks filled with gasoline

Pet Care Items

- ☐ Pet food and water to last at least 7 days
- ☐ Proper identification
- ☐ Medical records/microchip information
- ☐ A carrier or cage
- ☐ Muzzle and leash
- ☐ Water and food bowls
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Supplies for your service animal

Find more disaster preparedness tips at
FloridaDisaster.org

ALL PROPERTY IN THE CITY LIMITS OF SOUTH PASADENA IS SUBJECT TO FLOODING!

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FLOOD FACTS

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies issued or renewed in the City of South Pasadena receives a 10% premium discount. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), this discount is the result of the City's qualifying as a Class 8 in the NFIP Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System. The City has achieved this rating through activities such as maintenance of drainage facilities, regulation of stormwater discharge and distribution of this information as part of the Community Outreach Program.

Assistance is Available

Publications pertaining to property protection, flood safety, etc. can be obtained at South Pasadena City Hall – 7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena, FL; at the Community Improvement Department – 6940 Hibiscus Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL; or through information links on the City of South Pasadena website: www.mysouthpasadena.com. Questions pertaining to flood zone, protection methods, flood elevation certificates, grant assistance, etc., please contact the City of South Pasadena Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The most recent Flood Insurance Rate Map for South Pasadena went into effect on August 24, 2021. The new flood maps are available at <https://floodmaps.pinellascounty.org>. Since all of South Pasadena is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, it is important to know the base flood elevation of the property and the flood insurance purchase requirements. The City of South Pasadena has copies of elevation certificates for many structures in the community.

Are you insured?

Since 1851, only 18 hurricane seasons have passed without a known storm impacting the State of Florida. Property losses due to flooding are not covered under most standard homeowner insurance policies. You can protect your home and its contents with flood insurance through the NFIP. NFIP is a federal program that enables property owners to buy flood insurance at reasonable rates in participating communities. In return, participating communities carry out flood management measures designed to protect life and property from future flooding. FEMA, through its Federal Insurance Administration, administers the NFIP.

As a Special Flood Hazard Area, flood insurance is required for all properties in the City of South Pasadena with a federally backed mortgage. To find out more about flood insurance for your property and its contents, contact your insurance agent. There is usually a waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effects; so do not wait until a storm threatens before you secure the flood insurance you need.

Flood Threat

Flooding in South Pasadena can be caused by heavy rainfall that occurs in short periods of time, as is common during summer thunderstorms, and by tidal surges that accompany coastal storms, tropical storms and hurricanes. Hurricane tidal surges are the City's greatest threat and can cause flooding up to 24 hours before the "eye" of the storm reaches the coast. Because the City has low land elevations and abuts the Boca Ciega Bay, the flood threat is significant. FEMA has identified the entire City as a Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. These maps establish base flood elevations for development within these areas with the lowest permitted habitable flood levels ranging from 10 to 15 feet above sea level.

Flood Warning Systems

The Pinellas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) works with the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center, and the local municipalities to monitor flood and storm threats. This information is then used to alert communities to the threats they are facing. Flood alerts are issued by: TV 8; TV 13; TV 10; and Bay News 9. For evacuation centers or other information on flooding, you can write to: Pinellas County Emergency Management, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 OR visit <https://pinellas.gov/emergency-information/public-shelters>.

Storm Warnings

- Tropical storm watch: Tropical storm conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Tropical storm warning: Tropical storm conditions are expected within 36 hours.
- Hurricane watch: Hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours.
- Hurricane warning: Hurricane conditions expected within 36 hours. All preparations should be complete.



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Flood Safety Measures

South Pasadena residents can protect themselves from flood hazards by taking measures to ensure the safety of life and property before, during, and after a flood occurs. These safety measures include:

Prepare Before the Storm

- Know your evacuation plan. Evacuation time for South Pasadena could take hours because the City's evacuation routes are prone to flooding early in a storm. Pinellas County has posted all primary evacuation routes with blue and white signs.
- Review your family disaster plan.
- Check your survival kit, important insurance papers, and have identification ready. Verify that you have food, water, medication and toiletry essentials early to avoid long lines and shortages.
- Prepare your home and yard (be sure you have all materials and tools necessary to shutter windows).
- If you have special needs, be sure your caregiver begins to implement your plan and you are registered for a special needs shelter if necessary.
- Gather special supplies for infants, children, seniors and pets.

Pinellas County EMS, the South Pasadena Fire Department and PSTA work together to provide evacuation assistance to those persons requiring special assistance enrolled in the County's special assistance program. If you are physically impaired or require special assistance to evacuate, write to:

Pinellas County Emergency Management, Public Safety Complex, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Building 1, Suite 267, Largo, FL 33778 or call 727-464-3800 to register. You can also call your nearest fire department or home health care provider. Do not wait for a storm to strike! Write or call as soon as possible for an application requesting placement into the program.

Preparation for Evacuation

Keep a battery-powered radio tuned to local stations, and if an evacuation order is given, comply with it. Even if the evacuation order turns out to be unnecessary, leaving the area is better than potentially risking the loss of life by staying.

When preparing your home prior to evacuation, it is advisable to:

- Turn off all the electricity, with the possible exception of the power to your refrigerator;
- Fill your tubs, sinks, and any available containers with water, in case fresh water is not available after the storm (Sanitize tubs and sinks with bleach, rinse and then fill);
- Shut off your waterline to prevent any contaminated water from backing up into your house;
- Move as many valuables as possible to upper floors;
- Elevate furniture, if possible;
- Create floodway openings in non-habitable areas such as garage doors;
- Seal off sewer lines to the dwelling to prevent the backflow of sewer waters. After the storm the City will be working as quickly as possible to ensure a speedy and safe return to your homes.
- Keep a battery-powered radio with you so you can listen for emergency updates and news reports.
- Use a battery-powered flashlight to inspect a damaged home (The flashlight should be turned on outside before entering- the battery may produce a spark that could ignite leaking gas, if present).
- Stay off the streets. If you must go out, watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.
- Do not drive through a flooded area- Don't Drown, Turn Around.
- Keep children away from the floodwaters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.
- Clean everything that has been wet.
- Use the phone only to report life-threatening emergencies.
- Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes.

More people are injured after a storm due to unsafe buildings, downed power lines, contaminated water, and other unsafe conditions than are injured in the storm itself. Carefully check for structural damage prior to entering a building. Use caution when re-entering the structure. Turn on electricity one breaker at a time and watch for smoke or sparks.

Property Protection

While recent construction practices and regulations have made new homes less prone to flooding, many existing structures remain susceptible. Retrofitting non-compliant buildings is a recommended approach to reduce flooding. While the property itself remains subject to flooding, the building is modified to prevent or minimize flooding of habitable space. Several approaches to retrofitting are:

- Elevation of the structure above flood protection levels
- Construction of barriers (floodwalls, berms)
- Dry flood proofing (water tight floor and wall systems)
- Wet flood proofing (construction that allows the entry and passage of flood water). This is only allowed for non-habitable structures.
- Removing or relocating items of value to higher elevation levels.

Floodplain Management

The City's Stormwater Management Regulations require new construction and substantial remodeling to meet stringent standards in order to increase the survivability of structures, reduce the cost of repair and reconstruction after a storm event, and ensure that reasonably priced flood insurance is available.

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Drainage System Maintenance

The City continues to improve and maintain its stormwater management system. This has reduced the amount and duration of road and yard flooding during the rainy season. The City routinely inspects and performs maintenance on drainage ditches, catch basins, and culverts that comprise the City's stormwater drainage system. If you see any areas that may need additional maintenance or if you experience any localized drainage problems, please call South Pasadena Public Works Department at (727) 384-0701.

Permit Requirements

The City administers flood management regulations that are designed to minimize the potential of flood losses in the City. Any development requires a permit from the City of South Pasadena Community Improvement Department, which ensures that all construction meets the Flood Insurance Rate Map (F.I.R.M.) elevation requirements. Such regulations include minimum elevations of lowest living floor areas plus an additional two (2) feet of elevation known as freeboard. Flood proofing of non-residential property will also have an additional two (2) feet of freeboard added. The placement of fill shall only be allowed for stem wall foundation and limitations on non-substantial improvements, additions and reconstruction. Following NFIP standards, the City mandates that if the cost of any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's depreciated value, then such work is considered a substantial improvement. The existing building is then required to meet the same standards as a new building.

The NFIP standards relating to substantial improvement are enforced through the development and building permitting process. Applicants for remodeling or repair of nonconforming structures (i.e., buildings which are not elevated to or above the base flood elevation) are required to submit a cost estimate of the improvement and, if necessary, an appraised value of the existing structure, to determine if the work constitutes a substantial improvement.

The building permit review is a necessary component of its participation in the NFIP, which makes flood insurance available to those who want to protect their property from flood damage. Development that occurs without permits threatens the City's continued participation in the NFIP and the ability to obtain flood insurance. If you see development occurring without permits, protect your rights and immediately contact the Community Improvement Department at (727) 343-4192. Two funding programs are available to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings insured under the NFIP.

Flood Mitigation Assistance

Qualified mitigation activities include elevation of the existing home or commercial structure, acquisition of the property, or relocation of the insured structure out of the floodplain. The structure must be insured under the NFIP and have suffered 2 or more flood losses; each with a claim of at least \$1,000 within any ten-year period since 1978.

Severe Repetitive Loss Program

A Severe Repetitive Loss property is defined as a residential property that is insured under the National Flood Insurance Program and has at least 4 flood insurance claim payments (building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000 within any ten-year period; or has at least 2 separate flood insurance claims payments (building payments only) have been made with cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building within any ten-year period.

For more information go to:

FEMA/NFIP at www.fema.gov

**Pinellas County Emergency Management at
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency**

**Florida Department of Emergency Management at
www.floridadisaster.org**

**The Official Hurricane Guide for Pinellas County at
<http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/default.htm#hurricaneguide>**

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News from the Public Works Department

What happens when fats, oils, and grease are poured down the sink?

When warm fats, oils, and grease (FOG) are poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet, they may not travel very far through your pipes before they begin to form large, nasty conglomerations with other debris and chemicals and stick to the walls of your pipes. These FOG deposits could cause future sewer backups in your home, condominium, restaurant, or other building.

The results of FOG buildup in pipes include:

- Severe reduction in pipe flow capacity
- Complete blockages
- Slow drains
- Sewage backups
- Contact with disease-carrying bacteria
- Unnecessary costly repairs
- Contamination of water sources

NO GREASE

POURING FOOD, OILS, AND GREASE DOWN THE DRAIN IS **DESTRUCTIVE AND COSTLY!**

Beware the F.O.G.

Prevent the CLOG



- Do not put oil and grease in covered collection containers.
- Do not scrape food scraps from dishes into trash cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using the garbage disposal.
- Do not remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers, and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe off excess grease.

DO NOT pour oil and grease down the drain.
DO NOT put food scraps down the drain.
DO NOT rinse off oil and grease with hot water.

**For more information contact:
Public Works Department
727-384-0701**

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A Clean Environment Is Important To All Of Us!

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!

Pollution Prevention Is Up To You!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Untreated pollutants, such as concrete, mortar, fertilizer in grass clippings and many more, flow directly into creeks, rivers, lakes and the ocean and are toxic to fish and other wildlife. Disposing of these materials into the storm drains causes serious ecological problems and is PROHIBITED by law.

Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices, or BMP's, are procedures that help to prevent pollutants, such as chemicals, concrete, mortar, pesticides, waste, paint and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains. All of these sources add up to a pollution problem, but each of us can do our part to keep stormwater clean. The efforts add up to a pollution solution!

What Can You Do?

- Never sweep or blow grass/lawn clippings into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- Always store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains and waterways.
- Keep all construction debris away from the streets, gutters and storm drains.
- Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, landscape drains, drainage ditches or streams.
- Look for and clean up material that may have traveled away from your property after each day's work.
- If you or your contractor keep a dumpster at your site, be sure it is securely covered with a lid or tarp when not in use.
- Protect dry materials from the wind. Don't allow dry products to blow into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters or storm drains.
- Don't place fill material, soil or compost piles on the sidewalk or street.
- During cleanups, check the streets and gutters for sediment, refuse or debris. Look around the corner or down the street and clean up any materials that may have already traveled away from your property.

WHO CAN YOU CONTACT?

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING, PLEASE CALL:

Community Improvement Department
727-343-4192

Public Works Department
727-384-0701

REPORT ILLICIT DISCHARGES

169-25. ILLICIT DISCHARGES

Specific prohibitions. Any discharge to the stormwater system containing sewage, oil, or petroleum products, grass clippings, fertilizers, paints or paint solvents, industrial waste or other waste materials containing any materials in violation of federal, state, county or municipal laws, rules, regulations, orders or permits is prohibited.

Stormwater 24-Hour Watchline
727-464-5060

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DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

Household Hazardous Waste Center (HHW)
2855 109th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL

Tuesday-Friday 7:00 am – 5:00 pm
1st & 3rd Saturday of each month 7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Closed on Sunday and all observed county holidays.



For more information, including what items to bring and what not to bring, call 727-464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste

AUTOMOTIVE/LEAD ACID BATTERIES/USED MOTOR OIL

Local drop off: Advance Auto Parts 4901 Gulfport Blvd. South 727-323-2971
They will accept up to 5 gallons of motor oil.
Most auto parts retailers accept old vehicle batteries at no charge.

White Goods/Appliances (electric or gas)

Contact: Waste Connections at 727-572-6800

NO FREON ACCEPTED

Household Grease

Use paper towels to absorb grease; place in regular trash.



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2026 PINELLAS COUNTY RECYCLE GUIDE

For more information on items that can/cannot be recycled, call 727-464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/recycle



UPCOMING SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meeting dates listed below are tentative and are subject to change. Please check the City's website or call the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171 for up-to-date information about meeting dates.

October 6	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
October 13	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting
October 20	9:00am	Administrative Workshop
November 3	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
November 10	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting
November 17	9:00am	Administrative Workshop
December 1	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
December 8	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting

Sign up for e-news on the City's website to receive the latest news and future newsletters via email. Visit www.mysouthpasadena.com

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS NOVEMBER 1ST!



DON'T FORGET TO FALL BACK!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL 9-1-1
IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY,
DO NOT CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION NUMBER.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

South Pasadena City Commission Meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 643 and rebroadcast the following Wednesday and Monday at 11:00 a.m.



Commission meetings can also be viewed on South Pasadena's official YouTube channel:

www.youtube.com/@CityofSouthPasadenaFL

Holiday Schedule

City offices will be closed on the following dates:



VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 11



THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

NOVEMBER 25 - CITY HALL CLOSING AT 12 NOON
NOVEMBER 26
NOVEMBER 27



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY



DECEMBER 23 - CITY HALL CLOSING AT 12 NOON
DECEMBER 24
DECEMBER 25



NEW YEAR'S



DECEMBER 31 - CITY HALL CLOSING AT 12 NOON
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1



Brochures and pamphlets on environmentally friendly landscaping are available at the Public Works Department or call 727-384-0701.

CITY HALL
7047 Sunset Dr. South

**City Commission,
Finance & Administration
Departments**
Phone: 727-347-4171
Fax: 727-345-0518

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

FIRE STATION 20
1477 Pasadena Ave. South

Public Safety Department
Phone: 727-344-1666
Fax: 727-381-4324

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Phone: 727-582-6200
Non-Emergency

CITY HALL ANNEX
6940 Hibiscus Ave. South

Community Improvement Department
Phone: 727-343-4192
Fax: 727-381-4819

Hours: Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 3:30 pm
Open to the Public: 7:30 am - 12:30 pm

Public Works Department
Phone: 727-384-0701
Fax: 727-347-4254