



CITY CONNECTION

Winter Newsletter - December 2025



HAPPY HOLIDAYS & HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE CITY COMMISSION AND STAFF!

(Pictured from Left to Right)

Commissioner Mark McAlees

Community Improvement Department

Mayor Arthur Penny

Administration Department

Santa

The North Pole

Commissioner Lynda Thompson

Public Safety Department

Vice Mayor Thomas B. Reid

Public Works Department

Commissioner Gail Neidinger

Finance Department

March 10, 2026 Election Canceled

Notice is hereby given to all registered voters within the corporate limits of the City of South Pasadena, Florida that the City's general election scheduled for March 10, 2026 has been canceled. As the only qualifying candidate, Arthur Penny will be sworn in as Mayor in March 2026.

If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk's office at 727-347-4171.



www.mysouthpasadena.com



727-347-4171



7047 Sunset Dr. S., South Pasadena, FL 33707

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

The South Pasadena Fire Department is committed to continuing education and hands-on training to keep firefighters ready for any situation.



BAIL-OUT KIT TRAINING

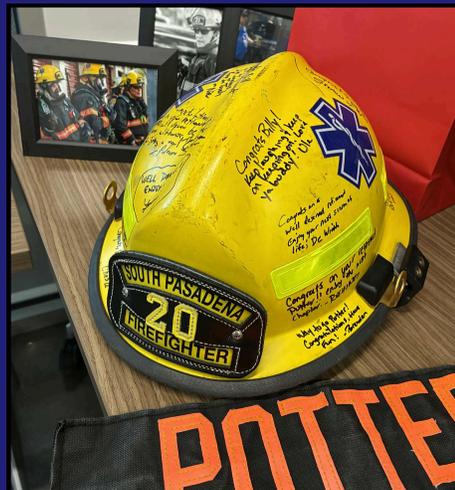
The purpose of this training is to practice emergency egress from elevated structures when traditional escape routes are blocked or unsafe.

Firefighters simulate realistic fireground conditions by performing supervised window exits from training towers or upper-level props, ensuring they can execute a rapid, controlled self-rescue from upper floors when needed.

Celebrating Firefighter Bill Potter

Thank You for 18 Years of Service!

The City had the honor of celebrating Firefighter Bill Potter as he retired from the South Pasadena Fire Department after 18 years of service to our community. Thank you, Bill, for your commitment, passion, and hard work. Wishing you all the best in this exciting new chapter.





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,

The November 21st Holiday Tree Lighting event was wonderful. The South Pasadena Community Band played festive music for the occasion, and the Administrative Department offered cookies and refreshments. Over 100,000 lights were installed in both parks and City Hall by our Public Works Department. We lit up the night when I flipped the giant candy cane light switch. Drive past City Hall after dark to see the beauty of our holiday lights.



Holiday Fire Safety

As we approach the Holiday season, the South Pasadena Fire Department would like to remind everyone that cooking remains the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries in the United States. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the Holidays see more than three times the average number of home cooking fires. Most of these incidents result from unattended cooking, overheated oil, or distractions in busy kitchens. We encourage everyone to stay in the kitchen while cooking, keep flammable items away from stovetops, and make sure children and pets stay at least three feet from hot surfaces.

Additional City Sun Benches Available

Sun Benches, which incorporate the colors from our City's logo, are still available for sponsorship! For a one-time fee of \$400, your sponsorship includes a personalized plaque on the bench of your choice. Don't miss your chance to have your name or a personal message on a small piece of our community.

For more information, please contact City Hall at (727) 347-4171.



Mayoral 2026 Election

My current term as Mayor is set to end in March 2026. The qualifying period for the March 10, 2026, election was from Monday, November 3, 2025, at 12 noon to Monday, November 17, 2025, at 12 noon. I am truly humbled to share that I have been reelected without opposition. In March 2026, I will take the oath of office for another four-year term, and I am excited about the chance to keep serving this community I deeply care about. Thank you to everyone who has placed their trust in me.

Sincerely,

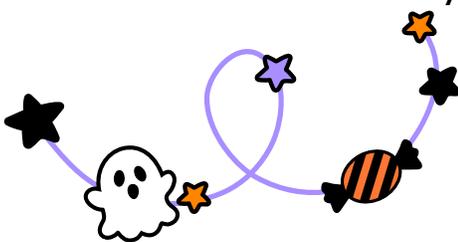
Mayor Arthur Penny

TRUNK OR TREAT



Thank you to everyone who joined us for the City's Trunk or Treat event as we marked the re-opening of Bay View Park!

Trunk or treaters showed off their costumes and collected candy from Mayor Penny and Commissioners McAlees, Neidinger, and Thompson who participated with their own festive trunks. All five City departments also had decorated vehicles, along with special guests from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and Sunstar.

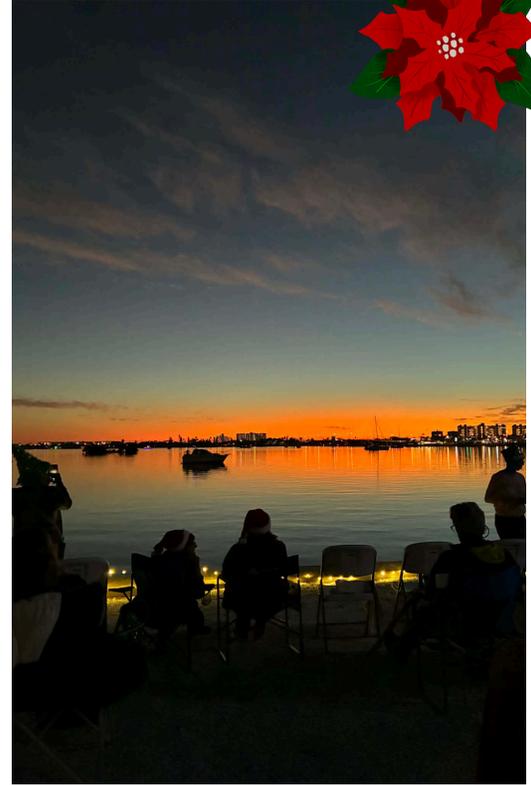


The City would also like to thank our local Ace Hardware and Global Sprouts for their contributions to the event.

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING



HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE





SOUTH PASADENA FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 31, 2026 11AM-1PM

**FIRE & POLICE
DEMONSTRATIONS**



**FREE FOOD AND
SOFT DRINKS**



**TOURS OF YOUR
LOCAL FIRE STATION**



Public safety displays will be onsite from South Pasadena Fire Department, Pinellas County Sherriff's Department, Pinellas County 911, Pinellas County Emergency Management, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue Public Education, Sunstar Paramedics, HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital, and the American Red Cross.

For more information, please contact the Public Safety Department at 727-344-1666.


 10
Tips

Get Ahead of the Winter Freeze

It's not too early to begin preparing for the heating season. Check these 10 tips off your list and get ahead of the winter freeze.

- Our **furnace has been inspected and serviced** by a qualified professional during the last 12 months. *(A furnace should be serviced at least once a year.)*
- Our **chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected** by a qualified professional. I have checked for creosote built-up. *(Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires from built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.)*
- Our wood for our fireplace or wood stove is **dry, seasoned wood**.
- Our **fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass**, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- We have a **covered metal container** ready to use to dispose cooled ashes. *(The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)*
- Our children know to stay at least **3 feet away** from the fireplace, wood/pellet stove, oil stove or other space heaters.
- Our portable space heaters have an **automatic shut-off**.
- Our portable space heaters will be **plugged directly into an outlet** *(not an extension cord)* and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls, and even people. *(Place notes throughout your home to remind you to turn off portable heaters when you leave a room or go to bed.)*
- We have **tested our smoke alarms** and made sure they are working. *(You need smoke alarms on every level of the home, inside each sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. For the best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.)*
- We have **tested our carbon monoxide alarms** and made sure they are working. *(Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)*



South Pasadena Fire Department

727-344-1666



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2016



www.mysouthpasadena.com



727-347-4171



7047 Sunset Dr. S., South Pasadena, FL 33707



Fire Safety Tips for Cold Weather

As the temperature drops, the risk of home fires and related hazards increases. Heating, holiday decorations, winter storms, and candles are just some of the factors that contribute to this heightened risk. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Fire Administration are working together to "Put a Freeze on Winter Fires" and share key tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe this winter.

Heating Safety

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires and fire-related injuries in the U.S., particularly during December, January, and February. Space heaters are especially dangerous, accounting for one-third of heating-related fires and the majority of deaths and injuries. To minimize risks: ☒ Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything flammable. ☒ Never leave a space heater running unattended. ☒ Ensure your heating equipment is properly maintained and serviced annually.

Candle Precautions

Candle fires peak in December and January, with Christmas being the top day for incidents. From 2015 – 2019, an average of 7,400 home candle fires were reported annually. Simple safety steps can reduce the risk: Always extinguish candles when leaving a room. Use sturdy candle holders and keep candles away from decorations and other flammable items. Consider using flameless candles for festive lighting.

Carbon Monoxide Awareness

Known as the "invisible killer," carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels like gasoline, wood, or propane do not burn completely. Heating and cooking equipment are common sources of CO, especially during winter. To protect your household, install CO detectors on every level of your home and test them monthly, never use portable generators or grills inside or near windows, ensure proper ventilation for fuel-burning appliances.

Preparing for Winter Storms

Winter storms can bring extreme cold, icy roads, and power outages, increasing the risk of fires and other hazards. One in every six home fires during winter involves heating equipment. Stay prepared: Have an emergency kit with flashlights, batteries, and non-perishable food. Use generators safely and only outdoors, following manufacturer guidelines. Avoid overloading electrical circuits with space heaters and holiday decorations.

Generator Safety

Portable generators are invaluable during power outages but can be dangerous if misused. The most common risks include CO poisoning, electrical shock, and fire. Protect yourself by: Operating generators outdoors and away from windows and doors. Using extension cords rated for outdoor use. Refueling only when the generator is turned off and cooled down.

Electrical Safety

Electrical fires are a significant risk during the winter months. Nearly half of these fires involve equipment like space heaters, fans, and holiday lights. To prevent electrical fires: Avoid overloading outlets or using damaged cords. Inspect holiday lights for frayed wires or loose connections before use. Turn off decorative lights before bed or leaving the house.

Holiday Fire Safety

The holiday season brings unique fire risks from Christmas trees, decorations, and festive cooking. To ensure a safe and happy holiday: Keep live Christmas trees well-watered and away from heat sources. Use non-combustible or flame-resistant decorations. Stay in the kitchen while cooking to prevent unattended fires. By taking these precautions, you can enjoy a safe and cozy winter season.

For more fire safety tips, visit www.nfpa.org/ or contact your local fire department.

About Town in South Pasadena



“About Town in South Pasadena” is a series designed to highlight local businesses or organizations that make the community great. Want to be selected by the City Commission to be featured in the About Town series? Contact the City at cityhall@mysouthpasadena.com for more information.

LET'S CELEBRATE

Recognition of Service

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

Paul Whitehead, Firefighter/Paramedic
20 Years in February

Congratulations!

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.

PERMITTING UPDATE

October 1, 2024 – December 1, 2025

Total Permit Applications Received	3,212
Permits Issued	1,888
Incomplete Permit Applications Awaiting Additional Documentation	66
Permit Applications To Be Reviewed	25
Permit Applications Requiring Resubmittal	57
Completed Permits	989
Permit Applications Awaiting Payment of Fees	2
Voided Permits	88

Substantial Damage Determination Letters Sent	657
Substantial Damage Determinations Remaining	0

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.



THANK YOU TO THE MIKE ALSTOTT FAMILY FOUNDATION!

Mike Alstott personally delivered Thanksgiving meals to fire stations across Pinellas County, including our very own Station 20!

A heartfelt thank you to Mike Alstott and the Mike Alstott Family Foundation for supporting our firefighters!

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**

Rev. 04/2025

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

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.



Rev. 04/2025

2025 PINELLAS COUNTY RECYCLE GUIDE

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



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.



Rev. 04/2025

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.

Rev. 04/2025



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>**

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.

January 6	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
January 13	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting
January 20	9:00am	Administrative Workshop
February 3	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
February 10	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting
February 17	9:00am	Administrative Workshop
March 3	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop
March 10	7:00pm	Regular Commission Meeting
March 17	9:00am	Administrative Workshop
April 7	9:00am	Agenda Meeting & Administrative Workshop

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

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

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

Holiday Schedule

City offices will be closed on the following dates:

CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CITY HALL CLOSING 12 PM
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25
 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

NEW YEAR’S

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1
 FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

PRESIDENTS’ DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

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

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