



# City of Indian Rocks Beach

Jul/Aug 2014

[www.indian-rocks-beach.com](http://www.indian-rocks-beach.com)

## City Commission

R. B. Johnson	Mayor
Jim Labadie	Vice Mayor
Terry Hamilton-Wollin	Commissioner
Phil Hanna	Commissioner
Cookie Kennedy	Commissioner

## Administration

City Manager	Brently Gregg Mims
City Clerk	Deanne B. O'Reilly

1507 Bay Palm Boulevard  
727/595-2517

## 2014 CALENDAR

Fri	07/04	
Tue	07/08	7:00p
Wed	07/09	5:00p
Tue	07/15	7:00p
Thu	07/17	4:00-6:00p
Thu	07/24	4:00-6:00p
Thu	07/24	7:00p
***		
M-W	08/11-08/13	
Tue	08/12	7:00p
Tue	08/19	7:00p
Thu	08/21	6:00p
Tue	08/26	7:00a-7:00p

Independence Day-City Hall **CLOSED**  
 City Commission Meeting  
 Finance & Budget Review Committee  
 Board of Adjustments & Appeals  
 City Commission Workshop-**BUDGET**  
 City Commission Workshop-**BUDGET**  
 Special City Commission Meeting

Community Clean Up  
 City Commission Meeting  
 Board of Adjustments & Appeals  
 Planning & Zoning Board  
 Primary Election

Greetings from City Hall! As we enter into the summer months, we celebrate the founding of our country and the celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. As you celebrate with family and friends, remember those who served, and are serving, to keep our country free.

Hurricane season has officially begun, and it is important that your family have a plan in place **now** for preparation and evacuation. There are a variety of websites, including the National Hurricane Center, which provide storm preparation guidelines and a checklist. In a worse case situation, every resident should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least three days.

Per the City Charter, I have submitted a Proposed 2014-15 City Budget to the IRB City Commission. The Proposed Budget does not call for an increase in mill levy and does not require any transfers from the General Fund reserves. This is the seventh consecutive year the rate has remained the same. The General Fund expense level has

remained stable for the last 5 years at just slightly over, or under, \$3 million dollars. The Capital Improvement Plan element of the Budget provides for \$890,000.00 for a variety of infrastructure projects.

Last but not least, I want to thank the city employees for their continued dedication to providing the citizens of Indian Rocks Beach with quality services. Our employees respond 24/7 to a variety of situations and events and are our most valuable asset.

Below you will find storm preparedness guidelines and storm water pollution guidelines. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about City of Indian Rocks Beach operations, please contact me at 595-2517 or email: [gmims@irbcity.com](mailto:gmims@irbcity.com).

Have a great, safe IRB summer.  
**Brently Gregg Mims, ICMA-CM**  
 City Manager

### STORM PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES

#### Once A Storm Has Been Named

- Do not cut down trees or do major yard work.

- Do not begin construction projects that produce this type of debris.
- Once a storm watch or warning has been issued, do not trim vegetation of any kind.
- 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.

#### After The Storm Has Passed

#### Please be patient!

- Keep household garbage, recycling, vegetative and/or construction storm debris in separate piles.
- The number one priority is the collection of household garbage.
- Securely containerize all household garbage in the city-provided 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.



# City of Indian Rocks Beach

Jul/Aug 2014

[www.indian-rocks-beach.com](http://www.indian-rocks-beach.com)

- Be prepared to repair possible damage to yard areas from the specialized equipment used to collect storm debris.
- Re-establishing normal household garbage and commercial waste collection is our first priority.
- It may be several weeks before the first collection of storm debris (vegetation and building material) is provided depending on the severity of the storm.

## ***STORMWATER POLLUTION GUIDELINES***

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Untreated stormwater flows into wetlands, the coastal watershed and into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings and automotive fluids off the ground and out of the stormwater.

### ***Vehicle and Garage***

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into your local water body.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills.
- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

- Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain.

### ***Lawn and Garden***

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into your local stream.
- Select native plants and grasses that are drought and pest resistant.
- Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.

### ***Home Repair and Improvement***

- Before beginning an outdoor project, locate the nearest storm drains and protect them from debris and other materials.
- Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris such as concrete and mortar.
- Use hazardous substances like paints, solvents, and cleaners in the smallest amounts possible, and follow the directions on the label. Clean up spills immediately, and dispose of the waste safely.
- Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors. Filter and re-use paint thinner when using oil-based paints. Properly dispose of excess paints through a household hazardous waste collec-

tion program, or donate unused paint to local organizations.

- Reduce the amount of paved area and increase the amount of vegetated area in your yard. Use native plants in your landscaping to reduce the need for watering during dry periods.
- Consider directing downspouts away from paved surfaces onto lawns and other measures to increase infiltration and reduce polluted runoff.

### ***Pet Care***

- Remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local water bodies.

### ***Swimming Pool and Spa***

- Drain your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to prevent leaks and spills, preferably in a covered area to avoid exposure to stormwater.

The information above was derived from the ***WatershedED Newsletter***