


WORKING TOGETHER



A Quarterly Newsletter of the City of Indian Rocks Beach

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www.indian-rocks-beach.com

Gregg Mims, City Manager

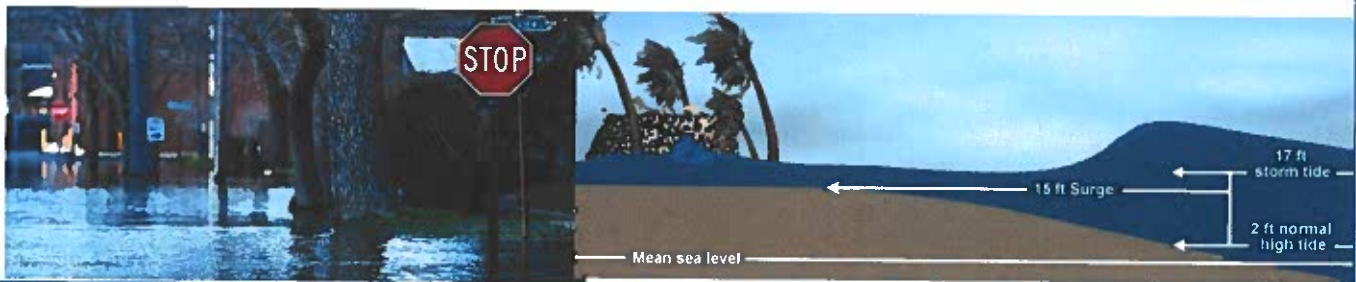
FLOOD INFORMATION

If you reside in or own a business in Indian Rocks Beach, your property is subject to flooding and flood damage.

Find valuable flood protection information on the City of Indian Rocks Beach website at Indian-rocks-beach.com then click on "Flood Information".

Protect your property from flood damage

- ◆ Clear drains, gutters and downspouts. Trim trees, secure loose outdoor items or take them inside.
- ◆ Raise furniture and electrical equipment off the floor. Unplug any electrical equipment that is not needed for the emergency.
- ◆ Check your building for water entry points such as doors, low windows, and dryer vents. These can be protected with low walls, berms, or temporary shields.
- ◆ Consider retrofitting structures to make them flood proof. The property itself remains subject to flooding while the building on it is modified to prevent or minimize flooding of habitable space. The Indian Rocks Beach Library has publications regarding property protection. Search "flood" in the library's catalog. Go to the Pinellas County Build Smart website at pinellascounty.org/flooding/buildsmart.htm
- ◆ Build responsibly! Note that some flood protection measures may need a building permit and others may not be safe for your type of building, so be sure to call City Hall at (727) 595-2517 to determine.
- ◆ Call the Indian Rocks Beach Public Works Department at (727) 595-6889 for information about what would be an appropriate flood protection level for your property. Staff can discuss property protection measures and/or review existing problems and make a site visit.
- ◆ Purchase flood insurance for your building and its contents. Renters should purchase flood insurance for their possessions. Contact your insurance agent or go to the Floodsmart.gov website for more information about flood insurance.



Administration
727/595-2517

Library
727/596-1822

Public Services
727/595-6889

Financial Assistance May be Available for Property Protection Measures

- ◆ FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs provide funding to communities for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages.
- ◆ Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) provides funding to communities for the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster. The goal of the PDM program is to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while at the same time also reducing reliance on Federal funding from actual disaster declarations.
- ◆ You can visit FEMA's website, fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance for information about grant programs.
- ◆ The Small Business Administration offers loans at SBA.gov/content/disaster-loan-program.
- ◆ Contact the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at HUD.gov.
- ◆ Purchase a flood insurance policy - it will help pay for repairs and contents after a flood and in some cases, it will help pay the costs of elevating a substantially damaged building.



Know Your Flood Zone!

Call City Hall at (727) 595-2517 to find out:

- ◆ In which flood zone a property is located;
- ◆ If a property is subject to flood-related hazards, such as coastal erosion;
- ◆ If a property is located in an area that has had flooding in the past;
- ◆ If your property is located near an area that should be protected because of its natural floodplain functions;

If an Elevation Certificate is on file for a building.



Hurricane/Flood/Storm Surge Warning

Be sure to have at least two places where you can get alerts and dependable updates.

- **Alert Pinellas** – Sign up to receive emergency notification by phone, text, or email at pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas or call (727) 464-3800.
- **NOAA Weather Alert Radio** – Automatic alerts from the National Weather Service when dangerous weather is in your area. Be sure to have extra batteries on-hand for your radio.
- **Ready Pinellas App** – A personalized planning tool. Look up your evacuation zone, create your own emergency plan, and access checklists to prepare before a storm. Download the app for free.
- **Pinellas County Connection Television (PCC-TV)** – Info on county programs and services, general preparedness, and live updates during emergencies. Watch it on Spectrum 637, WOW! 18 or Frontier 44.
- During emergencies, the Pinellas County Citizen Information Center is open. Call (727) 464-4333.
- **Be prepared for Storm Surge** - Listen to local media and The Weather Channel for weather updates, evacuation orders and expected storm arrival times.

Flood Safety Measures

- ♦ Be prepared - Have battery-operated flashlights and radios in working condition.
- ♦ Do not drive through a flooded area. Turn Around, Don't Drown!
- ♦ Avoid wading in floodwater, which can be contaminated.
- ♦ Underground or downed power lines can electrically charge floodwaters. Keep your distance and treat all downed power lines as energized. Stay away from power lines and electrical wires!
- ♦ Sign up for emergency alerts to receive immediate life-saving information.
- ♦ For more information on flood safety, visit FLGetaPlan.com
- ♦ The Pinellas County Emergency website has more important safety and preparedness information with which all Indian Rocks Beach residents should be familiar at PinellasCounty.org/emergency



Illegal dumping into the Drainage System

The City's drainage system is of vital importance since it drains stormwater from our streets. The system is inspected on a regular basis by the Public Services Department. No pollutants, including yard debris, can be allowed to enter the drainage system, or into any canal, or waters in or bordering the City. If you see such a violation of the law, please report it to the Public Services Department at (727) 595-6889.

