



Message From The Mayor

Jon Netts



What do Poway, California and Palm Coast, Florida have in common? Both cities entered last year's National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation for cities with a population between 30,000 and 99,900. Poway won first place and Palm Coast came in seventh because a larger percentage of Poway residents pledged to conserve.

This year, Palm Coast - it's our turn.

Please join me to participate in the 2016 National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation. If you go online to www.mywaterpledge.com, you can make a pledge on behalf of Palm Coast to conserve water, save energy and reduce pollution. This Challenge is fitting support for the character of our City. We've always been united in a focused quest for safeguarding our natural resources, setting us apart as unwavering leaders of community conservation.

And we've accumulated many prestigious regional awards recognizing our efforts.

Aside from these awards, we're protecting resources by upgrading our utilities. We've modified the process at two water treatment plants to more adequately provide safe drinking water utilizing improved conservation methods. We've added a Zero Liquid Discharge water treatment process to recover previously wasted water. Our conservation and awareness programs presented to the community include newsletters, exhibits and social media or visit www.palmcoastgov.com.

To accommodate our further growth and ever-expanding need for preservation, we are breaking ground this year for construction of a second wastewater plant - this one located west of US1 near Matanzas Woods Parkway. It is anticipated that our existing wastewater plant on Utility Drive will exceed capacity by 2018 so a second plant will come online in late 2017 to meet projected future growth. The new state-of-the-art facility will ensure that your wastewater from showers, sinks, washing machines, dishwashers and toilets is pumped and collected for advanced treatment and disinfecting at the highest quality level for conservation and reclamation for irrigation of public and private properties.

What can you do to conserve more water? Save the flush. Shower instead of bathe. Check your hoses and indoor/outdoor faucets for leaks. Don't keep the water running when you brush your teeth or wash dishes. You have the entire month of April to go online to www.mywaterpledge.com to make your pledge, but please don't put it off. Why not log on while you're reading this? Together, we can win this competition and even be eligible for a few great prizes. Better yet, we can solidify Palm Coast's legacy as a winner in the race to save our common resources. It's the smallest things we do that make the biggest difference.



El Nino Could Elevate Wildfire Potential

As we approach our 2016 wildfire season, remember that climate conditions for El Nino could possibly affect the frequency and intensity of fires. Unpredictable forecasts may warn about sporadic drier or wetter and stormier weather, depending on the changing effects of El Nino. Here's what you need to know to keep your family and property safe:

- 1 - **Pay attention to the Keech Byram Drought Index (KBDI) broadcast information in our area.** A number one stands for very wet conditions, going up to a number 800 indicating extremely dry conditions. The higher the number, the better the chances for wildfires.
- 2 - **Call 911** as soon as you see any smoke or flames from anywhere at any time.
- 3 - **Be prepared to leave your home in a moment's notice.** Take an emergency kit with you including ID papers, photographs/receipts for your valuables, medications, insurance policies and a road escape route from your home (smoke may disorient your driving).
- 4 - **Be cautious when using charcoal for grilling.** Soak used charcoal and dispose of it properly - don't just dump it anywhere.
- 5 - **Trim trees and shrubs** around your home and clear your gutters.



CITY DESK

About Opening the Frieda Zamba Pool: The 2016 swim season at the Frieda Zamba Pool, 339 Parkview Dr. opens in April. Pre-season pool hours are Mon.-Fri., 2-7:00 p.m. from Apr. 18-May 27. Get ready for some special family events all summer. Daily admission fees and membership information is available at www.palmcoastgov.com/pool.



About our Find Your Florida Photo Contest: Our 2016 Find Your Florida Photo Contest is underway, inviting residents to share their Palm Coast photos that illustrate why living here is so special. Examples may include family fun, active outdoor lifestyles, landscapes, waterways and parks. This year, two new categories will be added: youth photographers under 17 and best bird photos. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place gift certificates from local businesses will be awarded to winners. Winning photos will be promoted online and honored at a City Council meeting. Entrance to the contest is free and photos must be submitted by midnight, May 31. For guidelines and entry forms, visit www.palmcoastgov.com/photocontest.

About Beautifying the Belle Terre Parkway Median: Colorful crepe myrtles, date palms, bald cypress and muhly grass will soon adorn 1.36 miles of the median along Belle Terre Pkwy between Royal Palms Pkwy and SR100. This segment is the final phase of new landscaping installed along the entire stretch of Belle Terre Pkwy, north to Matanzas Woods Pkwy. Beautiful vegetation planted where we live, work and play contributes enormously to our community's sense of pride and quality of life.



About Spring Recreation Events: Sat., May 7 - Annual Arbor Day event - includes the popular 5K Root Run/Walk at 8am in Central Park in Town Center. Stop by from 9am-2pm to visit environmental-oriented booths, enjoy entertainment and refreshments and join the butterfly release at 11am. If you bring non-perishable canned goods, we will give you a free 3-gallon tree in exchange for your donation. Mon., May 30 - Tribute to the Troops - invites current and retired military personnel (with ID) to swim for free at the Frieda Zamba Pool. Call 386-986-4741.



About Paying Your Utility Bill Online: Palm Coast's Customer Service team continues to work hard to help make your life simpler. Staff is available to you every day to guide you through utility bill payment methods on your own secure e-bill account, assisting you with using your tablet, smart phone or home computer. They'll also instruct you on how to open a new account or close your present account online, so you won't have to come in person. Fast and simple. Call 386-986-2360.

About Summer Camp for your Kids: Registration begins Mon., Apr. 4 for Fun in the Sun Summer Camp for youngsters, grades K-8. Crafts, sports, swimming and theme-day activities will be offered from June 13 - July 29 every Mon.-Fri., 9am-4:30pm. Specialty Camps will include Fire Fighters, Junior Lifeguard, CSI for little investigators, golf and tennis camps. Fees and age requirements vary, so go to www.palmcoastgov.com/register for specific information.





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Utility billing, garbage pick-up, streets, maintenance for city signs, street lights, sidewalks, potholes; swales and drainage, driveways/culverts, resurfacing; Code Enforcement, mowing, tree/fire mitigation, property maintenance, vehicle parking, trash on private property, irrigation ordinance, noise/pet issues.

Community Development

Planning 386-986-3736

Building Permits . . . 386-986-3780

Fire & Rescue 386-986-2300

Parks & Recreation . 386-986-2323

Finance/Budget 386-986-3723

City Clerk 386-986-3713

Communications/
Newsletter 386-986-3708

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OUR POOL is always YOUR POOL



Here's one of our most important pledges to our guests at Frieda Zamba: Your family is our family and our pool is yours. Our swimming pool staff is honored each season to warmly welcome you and make sure your experience brings you back to the pool. Attendants and lifeguards often greet people by name, recognize extended family members and most importantly, they are vigilant for your safety at all times.

Pool safety comes first at Frieda Zamba, with lifeguard in-service training consistently exceeding standards set by the American Red Cross. Twelve certified lifeguards attend 24 sessions each six-month season. They re-enact emergencies, practicing rescue techniques, applying CPR, first aid and automated external defibrillator skills. Guards are

also subject to Red Alert surprise drills with simulated crisis scenarios that require them to save drowning victims right on-the-spot.

"We continue to take the lead in safety preparation for other programs across our area," James Hirst states. As Palm Coast's Recreation Supervisor, he and his staff take pride in the quality and quantity of their drills, always seeking to upgrade their competence.

"If you want to feel secure and comfortable at a pool, spend some time at Frieda Zamba."

POOL SAFETY FOR KIDS - DO YOU KNOW?

- Holding your breath for underwater games is dangerous because swimmers can black out while trying to compete. Staff can recommend safer fun in the pool.
- Using water wings to keep children afloat is not as safe as you think. Plastic can easily tear and acquire holes. When you purchase flotation devices, make sure they are stamped with a US Coast Guard seal of approval.
- Wearing street clothes in a pool can contaminate the water for other swimmers. Dressing in proper swim attire is mandatory.



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The PalmCoaster

Jon Netts - Mayor • Heidi Shipley - Vice Mayor • Bill McGuire • Jason DeLorenzo • Steve Nobile

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Front Page News

Rehabilitating James Holland Park

A major infrastructure overhaul is taking place at Palm Coast's largest and oldest park, replacing and upgrading drainage, utilities and ADA (American with Disabilities Act) access. By this summer, you'll see the mounds of construction dirt disappear at Holland Park and instead, we'll be: constructing a new paved park road, dog park, pickleball court, playground, lighting, trail around the park perimeter; renovating tennis/volleyball/basketball courts and restrooms; upgrading shuffleboard, horse-shoe pit; expanding the parking lot.



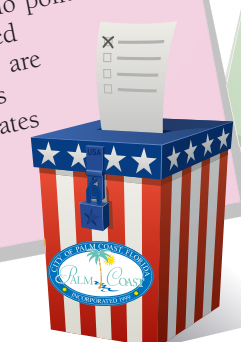
Having a Yard Waste Conversation:

Imagine if hundreds of homes on an average yard waste pick-up route set out huge piles of landscaping trimmings and haulers spent twenty minutes at each house. No one would ever have punctual service. Its spring cleaning time, so we're asking neighbors to make sensible decisions with their yard waste so that everyone has timely collections. Please put out only enough that would have normally accumulated for one week, such as a bag each of grass and hedge clippings or weeds. If your trimmings extend all the way across a 2-car driveway and stand about 2-ft. feet tall, 3-ft. wide (4 cubic yards), your load is probably too large and would require an extra mechanical truck at an additional charge from Waste Pro. To avoid future questions about who is ultimately responsible for payment, have a talk in advance with a hired contractor to make sure your estimate includes yard waste removal. Please call Customer Service at 386-986-2360 with questions.



Electing a Mayor and Two City Council Members

Palm Coast residents will be heading to the polls for an August 30 primary and November 8 general election, choosing a Mayor and City Council Members representing Districts #1 and #3. To qualify, Mayoral candidates must file 497 signature petition cards or file 127 signature petition cards or pay a filing fee of \$960. District #1 must file 124 signature petition cards or pay a filing fee of \$960. The Petition Qualification deadline date is noon on Mon., May 23 and qualifying week is noon Mon., June 20 to noon on Fri., June 24 for candidates who are paying the fee to qualify. Elections are non-partisan meaning there is no political party designation on the ballot. They are also considered 'at-large' signifying the Mayor and City Council are elected to serve the entire City population. Voters residing in any four Districts can vote for candidates running in any District. For details, contact City Clerk Virginia Smith at 386-986-3713.



Extending Palm Harbor Parkway

The Palm Harbor Pkwy extension on the north side of the City should officially open this month, connecting the road to the new traffic signal at Old Kings Rd. and Matanzas Woods Pkwy. The I-95 Interchange at Matanzas Woods Pkwy. should be completed soon when Palm Coast residents will have direct access to a permanent new city entrance/exit. The Old Kings Rd. extension to this new intersection should be ready for vehicles this summer.