



Message From The Mayor

Milissa Holland

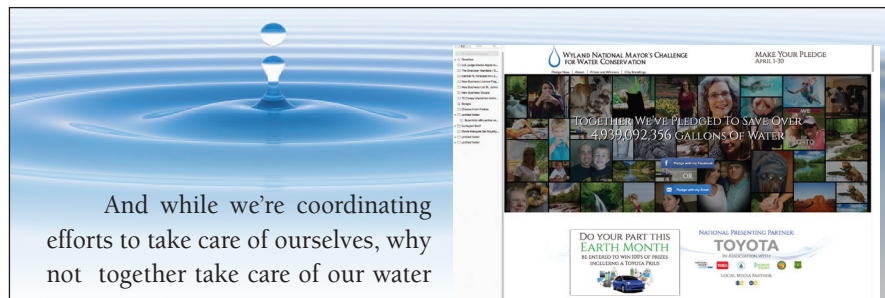


One of the more satisfying moments in my life came when I realized that when I devoted some time and effort to an active lifestyle, my limbs turned out to be more nimble than I ever thought possible. Since becoming Mayor, I've imagined how great it would be if more people in our community could share this same satisfaction. The weather and beautiful amenities we have in Palm Coast makes this a natural place for recreation. So here's what I'd like to propose to you.

I'm really proud to be organizing Palm Coast's Inaugural Healthy Community Challenge. Now don't get skeptical on me. This 40-day Find Your Fitness venture is completely free, with no pressure and no pounds to lose. No striving to look perfect. I simply want Palm Coast to feel better and healthier and if we do this together as a community, who knows how far this could go?

We'll inaugurate Find Your Fitness at the Saturday, May 6 Arbor Day 5K Root Run. Then during May and June, you can participate in any program you wish: biking or hiking on our trails; practicing Tai Chi or yoga in Central Park; playing tennis or golf; swimming or kayaking; learning how to prepare healthier meals for yourself and your family. Our Facebook page and website will inventory all of our scheduled events. You'll be rewarded for your efforts via a point system and we'll all be able to track our activities by taking photos of what we're doing and posting them to the City's Facebook page. At our Independence Day celebration in Central Park, our fitness journey will close with an announcement honoring the healthiest community members in this new Challenge.

I'm really hoping that once we all see the results, wellness will become addictive in Palm Coast and we'll want to continue Find Your Fitness for another round or two. In the meantime, will you join me? Watch for more details in our local media and on the City's Facebook page. I believe that together, our community can make our way of life here even better than ever.



And while we're coordinating efforts to take care of ourselves, why not together take care of our water supply, too? Join me for the 2017 National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, created to reward residents for positive conservation behavior. The campaign is designed to save costs for consumers and cities and to promote drought resiliency by protecting watersheds and ecosystems. With Palm Coast committing to this Challenge, we can be leaders in taking the necessary steps to becoming better-informed and more active stewards of our community and natural resources. Simply go to www.mywaterpledge.com and take a 4-step pledge to take action such as washing fuller loads of laundry, landscaping with climate appropriate plants or taking shorter showers. The more we do, the more points we receive. The more points we receive, the more prizes we win. We can do this, Palm Coast!



Take WILDFIRE Season Seriously

The 2017 wildfire season just might be more dangerous than usually anticipated. Debris left by Hurricane Matthew could add fuel to the fires that may occur during this upcoming dry season. Having a specific plan for wildfires will help ensure your safety and the welfare of those you love.

- Get the free **CodeRED** app to receive notice within moments of an emergency warning in our area. Go to the City's website, www.palmcoastgov.com or the Flagler County emergency website, www.flaglercounty.org

- **CALL 911 ONLY IF YOU SEE ACTUAL FLAMES, NOT SMOKE.** Please don't call individual fire stations, as our emergency personnel respond only to 911.

- Trim your property trees and shrubs, clean your gutters and mow vegetation for a distance of 30-feet from the wall of your home to an adjacent property. If an empty lot next to you is overgrown alongside your property line, call the City for assistance at 386-986-3758.

- Prepare to evacuate your home in a moment's notice. Keep copies of insurance and mortgage documents ready to grab and go, plan where you'd stay for a period of time and keep a note somewhere in your car with directions that will guide you out of your neighborhood. Smoke is disorienting and drivers have been known to get lost only a few blocks from home.

CITY DESK

About The City's New "Discover Palm Coast" Radio Show: If you tune in to WNZF Radio, you'll stay in touch with so many things going on in Palm Coast. The City's new 'Discover Palm Coast' program, featuring host Mayor Milissa Holland, will cover so much of what's happening around town. The Mayor will talk candidly with knowledgeable folks on topics from fire safety to swales – subjects that residents want and need to understand. Shortly, you'll also be able to listen to Discover Palm Coast on the City's Facebook page. If you have any topic recommendations, please email Milissa at mholland@palmcoastgov.com.

About Spring Swimming Pool Hours: It's getting warm outside, so grab your bathing suit and head over to the Frieda Zamba Swimming Pool. The pool opens for a fabulous season of events, April 17th from 2-7:30pm Mon. – Fri. Practice safety techniques at the Pool Safety Day on Sun., May 28th from 1-4pm and Tribute to the Troops on Monday, May 29th events to kick off the summer season. More info: 386-986-4741.

About our Egg'Stravaganza Event: The hunt is on for 10,000+ candy and toy filled eggs for children ages 2 -12 on Sat., Apr. 15, 10am-1pm in Central Park. Our Bunny will make his annual joyful visit to Palm Coast.

About Upcoming Summer Camps:

Here are some awesome camp ideas for your kids this summer:

Fun in the Sun: June 5-Aug. 4, K-6 grades, 7:30-4:30pm, Frieda Zamba Pool. Games, sports, crafts, swimming. \$80/week. A 4:30-6pm program after camp is available for an additional fee.

Firefighter Camp: June 19-23, grades 3-5, 8:30-11:30am, Main Fire Station. Campers learn about fire safety and firefighting techniques, \$60.

More info for these camps: www.palmcoastgov.com/camps

Junior Tennis Summer Camp: June 12-Aug. 4 in three sessions, 6-13 year-olds, 9am-1pm, Palm Coast Tennis Center. Kids practice stroke fundamentals, footwork, match play. \$149/week or \$35/day. Half days are available.

More info: 386-986-2550.

Junior Golf Camp: June 5-Aug. 4 in three sessions, 6-15 year-olds, 9am-1pm, Palm Harbor Golf Course. Golfers learn basic skills and sportsmanship. \$125/week. More info: 386-986-GOLF.

About the 2017 Find Your Florida Photo Contest: Share your Palm Coast photos that illustrate why living here is so special! Examples may include family fun, active outdoor lifestyles, landscapes, waterways, birds and parks. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place 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 Arbor Day 2017:

Sat., May 6, 9am-2pm in Central Park: It's time for your favorite event again!

- **5K ROOT RUN** will kick off Palm Coast's Find Your Fitness campaign (see Mayor's column).
- Free three gallon trees given in exchange for a non-perishable food item.
- Kids Zone, kites, natural exhibits, crafts, butterfly release at 11am.
- New Live Concert featuring Patty Shukla's popular music at 11:30am.





Contact Information

Mayor Milissa Holland
mholland@palmcoastgov.com

Vice Mayor Steve Nobile
snobile@palmcoastgov.com

Council Members

Nick Klufas
nklufas@palmcoastgov.com

Robert Cuff
rcuff@palmcoastgov.com

Heidi Shipley
hshipley@palmcoastgov.com

City Manager's Office
386-986-3702

Jim Landon City Manager
jlandon@palmcoastgov.com

Customer Service
386-986-2360

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

www.palmcoastgov.com

Published by the City of Palm Coast
Design by CurleyTailDesign.com



Keep Your Sewer NEWER

Under our streets, a system of pipes and pumps collect wastewater from our homes and businesses and transfers it to Palm Coast's main treatment facility. We always count on keeping the waste flowing and the equipment running properly. What can you do to help maintain our sewers?

Who assumes responsibility for maintaining the sewer system?

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the sewer lines from cleanout lines in the street right of way. Basic maintenance includes repairs to broken pipes and replacement of broken or missing cleanout caps. The Utility Department will replace these cleanout caps at no cost if you call to report a damaged cap. (This refers ONLY to the two cleanout caps located near your house – one located at the point of connection to the utility service lateral and the other located near the street – not the actual service line from the house to the street.) The City is responsible for maintaining sewer pipes, manholes, pump stations and pumps located in the City rights of way, easements and City property. The City also owns and operates the Pep System and is responsible for all service, repairs and replacements.

What causes backups? Problems arise when there is an obstruction or blockage such as roots from vegetation, cooking grease, toys, construction debris, excessive rainstorms or power outages.

What should you do if you have sewer problems? STOP FLUSHING AND USING WATER AND IMMEDIATELY CALL THE UTILITY DEPARTMENT BEFORE YOU CALL A PLUMBER. Technicians may be able to determine the possible cause, who is responsible and what action is needed to correct the problem. There is no charge for a Utility Department visit. Call Customer Service, 386-986-2360 -- 24/7.

Are your sewers insured?

Please check with your insurance agent regarding your coverage. In most cases, a special endorsement or rider may be required, as standard policies often do not cover incidents relating to sewers. If you have flood insurance, this does not mean that you are covered for damage caused by sewer backups. You can also contact the National Flood Insurance Program at FLOODSMART.GOV OR 1-888-435-6637.



Help for Victims of SCAMS

Unfortunately, we live in a world of too many deceitful crooks. Scammers call to claim you owe money to the IRS; con artists contact you to say you've won a contest; swindlers hack into your computer to scare you into upgrading your system; illegitimate contractors/landscapers ring your bell to talk you into fixing something that isn't broken and skip town with your money.

If you believe you've been cheated, support is available to you, free of charge, right here in Palm Coast. Florida's Seniors vs. Crime Project provides services to those who've been victimized by businesses or service providers. Caseworkers can review and investigate your issue to help bring you some closure.

Call Office Manager Ken Seymour or his staff at 386-586-2634, log onto www.seniorsvscrime.com or stop by the Flagler Sheriff's satellite office at 160 Cypress Point Pkwy, Thursdays, from 9am-4pm. Be sure to bring proof and documentation with you.

For additional information on unlicensed or unsolicited local businesses, you can contact the City Business Tax Receipts office at 386-986-3766 Monday- Friday, 8am-5pm.



Milissa Holland - Mayor • Steve Nobile - Vice Mayor • Heidi Shipley • Robert Cuff • Nick Klufas

Palm Coast, FL April/May 2017

We're All Rooted in Nature

Gopher tortoises can make the best next door neighbors. You rarely see them because they're often burrowed into the ground. They never play loud music. They live in Palm Coast for the same reasons we do: this is nature's paradise.

This is a story of Cypress Knoll's Blaine family. For seven years, Rick, Danielle and Kaiha lived next door to gopher tortoises Todd and Todd, Jr. (lovingly named by Kaiha). They enjoyed watching the tortoises shuffle around, observing and monitoring their security and well-being.

However last year, something went terribly wrong. Danielle fretfully watched out her window as survey posts were planted in Todd's habitat next door, indicating that a builder would soon be excavating the property. She quickly took action. "I know the City considers the protection of wildlife a high priority, so I was convinced that contacting them for help was the best decision," she said. It turns out Danielle was correct. After she contacted the City, staff flagged the property in their permitting system and performed a site visit to protect Todd and Todd Jr. from unintentional impacts during the building process. With protective measures in place, the tortoise family was safely relocated to a more permanent ecosystem with the help of a certified biologist.

"Our citizens are some of our best stewards of the environment", Denise Bevan, City Administration Coordinator states. "Without their caring and watchful eyes, we couldn't have success stories like this one about the safety of Todd and Todd Jr." The coordinated efforts of a sensitive family and City staff safeguarded one of our precious native resources - an indication that together our community is genuinely rooted in nature. This narrative is a prime example of our City's highest regard for the peace, quiet and open air that surrounds us every day: our graceful tree canopies, moving waterways, colorful birds and wildlife that thrive along magnificent trails. Residents are often seen fishing and boating, playing golf or tennis, biking or hiking on sheltered trails. You'll find the community reliably supporting events such as May's Arbor Day, September's Intracoastal Waterway Cleanup, January's Christmas Tree Recycling, and February's Birds of a Feather Fest. We honor and care for our sacred wildlife, much like Danielle, Rick and Kaiha Blaine. This is why so many of us love this place and why rooted in nature has become the signature of Palm Coast's soul.

As for the Blaine family, they'll always value the years they watched over their tortoise friends. And Danielle will always call on the City when she needs a partner in nature. "It is vital that we do what we can to help keep our environment thriving. Showing Kaiha the importance of protecting habitats and the environment, in turn benefits our city and our future. I am proud that protecting nature is an integral part of the city."

