

CAST A LINE

March
2010

904-270-2400

City of Neptune Beach

FUN IN THE PARK!

THE ANNUAL NEPTUNE BEACH EASTER EGG HUNT WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND, 2010, AT 10:00 A.M. IN JARBOE PARK. ALL AREA CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. SO, BE SURE TO COME OUT AND SAY HELLO TO THE EASTER BUNNY!

Why it is important to keep drainage ways in our City clean!

Storm drains and drainage ditches carry stormwater runoff into the St. Johns River and other important waterways. Storm drain inlets help to protect your neighborhood from flooding. If trash, grass clippings, or branches clog the inlets, they could create localized flooding and pollution in your area. Therefore, please don't dump pollutants such as motor oil, yard waste, trash, fertilizer, pesticide, or paint down the storm drains or into neighborhood ponds, lakes, creeks, ditches, or on the ground. Do your part to help keep our waterways clean.

It's Census Time!

Census information affects the numbers of seats your state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives. And people from many walks of life use census data to advocate for causes, rescue disaster victims, prevent diseases, research markets, locate pools of skilled workers and more. In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. It's important for both you and your community!

Excerpted from: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/how/index.php>

FYI.....

FREE TAX HELP is available to you if you are a tax payer in the low to middle income bracket.

The Neptune Beach Senior Activity Center in cooperation with **AARP Tax-Aide (IRS trained)** is offering **free** Federal Income Tax Preparation on Friday's from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm with special attention given to those age 60 and older.

No appointment is necessary. Each applicant is handled on a first come, first serve basis. Returns are electronically filed at no charge. All that's needed is last year's tax return and Social Security cards for all family members included on your return and a valid photo I.D.

YOUR CITY NEEDS YOU!

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a member of a City Board.....the City of Neptune Beach is actively seeking members for the Planning Development Review Board (PDRB) and the Board of Appeals (BOA). The PDRB reviews development projects and helps to develop the Comp Plan and meets once a month for about two hours. The BOA hears appeals on the administrative development decisions and meets once a month for about one hour.

So come on residents, decide to become a member of a Board and contribute to your community. After all, Neptune Beach is a great place to live; don't you want to help to keep it that way?

Mayor Harriet Pruette, Vice-Mayor Fred Lee, Councilor Eric Pardee, Councilor John Weldon, Councilor Kara Tucker

If you would like to voice your concerns to a Council Member, feel free to email them from our webpage at:

WWW.CI.NEPTUNE-BEACH.FL.US

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

Council Workshop Meeting
March 15, 2010
@ 6:00 pm

Council Regular Meeting
April 5, 2010
@ 6:00 pm

Council Workshop Meeting
April 19, 2010
@ 6:00 pm

Free Hazardous Waste Collection Program

for all Duval County Residents

When: May 15, 2010
8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Location: Jacksonville Beach Public Works Department, Operations and Maintenance Facility parking lot
1460 Shetter Avenue
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

For More Information contact:
Kristen Beach, (904) 630-2709,
kbeach@coj.net

Water Restrictions

Mandatory lawn watering restrictions specify the days when you may water. These days depend on whether you have an odd or even numbered address, and the time of year.

Daylight Savings Time

Homes with odd numbers or no address on Wednesday and Saturday only. Homes with even numbers on Thursday and Sunday only

Eastern Standard Time

Homes with odd numbers or no address on Saturday. Homes with even numbers on Sunday.

Remember.....water only before 10:00 am and after 4:00 pm!

Did you know.....

in the time it takes for you to read this article, a thief could break into your car, hot-wire it, and drive off? Well, it's true. Every 20 seconds a car is stolen in America and it can happen to you.

Did you also know, the number of cars stolen this year would be enough to fill the parking lots of 170 major shopping centers and the cost of car theft and looting is estimated to be more than \$7 billion? That's a lot of money. So protect your car by using common sense every time you leave it. Just follow these simple helpful tips:

- * *Close all windows, lock all door and take your keys with you. Although this sounds obvious, one in five stolen vehicles is left unlocked with the keys in the ignition - and sometimes running.*
- * *Park in well-lighted areas near other vehicles or pedestrian traffic, especially at shopping malls. More than two-thirds of auto thefts happen at night.*
- * *Put packages and valuables in the trunk, out of sight, and consider anti-theft devices to protect your audio equipment. One of six larcenies involves theft from a motor vehicle.*
- * *Lock your car, even at home. Over half of all vehicle thefts occur in residential areas.*

And Remember, if you do come upon someone breaking into a car or stealing it, **do not intervene**. Get a good description of the thief and call 911 immediately. After all, your efforts can make a difference in helping to prevent crime!

Nesting Season

It's that time of year again! The Sea Turtles begin in late April through November and come out at night due to less lighting. They make their trek from the ocean to the dunes to lay their eggs. We are asking Ocean Front residents to give the little ones a helping hand and shield their lighting so the freshly hatched sea turtles don't get confused and can safely make their journey from the dunes to the ocean.

COUNCIL REPORT

At the Council Workshop Meeting held on February 8, 2010:

Mayor Pruette acknowledged the artwork displayed in the Council Chambers and announced the work is of our very own local artist "Ms. Linda Olsen."

City Manager Jarboe reported the \$900,000 grant from the St. Johns River Water Management District is in the process of approval. This grant will help with the unfunded mandate from the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Council authorized the City Manager and the Chief of Police to extend the hours of parking on First Street to 10:00 pm.

Budget Issues.....

The City Council of Neptune Beach will be discussing budget issues at the March Workshop Meeting. If you have any creative ideas on ways to help the City reduce expenditures be sure to attend the meeting or email them to Mayor Pruette at: Hpruette@neptune-beach.com.