



Edgewater Shorelines

JULY 2010

The Official Newsletter for
The City of Edgewater

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Summer Safety Tips

Water Activities

- ~Never leave children unattended.
- ~Always swim with a buddy.
- ~Swim in approved swimming areas.
- ~Do not jump or dive into unknown waters.
- ~Avoid drinking alcohol before or during water activities.
- ~Learn to swim.
- ~Learn CPR.
- ~Use proper life jackets (personal flotation devices).
- ~Seek shelter during thunderstorms.

Heat—Sun

- ~Do not leave children or pets unattended in vehicles.
- ~Drink plenty of fluids, avoid alcohol & caffeine.
- ~Use sunscreen.
- ~Choose proper clothing for being in the heat.
- ~Avoid the sun between 10a.m.-3p.m.
- ~Be aware of heat related illnesses and act quickly if heat exhaustion or heat stroke strikes. Call 911 for assistance.

Mosquito/Insect Bites

- ~Avoid unprotected outdoor activity at Dusk & Dawn (mosquitoes are most active).
- ~Use repellents.
- ~When bites are itchy apply topical anti-itch cream.

Food Protection

- ~Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- ~Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold.
- ~Keep raw meat separate from cooked meat.

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ENJOY YOUR SUMMER, HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE!

Stormwater Runoff Rain + Pollution = Runoff



Urban stormwater runoff has been identified as the primary source of pollution to surface waters in Florida. Stormwater comes off building roofs, driveways, and roads when it rains. Since roads are impervious surfaces, meaning the rain can not pass through them, the rain is washed into the swales, ditches, and street gutters which all leads to the Indian River Lagoon. **Stormwater is NOT directed to a treatment facility!** Anything such as litter, soil, garden waste, fertilizer, car washing chemicals, vehicle oil, grease and fluids from roadways results in pollution of our waterways. These pollutants can harm the plant and wildlife as well as making the waterways in our parks and recreation areas unsightly.

Everyone has a part to play in reducing the pollution.

Ways in which you may help reduce the amount of stormwater pollution you contribute:

- * For the latest news and events go to www.cityofedgewater.org.
- * Don't forget to prepare your hurricane family emergency kit.
- * Having a garage sale? Don't forget to get your permit at City Hall.

- * Maintain vehicle to prevent leaks.
- * Wash vehicle at commercial car wash or wash in your yard so that washing soap/water gets infiltrated into the ground.
- * Minimize the use of fertilizer and pesticides and **NEVER** apply before a heavy rain.
- * Pet owners should pick up after their pets and dispose of pet waste properly.
- * Keep lawn and household chemicals tightly sealed and in a place where rain cannot reach them and dispose of old or unwanted chemicals at the County Landfill (Household Hazardous Waste).
- * **NEVER** put anything in a storm drain.

Really want to help? Participate in the next river/beach cleanup, storm drain marking event, and report stormwater violations.

If you have any further questions please contact the Department of Environmental Services at (386) 424-2476.

Be part of the SOLUTION not the POLLUTION!

Business Tax Receipts (BTR) (formerly known as “Occupational Licenses”)

IT'S RENEWAL TIME

During the first week of August, the City will be mailing out renewal notices for all businesses located within the City limits. We have provided the following information in an attempt to answer some of the questions we have received regarding Business Tax Receipts (formerly Occupational Licenses) and Certificates of Use.

Business Tax Receipts or What happened to my “Occupational License?”

Florida Legislatures voted to modify Florida Statutes Chapter 205 to reflect that ‘Occupational Licenses’ are now known as ‘Business Tax Receipts’ (BTR). The reasoning behind this change was to clarify that fees paid for the BTR was a tax for the privilege of doing business within a municipality and/or county and to dispel the notion that the governing body was endorsing or accrediting the business in any way.

Renewal fees for BTR’s vary based on the type of business.

Certificate of Use or What is this charge for?

In 2008 City Council adopted a Certificate of Use program for all businesses located within the City. This gives the City the ability to conduct Life Safety Inspections and act as a regulatory tool to ensure businesses are in compliance with City codes and ordinances. Fees that were previously collected as application processing and inspection fees will now be collected as the Certificate of Use fee. A Certificate of Use is required for all businesses located in the City of Edgewater including home based businesses.

Renewal fees for the Certificate of Use are as follows:

Residential (home based businesses): \$20.00

What if my business has closed?

Please notify our office in writing if your business has closed. You may simply indicate such on the renewal notice and return it to our office.

Additionally, if there are any other changes to your business, i.e., new location, change of ownership, name changes or addition/deletion and/or change to the type of business please notify Development Services.

Renewal payments can be made either in person at 139 E. Park Avenue or by mail. **Please include a copy of the invoice when making payment.** Checks should be made payable to “City of Edgewater”.

Our mailing address is: BTR/CU renewals
City of Edgewater
PO Box 100
Edgewater, FL 32132

If you have any further questions, please call the Development Services Office at (386) 424-2400 and select options 3-1-1.

Rain Barrel Demonstration

Date: Tuesday, August 3rd

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Edgewater Council Chambers
104 N. Riverside Drive

Presented by: St John’s River Water Management Watershed Action Volunteer Coordinator and Department of Environmental Services.
Participants will learn how to conserve water at home using rain barrels. Come learn how to build a simple and inexpensive rain water collection system that can be used for watering your landscape. **Materials are not provided-this is an informative session.**

Bob Grayson

JULY Artist of the Month

Edgewater Leisure Services will feature the work of Bob Grayson, a member of the Artist Workshop of New Smyrna Beach. Please stop in to see his artwork at the Leisure Services Office located at 1108 S. Ridgewood Ave., Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m.

SUMMER TIME PROJECTS

Trash Can Compost Bin

This is not a new idea but when I found it, I thought what a great way for residents to have a compost pile without spending a fortune. It is just the right size for the backyard. With a locking lid to keep critters out and small enough to maneuver around your yard/garden.



Materials:

- * Rubber garbage can with a locking lid (Choose the size that is manageable but will still produce enough compost for your needs. A metal can could be used as well just make sure the lid locks.)
- * Drill with a 1/2 inch twist bit or a hole saw bit
- * Bricks, pavers or concrete blocks (to raise the garbage can off the ground)
- * Yard Waste

Directions:

- * Drill holes in the bottom and on the sides of the garbage can to provide plenty of air circulation.
- * Place the garbage can on bricks, pavers or concrete blocks to raise it off the ground. This allows air to circulate under the can and prevent the composting material from becoming stagnant. Some gardeners prefer that the garbage can sit on the ground so earthworms can help with the composting.
- * Add uncooked vegetable scraps, dried leaves, grass clippings, and disease-free plant material. It is helpful to chop the vegetables into small pieces so that they will break down quickly.

Keep the compost moist and turn it every two weeks. To turn, just put the garbage can on its side and roll it around. Make sure the lid is locked in place. A piece of rebar or a bulb auger attached to a drill are also tools for stirring up the compost. Be mindful of how much you put into your compost bin. You don't want it to become too heavy to manage. If space allows, I suggest you build 2 trash can composters so that you can allow one to compost while you fill the other.

Here are some things you can put into your composter:

- * Uncooked vegetables and fruits. Be sure to cut them up into small pieces so they will break down faster. (helpful with a small compost bin)
- * Grass clippings
- * Dried leaves
- * Disease free plant material
- * Shredded paper

Hint: If your compost bin starts to smell, it is not getting enough air. Simply turn the can and add more brown material such as dried leaves.

Rain Barrel

Rain barrels are an old fashioned way to conserve water and many people are turning back the hands of time and returning back to using them to collect water for yards and gardens. The increased popularity goes hand in hand with the increased need for water conservation. Our forefathers used this method when rainfall was short. Today we should use it to conserve water. Lawn and garden irrigation makeup nearly 40% of total household water use in the summer. A rain barrel collects water, over 700 gallons of water will run off the average roof during a 1-inch of rain in a 24 hour period, and stores it for when you need it to water plants, clean gardening tools, wash your car, etc. A rain barrel will also divert all this water from the storm drains decreasing the impact of stormwater runoff. A rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Your rain barrel can be as elaborate or as simple as you please.

Materials:

- ◆ Plastic Drum (use food-quality containers, not ones that held harsh chemicals) (Clear or translucent can speed the growth of algae, which can clog pipes.)
- ◆ 3/4 inch male thread spigot (with slant head)
- ◆ PVC Cement
- ◆ Bricks, pavers or concrete blocks (to raise the rain barrel off the ground)
- ◆ Optional: caulking, screen, large screws/bolts, bungee cord

Tools:

- ◆ Drill (hand or electric)
- ◆ 15/16-inch drill bit
- ◆ Sabre or Hand saw



Directions:

- ◆ Drill 15/16-inch hole at the first even part of the barrel-about 6 to 8 inches from the barrel bottom.
- ◆ Screw 3/4-inch spigot about half-way into the hole (this should be a very tight fit).
- ◆ Apply the PVC cement to the exposed threads and finish screwing the spigot into the drum.
- ◆ If using a downspout, use a sabre saw to cut a hole in the lid so that the downspout fits tightly. Caulking can be applied where the downspout meets the barrel top.
- ◆ Elevate barrel on bricks, pavers or concrete blocks laying on their sides. This will allow easy access to the spigot and provide adequate water pressure.

Options:

- ◆ Use an open lid barrel. Drill large screws/bolts into the drum, below the threads. Use a small-mesh screen over the top of the barrel, with the screen edges overlapping the screws/bolts. Use a bungee cord to hold the screen in place by placing around the barrel just below the screws/bolts.
- ◆ Adding or connecting an overflow pipe or linking multiple barrels together will carry excess water into the second barrel or direct it to a specific part of your yard or into a close by garden. This is a great way to reduce water around the foundation of your house during rain.

HINT: Connecting a soaker hose to your rain barrel gives you a great way to water shallow rooted plants. A rain barrel takes approximately 8-10 hours to empty using a soaker hose.

SAFETY:

- ◆ **Barrel should be made from food-grade container made to hold liquid.**
- ◆ **Place on level ground on bricks, pavers or concrete blocks. A full barrel can weigh over 500 lbs.**
- ◆ **Make sure to monitor overflow to eliminate erosion problems.**
- ◆ **The water collected should never be used for drinking or given to animals.**

Back to School Clothing Giveaway

Edgewater Public School and the American Legion Post #285 are collecting gently used clothing for the 2nd annual Back to School Clothing Giveaway. Please drop off donations of clothing or monetary at Edgewater Public School's front office, Monday-Thursday, 9:00a.m.—1:00p.m. Clothing Giveaway date and time to be announced. Check with your school at the back to school events such as Meet the Teacher or Student Class Schedule Pickup, etc.



Edgewater Police Department Citizens Assisting Police (CAP)

Volunteers Needed

School is out, children are playing, families are vacationing, parks are utilized longer hours, and afternoon storms cause traffic accidents. If you have a few extra hours a week come join and make a difference in your community. CAP volunteers do neighbor checks, home checks, close and secure City parks, after hour checks on businesses and assist in traffic & crowd control during special events to name a few.

For additional information please contact the CAP office at (386) 409-4791. Please leave a message and someone will return your call.

United States Census 2010

EDGEWATER COUNTS

EVERYBODY COUNTS

DIDN'T RETURN YOUR CENSUS FORM? There's a good chance someone will be knocking on your door.

The mail phase of the 2010 Census is winding down, and on May 1 census takers started knocking on the doors of residents who didn't return their 10-question census forms.

Census takers are local residents hired by the U.S. Census Bureau to make sure neighborhoods are represented as accurately as possible. They will carry an ID badge with a Department of Commerce watermark and expiration date. They will provide a letter from the director of the Census Bureau on U.S. Census Bureau letterhead and will offer a phone number for verification. Some census takers will be carrying a bag with a Census Bureau logo.

Census takers will not ask to enter homes and will not ask for Social Security numbers or financial information. They will ask only the 10 questions that are on the census questionnaire and are sworn for life to protect individual responses.

Residents can confirm a worker's identification by calling the Regional Census Center at (404) 335-1555 or the Regional Partnership Group at (404) 335-1467.

If no one answers the door, the census taker will visit that home up to three times, each time leaving a door hanger with a phone number. Residents can call the number on the hanger to schedule the visit.

The door-to-door campaign will continue through July.

Residents who have not returned a census form may call (866) 872-6868 and provide their data over the phone until July 30th. However, they still may be visited by a census taker.

The federal government uses census data to allocate more than \$400 billion to state and local governments each year and to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

For more information about the 2010 Census, please visit www.2010census.gov.

Trash—Recycling Information

Knowing what to do when a storm comes!

In the event of a tropical storm or hurricane, knowing what to do with your debris can make the difference in getting it picked up. The Department of Environmental Services **MUST** have your debris separated in the following manner for pick up and disposal.

All debris should be placed in front of your home not blocking the stormwater drainage system (i.e. swales, ditches, detention ponds, etc.), mailbox, or driveway.

Please separate the following items into separate piles:
* vegetation debris
* household items (furniture)
* metals (refrigerators, stoves, etc.)
* construction debris

Construction debris is ONLY picked up when Edgewater has a declared storm.

Remember to Recycle

Next time you go to throw away one of the listed items why not throw it into your recycling bin!

- *Newspapers (including inserts)
- *Glass jars/bottles
- *Thin cardboard (such as cereal boxes, etc.)
- *Corrugated Cardboard (all boxes)
- *Aluminum Cans
- *Tin Cans
- *Junk mail/Mixed Paper (placed in a paper bag)
- *Phone books
- *Magazines/Catalogs
- *Brown Paper Grocery Bags
- *Plastic bottles/containers (#1, #2, #3, #4, #5)

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

If you have any questions on refuse, trash, or recycling call the Department of Environmental Services at (386) 424-2476.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

The "Increase Reclaimed Water Customer Initiative Resolution" approved on September 28, 2009 will expire on September 30, 2010. So now is the time to have reclaimed water connected. This initiative saves you money and helps reduce effluent discharge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant into the Indian River Lagoon. The City offers a 12 month payment plan with a \$200 deposit. The cost of connection is \$650. For further information contact the Department of Environmental Services at (386) 424-2476.