



The Insider

The Official Newsletter of the City of South Daytona



A Message from the Mayor



Summer is here! This is the time of year again when going outside means experiencing extremely humid and hot temperatures. Let's not forget all those afternoon thunderstorms. Having lived here all my life, I understand the old adage that if you don't like the Florida weather, just wait and it will change. We have all seen major storm related changes these past couple of years. Changes like no other time in recent memory, new and stronger storms, with increased record breaking rainfall.

As you are all aware, these next few months can be most active in the hurricane season. The City has made sure our focus is to improve our stormwater system, so we can be better prepared to deal with these new storms. In the following pages we list the improvements our City Manager and City staff have worked on since our last newsletter. Our City website and Facebook pages also contain updates of our progress each week.

On another note school is out. Please be extra vigilant while driving as children will be outside playing or on bikes and scooters. Parents, please keep an eye on your little ones as they play in the front yard and keep them out of the roadway as it can be dangerous even on streets that are lightly travelled.

I want to congratulate all of the South Daytona High School seniors who graduated this year, the Class of 2025. Graduation is a testament to your hard work and perseverance. Continue this dedication as you begin your next adventure and you will find success.

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Mayor

William "Bill" Hall
(386) 295-6636

Councilman Seat 1

Brandon Young
(386) 453-5645

Vice-Mayor Seat 2

Doug Quartier
(386) 299-6511

Councilwoman Seat 3

Lisa O'Neal
(386) 322-3014

Councilman Seat 4

Eric Sander
(386) 852-8588

City Manager

James L. Gillis, Jr.
(386) 322-3014

Congratulations to Alana Silvis and Emily Ryan who were our South Daytona Community Trust scholarship winners this year. Alana has been accepted into Daytona State College and will be enrolling in the Cosmetology program. Emily has been accepted into Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and will be working toward a Bachelors in Space Operations. Good luck in all of your future endeavors and thank you for representing the South Daytona spirit through your service to our community.

And finally, Police Chief Mark Cheatham announced his retirement after proudly serving our community for 28 years. We begin a new chapter as we start our search for his replacement. The City Manager will be looking for a Police Chief whose focus will continue to be on community policing by protecting and serving our residents, concentrating on crime prevention techniques such as patrolling and engaging the public at community events. As someone who has worn the uniform for over 34 years and served this City as Chief, I look forward to working alongside this individual in our continued goal of keeping our City safe.

Stormwater Update from City Manager James L. Gillis, Jr.:

Now that hurricane season is here, I want to share with you some of the preparations we undertake to help protect the City. At the very beginning of June, we mobilize our portable pump fleet to those stormwater ponds, such as the Anastasia Duck Pond, which do not have a permanent station. Thanks to our stormwater fund augmented by successful federal, state and local grant acquisitions, the vast majority of our stormwater ponds have a permanent pump station designed to maintain pond levels before, during and after a storm.

Keeping these pump stations active during a storm where there is mass power outage is critical. The City has spent over \$700,000 this past year on acquiring permanent generators designed to power a pump station in the event of an electrical outage. These new generators will ensure that our pumps remain active and moving water during a storm. The City also has a fleet of portable generators that will be pre-staged at those pump stations who do not have a permanent generator to ensure it operates continuously during a storm.

We make a concentrated effort to keep our pond levels low during hurricane season as part of our storm preparations. Please understand that if you see low water levels at our City stormwater ponds, it is purposely done to be better prepared in the event of an approaching storm. We frequently get calls from concerned residents that the water levels may be too low but please understand that this is being done to keep water out of our homes.

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Community Development:

Permits, Licenses:
(386) 322-3020

Code Compliance Office:

(386) 322-3025

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency:

(386) 322-3033

Parks & Recreation:

(386) 322-3070

Police Department:

(386) 322-3030

Police Dispatch

Non-Emergency:
(386) 323-3568

Public Works Department:

Water/Sewer Emergency
Trash & Recycling:

M-F (8 to 4:30) (386) 322-3080
All other times: (386) 323-3568

Utility Department:

New Service, Service Shut-offs:
(386) 322-3002

City Manager's Stormwater Update, continued from page 2:

I am proud to say that our Public Works Department has been working extremely hard in the aftermath of Hurricanes Ian and Milton, improving our stormwater system with the goal of keeping water out of homes. Now that we are entering the heart of summer, where temperatures can get extreme, they have not slowed down their progress. A summary of their hard work is listed below.

- In anticipation of the County's grant to begin the design of an additional stormwater pond and wall inside the Lantern Park subdivision, the City has lined several of the sewer lines to repair any damage done to them by the flooding caused by Hurricane Milton.
- Public Works crews have cleared the Aspen Ditch to improve the drainage for the Big Tree Village Subdivision.
- Public Works crews have cleared the Longshadow Ditch which will improve drainage to the Country Club Gardens area including those who live on Longshadow Road.
- The City replaced stormwater piping on Jacobs Road which was a potential chokepoint due to its size and the condition of the existing corrugated metal pipe. The new pipe that was installed was larger and will allow more stormwater to flow through it thereby improving the drainage system for the residents on Jacobs Road.
- The City upgraded the pump at Jones Street Pond to significantly increase its stormwater pumping capacity which will help reduce flooding in the Jones Street and Ferndale Avenue areas.
- In case you haven't driven by, the City's contractor, Drewry, has begun the City's first large scale drainage project - expanding the pond at Reed Canal Stormwater Facility. This will greatly enhance drainage for the entire central part of the City.
- City crews have completed the expansion of Silver Pond in the Big Tree Village subdivision. This project will increase stormwater capacity, helping to improve drainage and reduce flooding in the area.
- The City's contractor has installed a new pump at Reed Canal Park. Funded through a budget allocation sponsored by Senator Tom Wright, the pump will help lower the pond and assist with flooding issues in the Orchards subdivision.
- The City has replaced stormwater piping on Calhoun Street and Yale Road. The old 18-inch pipe had deteriorated over time, and we're upgrading it with a durable high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe to improve drainage in the area.
- City staff held a preliminary meeting with the engineering team for the Lantern Park Pond design. Design work is expected to begin shortly, with construction to follow. This project marks the first of four initiatives in partnership with Volusia County through the Transform 386 program.
- The Public Works Department has expanded the Duck Pond on Anastasia Drive. The expansion of this stormwater pond will help improve the drainage of the surrounding homes.
- City crews cleared out some fallen trees, debris, and extra vegetation from Steven's Canal to help keep it flowing and ready to handle stormwater.
- The City Council approved a contract for the design of the Aspen Stormwater Pond expansion project for the benefit of the Big Tree Village subdivision. The design is expected to be complete by the time the County releases the funds through their Transform 386 program to begin construction immediately.
- The Public Works Department has been installing spillways to more effectively convey stormwater into designated retention areas throughout the City. A prime example of this is the installation of a spillway at Silver Pond. After expanding this pond, we noticed that stormwater struggled to sheet flow over the existing ground and was backing up in the street. Once a spillway was installed, the street here drained faster and without erosion.

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City Manager's Stormwater Update, continued from page 3:

- City crews cleaned the Citrus Ditch to help improve drainage on the west side of the Palm Grove subdivision. These efforts support better stormwater flow and help reduce flooding in the area.
- The City has installed a new, advanced backflow preventor in Reed Canal Park, which serves the Orchards Phase II subdivision. This upgraded device is designed to better protect our neighborhoods by preventing water from backing up into subdivisions during heavy rain or flooding events.
- The Public Works Department opened up a partially buried backflow preventer on the stormwater outfall located on Sandusky Road leading to the Halifax River to improve the drainage there.
- The City's excavation contractor, Drewry Site Development, is finishing up the vast expansion of the Blue Villa pond located at our Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility. Once completed, they will mobilize to the Windle Lane stormwater pond inside the Coventry Forest subdivision to greatly expand that pond designed to keep water out of the surrounding homes.

I would like to thank the Mayor and City Council for their unwavering support of our stormwater improvement efforts throughout the City. Whether it's providing their own solutions, listening to staff recommendations, visiting the construction sites, talking with our residents and committing the necessary funds to greatly improve our stormwater system, their support has been vital and a major reason for our substantial progress to date.

Our partnership with Volusia County has proved invaluable. Their Transform 386 program has lived up to its name. The City has received a substantial amount of grant funding through this program that will see the completion of four large scale stormwater projects designed to reduce flooding in those areas hardest hit by Hurricanes Ian and Milton.

There are four major stormwater improvement projects that received grant funding from the County that are moving forward. The first is the Lantern Park Stormwater Improvement Project which involves the construction of a stormwater pond, pump station and wall to help alleviate flooding in the Lantern Park subdivision. The second project is the Aspen Stormwater Pond Expansion which involves greatly increasing the size of the pond located on Aspen Drive and replacing the pump station there to reduce flooding in the Big Tree Village subdivision. The third project is the Stevens Canal Bank Stabilization Project which involves the installation of sheet piling along the Stevens Canal to make it wider, convey more water faster and eliminate erosion which will help the entire central portion of the City to drain faster. The final project is the Sherwood Forest Stormwater Pond Project which involves the construction of a stormwater pond and pump station to help alleviate flooding in the Sherwood Forest subdivision.

Due to the scale of these projects, with each costing several million apiece, it will not be possible to have these improvements in place for the upcoming hurricane season. While these projects work their way through design and construction, the City will be performing other enhancements to neighborhoods in a combined effort to keep water out of our homes.

The City of South Daytona wishes to thank the Volusia County Council, in particular Matt Reinhart, our district representative, and Jake Johanssen, County Councilman at Large, for their support of our efforts to reduce flooding in South Daytona. County Manager George Recktenwald has shared our vision of flood reduction and knows how to implement resources to improve stormwater systems. Their support of the improvements we are making in South Daytona has been vital to lessening the impact of these devastating storms.

Dona Butler, Director of Volusia County's Office of Recovery and Resiliency, has been an outstanding advocate for those residents who were severely impacted by Hurricanes Ian and Milton throughout the

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City Manager's Stormwater Update, continued from page 4:

County. Her dedication in assisting the cities and residents of Volusia County has played a vital role in reducing the impacts of future storms in this area.

Ben Bartlett, Volusia County's Public Works Director, has worked tirelessly with our staff to make improvements here in South Daytona and throughout the County. He has worked side by side with our staff to ensure that our proposed Transform 386 stormwater improvement projects are designed and constructed with the goal of improving our drainage system to keep water out of our homes. His dedication to cleaning Reed Canal will ensure greater volumes of water will get conveyed away from our neighborhoods and help improve the overall viability of our stormwater systems.

We still have a lot of work to do, and we will not stop until all improvements have been made to make our stormwater system better and capable of handling these new breed of storms that bring devastating amounts of rainfall to concentrated areas of the State. We are a low-lying coastal community who is more susceptible to flooding rains due to our low elevation. You have our commitment that we will continue to improve our system with the focused goal of keeping floodwater out of our homes.

Know Who to Call: Reporting Road Issues in South Daytona

Not all roads are maintained by the same agency in South Daytona, and knowing who to contact can help get issues resolved faster and more efficiently.

Here's a quick guide to help you report road problems like potholes, drainage issues, or damaged signage:

◆ State Roads:

Nova Road, Beville Road, and US 1
Maintained by the Florida Department of
Transportation (FDOT)
📞 Call: (800) 780-7102

◆ County Roads:

Big Tree Road and Reed Canal Road
Handled by Volusia County Road & Bridge
📞 Call: (386) 239-6535

◆ Local Residential Roads:

All other neighborhood and local streets
Maintained by South Daytona Public Works
📞 Call: (386) 322-3080

Report Road Issues

We have three types of Roads in South Daytona

- State
- County
- Local

Who should you call if you see an issue or have a question?

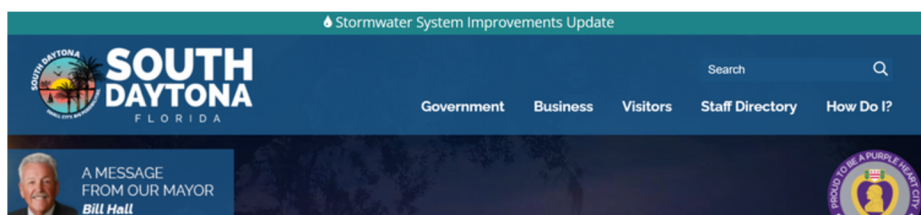
FDOT Nova Road Beville Road US 1 Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) (800) 780-7102	SOUTH DAYTONA All Local Residential Roads South Daytona Public Works (386) 322-3080	Volusia County Big Tree Road Reed Canal Road Volusia County Road & Bridge (386) 239-6535
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By reaching out to the correct agency, you help ensure that road concerns are addressed quickly and appropriately. Let's keep our streets safe and well-maintained together!

Stormwater Updates on FaceBook and our City Website



www.southdaytona.org



www.facebook.com/CityOfSouthDaytona

Follow us on Facebook or visit our City website to see our latest Stormwater System Improvements.

We have added a link at the top of the City website where you can view all Stormwater Improvements.

South Daytona Police Dispatch

Dispatch plays a vital role in keeping our neighborhoods safe and connected. Whether it's a minor concern or a serious emergency, the dedicated dispatch team is always just a phone call away.

For non-emergency situations, please call the Dispatch at (386) 323-3568. This ensures that our 9-1-1 lines remain open for urgent and life-threatening emergencies.

In the event of an emergency, such as a fire, crime in progress, or medical crisis, dial 9-1-1 immediately.



Your awareness and proper use of these resources help our dispatchers respond quickly and effectively, ensuring a safer community for all. Let's work together to keep South Daytona secure and supported!

Important Update: Utility Billing Customer Portal Changing in June 2025

Starting June 2025, South Daytona's Utility Billing online customer portal will be upgraded to a new system to better serve our residents. If you currently use the online portal, please note that you will need to create a new account in the updated system.

A link to the new portal is available on the South Daytona website and we have provided a QR code as well, making the transition as easy as possible.



link to online bill pay system

Need assistance? Our Utility Billing team is ready to help. Just give us a call at (386) 322-3000, and we'll walk you through the process step by step. We appreciate your patience and look forward to providing an improved online experience!

Flag Football - Registration Opens September 15th



Registration for Flag Football opens September 15th. This is a coed recreational league with an emphasis on developing the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, courage and a sense of belonging.

Children new to the sport are welcome. Every child will be encouraged to play and have fun doing it! Practices & Games will be twice a week Monday-Wednesday at either 5:30pm or 6:30pm. Practices start November 10th. Games run December 1st until January 29th.

Register online by visiting:

www.southdaytona.activityreg.com,

or calling (386) 322-3070 or stopping by the Piggotte Community Center at 504 Big Tree Road.



SOUTH DAYTONA CITIZENS ALERT COUNCIL, LIONS CLUB
AND POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENT:

KAILYNNE QUARTIER MEMORIAL RIDE

17th Annual



KICKSTANDS UP AT 10:00AM SHARP

6th
SEPTEMBER
2025

All vehicle types are
welcomed.
\$20 donation

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS ENCOURAGED.

South Daytona City Hall, 1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue,
South Daytona or call 386-322-3014

Make Check Payable to: South Daytona Citizens Alert

DETAILS

Sponsorship Opportunities

Door Prizes

Best Poker Hand

50/50 Drawing

Escorted Ride followed by Lunch at the
Piggotte Community Center

STARTING POINT

9.00 AM at South Daytona Police Department
1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona

Route for the Escorted Ride: South Daytona Police Department, The Half Wall
Restaurant & Brewery (New Smyrna), Deland Police Department, and Teddy Morse's
Harley Davidson Destination Daytona. End at Piggotte Community Center for lunch.

This newsletter is scheduled to be delivered quarterly. Extra copies are available in City Hall.
1672 S. Ridgewood, South Daytona, FL 32119



CITY OF SOUTH DAYTONA
P.O. BOX 214960
SOUTH DAYTONA, FL 32121-4960

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South Daytona, FL 32119

City Calendar

JULY 2025

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AUGUST 2025

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SEPTEMBER 2025

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- July 2** Parks, Recreation and ADA Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- July 2** Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- July 10** Special Master Hearing at 9:00 AM at City Hall
- July 22** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- August 6** Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- August 12** Budget Workshop at 5:00 PM at City Hall
- August 12** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- August 14** Special Master Hearing at 9:00 AM at City Hall
- September 3** Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- September 6** 17th Annual Kailynne Quartier Ride at 10:00AM at City Hall
- September 8** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- September 11** Special Master Heating at 9:00 AM at City Hall
- September 23** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall