



The Insider

The Official Newsletter of the City of South Daytona



A Message from the Mayor



This is the last newsletter for 2025, and as a community we have seen a few changes. Our Public Works Department has completed over 60 storm water improvements city wide. We welcomed our new Police Chief and held the 17th annual Kailynne Quartier Memorial Ride, and on U. S.1 there are several new businesses that are or about to open. There is however still much to be done, I am looking forward to kicking off the fall season with you.

Our Night Out against Crime Parade will be held on October 7, followed by the Light the Night on October 31st, a tradition that's been lighting up our city for over twenty years! Held in the joint parking lot of South Daytona Christian Church and the First Baptist Church in the 2000 block of Kenilworth Avenue. This event is more than just a Halloween celebration, it's a safe, fun, free evening for the whole family. The event will have a Toddler Zone, Petting Zoo, Inflatables, Carnival Games, Food, Music, and of course, our Costume Contests for all ages, including a group category! Judging the costume contest is quite the task. But I look forward to seeing the creative costumes and smiling faces.

In November the City Parks Department will host the BBQ and Bluegrass Fest on Saturday, November 22nd, from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM. This family-friendly festival features a Florida BBQ Association-sanctioned competition, delicious food vendors, a beer garden, artisan vendors, and live bluegrass music throughout the day. Entry is free, and there's something for everyone.

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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

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

December we will again celebrate our newest tradition: Christmas in Central Park. Join us on Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:00 PM for our second annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Central Park (at the corner of Magnolia Avenue and Big Tree Road). This event will feature performances by South Daytona Elementary School and Warner Christian Academy, light refreshments, and plenty of holiday cheer. Santa will be there to take pictures.

Don't forget about our Holiday Lighting Awards! We love recognizing the best holiday-decorated homes and businesses in South Daytona. If you or a neighbor goes all-out with their lights, nominate them by calling our Parks and Recreation office at (386) 322-3070. Make sure decorations are up by Sunday, December 7th—we'll need all nominations in by December 11th.

And for our youngest residents—Santa hasn't forgotten you! From November 26th through December 18th, Santa's Magic Mailbox will be in Central Park. Drop off your letter to Santa (don't forget your South Daytona address!), and he'll send a personal reply.

As we celebrate the season, we also begin looking ahead. 2026 marks the 75th anniversary of the City of South Daytona, a major milestone that just happens to coincide with our nation's 250th anniversary. We'll be celebrating all year long, and we can't wait to share more about what's to come.

As we continue to invest in our city, our new budget keeps us moving forward. There are projects planned to improve quality of life while staying focused on critical priorities like stormwater upgrades and flood mitigation. City Manager Mr. Gillis will provide more information on these projects in his stormwater report.

As always, please stay safe and thank you for being part of this great community. Our city thrives because of all of us.

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

The City of South Daytona's primary focus this year has been the improvement of our stormwater drainage system. That commitment has not wavered as staff has been working each and every day to make our system better. The goal is to prevent water from entering our homes. A summary of our efforts over the past three months is summarized below:

- Public Works crews replaced a stormwater main on Biscayne Avenue which was over 50 years old and made of corrugated metal. As you can imagine, corrugated metal does not do well in a saltwater environment. The pipe was riddled with holes and on the verge of collapse. The replacement of this pipe segment will help drainage in the area.

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

- The City was successful in securing a legislative appropriation in the amount of \$1.75 million to construct a stormwater pond in the Brian Avenue and Green Street area. Creating storage for stormwater is a critical step in keeping water out of homes, which is why you are seeing us excavating new and existing ponds throughout the City. Many thanks to our State Representatives Chase Tramont and Bill Partington, Senators Tom Wright and Tom Leek and Governor Ron DeSantis for approving our budget request. It is important to note that we were one of the few cities in Volusia County to get funding and survive the veto process. Grant funds will not be available until later this year for this project but, once received, we will begin design and permitting immediately. Construction can begin once all permits from the State are secured.
- The Public Works Department cleared out the roadside ditches along New York Avenue and Magnolia Avenue to help the Country Club Gardens subdivision drain better.
- City crews cleaned out the wet well and associated stormwater pipes on Pike Court which will ensure drainage of the Pike Court / Bishop Court cul-de-sacs.
- The newly installed stormwater pump inside the giant lake located in Reed Canal Park is fully operational and is better suited to control the lake level there than the portable pump we have been using for years.
- The City has replaced Lift Station #6 located on Valencia Road with a new station capable of pumping more effluent and resulting in fewer sewer backups for the Palm Grove subdivision during severe weather events.
- The Public Works Department cleaned the area surrounding our large concrete weir gate at our Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility. With this area free from vegetation, the weir gate can be properly exercised to assist in maintaining the water level in the Stevens Canal.
- Speaking of the Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility, our excavation contractor, Drewry, has finished up the vast pond expansion here. Their excavation work greatly expanded the existing pond and will store about twice as much water as before, greatly reducing the likelihood of the Stevens Canal overflowing its banks. This pond expansion will significantly improve the drainage throughout the entire central portion of the City.
- The Aspen Stormwater Pond Expansion Project will involve the significant enlargement of the existing Aspen Stormwater Pond to over twice its current size and includes the installation of a second stormwater pumping station to help reduce the likelihood of flooding within the Big Tree Village subdivision. The City's design engineering firm has completed the conceptual design of the proposed pond and pump station. Permitting with the appropriate state agencies is the next step before construction can begin. The City is funding the design, while Volusia County will be funding the anticipated \$4 million construction through their Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program.
- The City has televised and cleaned the drainage system in the Orchards subdivision. The pipes here were found to be in good condition but in need of a good cleaning, which was completed.
- City staff met with a pump manufacturer to begin the preparation for a large stormwater pump to be installed at the end of the Pope Avenue stormwater pipe. The Pope Avenue stormwater pipe runs behind the homes on Pope Avenue and has two outfalls. The first outfall directs collected stormwater to the recently expanded Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility Pond.

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

The second outfall directs water into a large vault at the end near Reed Canal Road. The goal is to install a large stormwater pump at this vault location to assist in removing the collected stormwater from the Pope Avenue area as quickly as possible. The large stormwater pump with generator and fuel tank will be installed as part of Volusia County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program at an estimated cost of \$550,000.

- The City has begun installing permanently housed generators at our larger stormwater pump stations. We already have permanently housed generators onsite at our two largest stormwater pumping stations, located at the Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility and at the Aspen Stormwater Pond. Back in December of last year, the City ordered four additional large permanently housed generators to be located at the Lantern Park Pond, Windle Lane Stormwater Pond, Reed Canal Park Pond, and at the Park of Honor Pond. These generators had to be custom-built due to their size and adaptability to the specifications of the existing pump stations. The cost of the four generators totaled over \$600,000 which gives you an idea of the size and scale of each one. Installation of all four generators has begun and will feature an automatic transfer switch designed to instantly start each generator in the event of a power loss.
- The need to keep our pumping stations running without interruption is extremely critical. As a result, we have rented generators to place at all of our remaining stormwater and sewer pump stations to get through this hurricane season. The generators will ensure that these facilities continue to run after a power outage caused by a severe weather event. The continual operation of our pump stations is vital to improving flood conditions throughout South Daytona.
- The City's excavation contractor, Drewry, has completed construction of a dry retention area on Anastasia Drive, which will be used to improve drainage in the surrounding area from Ridge Boulevard to Reed Canal Road.
- Public Works crews installed a backflow prevention device at the Nova Canal discharge point for the Lakeview subdivision. The old backflow preventor here was damaged during Hurricane Milton and needed replacement. This device will prevent the water inside the Nova Canal from backing up into this discharge pipe and causing flooding.
- Construction has begun on the Windle Lane Stormwater Pond Expansion project. The size of the existing pond will be more than double when the excavation is complete. Every bucket of dirt that is removed is another bucket of stormwater that can be held and pumped out to prevent it from entering our homes. The pond will be completed in a couple of months which will greatly improve the drainage of the Coventry Forest subdivision.
- The City's design of the installation of sheet-piling along the Stevens Canal has begun. The project calls for the installation of bank armament to make the Stevens Canal wider and capable of greater volumes of flow during severe weather events. The project will also greatly reduce erosion along the canal. The goal is to reduce the likelihood of this canal overflowing its banks. The estimated cost of the project is expected to be \$2.5 million. The City was successful in securing Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from Volusia County for the project.
- The design of the Sherwood Forest Stormwater Pond Project has begun. The project calls for the construction of a stormwater pond with a pump station to alleviate flooding in the Sherwood Forest subdivision. The cost of the project is expected to be \$4.6 million. The proposed pond and pump station will require permitting from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the St. Johns Water Management District. The City was also successful in getting this project funded through Volusia County's CDBG-DR program. Voluntary home acquisition will begin by Volusia County once the initial design has been completed.

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

- The City has received the initial design for the Lantern Park Secondary Stormwater Pond project. The project calls for the construction of a second stormwater pond with a pump station to help alleviate flooding in the Lantern Park subdivision. The estimated cost of the project is expected to be \$3.2 million with a substantial portion being funded by the Volusia County CDBG-DR program. Once revisions are made to the plan, it will move to regulatory permitting with state agencies before construction can commence.
- The Public Works Department cleaned out the outfall box and the surrounding area in the Harborside subdivision. In addition, we reconfigured the stormwater pump there to more effectively move water out of the subdivision.
- The Public Works Department has begun clearing the Stevens Canal again; this time with heavy equipment. Surface vegetation will be left to reduce erosion; however, the entire canal will be opened up from one end to the other. The goal is to allow for more flow and give access to the surveyors who will begin mapping the canal for the upcoming sheet pile wall design that is underway. The installation of sheeting to the canal will make it wider and capable of conveying water faster to our pumps at the Reed Canal Stormwater Control Facility.
- Volusia County's Transform386 program is accepting new applications for home rehabilitation, site reconstruction, and voluntary buyout. If you are interested in any of these programs, please contact Volusia County's Transform 386 staff at 386-943-7029, and they will assist you in completing the necessary applications.

These efforts demonstrate our City's commitment to building a resilient and reliable stormwater system. By investing in infrastructure, pursuing state and federal funding, and performing enhanced maintenance, we are making steady progress in reducing flood risks and protecting our neighborhoods. This work is ongoing, and we will continue to prioritize stormwater resilience as we safeguard the quality of life in South Daytona.



2025 WastePro Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving

No Collection on
Thursday, November 27.

Thursday's collection will
occur on Friday, November 28.



Christmas

No Collection on
Thursday, December 25.

Thursday's collection
will occur on
Friday, December 26.



New Year's

No Collection on
Thursday, January 1.

Thursday's collection
will occur on
Friday, January 2.



SOUTH DAYTONA: THE INSIDER

Light the Night

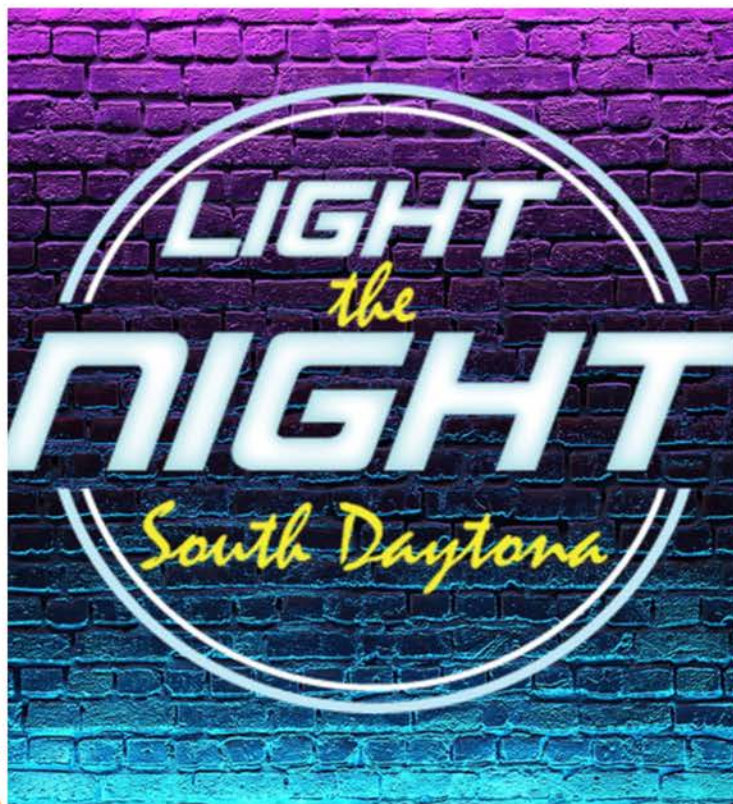
We've been lighting up South Daytona on **October 31st** for over twenty years with a festival that brings the whole community together. It's a safe and fun event for families that grows better and better every year! This event is held in the 2000 block of Kenilworth Avenue (just off Big Tree Road).

Come enjoy the Toddler Zone, Petting Zoo, Inflatables, Carnival Games, Snacks, Music, and Costume Contests for all ages - including a Group Category! The best part is that Light the Night is our gift to you - so it's ALL FREE!

See you there!

Schedule of Costume Contests

- 6:15 Ages 3 and under
- 6:30 Ages 4 to 8
- 6:45 Ages 9 to 12
- 7:00 Theme Groups
- 7:15 Ages 13 to 17
- 7:30 Adults



**FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 31, 2025
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

Flag Football - Registration Opens September 15th



SKILLS ASSESSMENT
NOVEMBER 8TH

PRACTICES START
NOVEMBER 10TH

GAMES RUN FROM DECEMBER 1 TO JANUARY 29

FLAG FOOTBALL

2025-2026



REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

HOW TO REGISTER:

ONLINE AT: SOUTHDAYTONA.ACTIVITYREG.COM

BY PHONE: 386-322-3070

IN PERSON: 504 BIG TREE ROAD, SOUTH DAYTONA

Registration for Flag Football opened 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.



BBQ and Bluegrass Fest

Our annual BBQ and Bluegrass Fest will be on Saturday, **November 22nd from 10:00am to 5:30pm**. BBQ teams will be competing in a Florida BBQ Association sanctioned competition. Come enjoy food from many different food vendors, beer from the beer garden, and listen to several Bluegrass bands that will play from 11:00am to 5:00pm. There will be artisan vendors for you to browse and activities for the whole family.

Holiday Lighting Awards 2025!

Each year, the City of South Daytona recognizes and awards the best holiday decorated homes and businesses in South Daytona.

Homes and businesses are nominated by calling the Parks and Recreation office at (386) 322-3070. Please make sure to complete your decorating by Sunday, December 7th. We need all nominations by December 11th.



2025 Christmas Tree Lighting

Christmas is around the corner. Mark your calendar for our second annual Christmas in Central Park event. The City will again be decorating our beloved Central Park, located at the corner of Magnolia Avenue and Big Tree Road.



Join your City Council on **Wednesday, December 3rd** at 6:00pm for our Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. We will enjoy performances from South Daytona Elementary School and Warner Christian Academy. Light refreshments will be served.

Santa's Magic Mailbox

From Wednesday, November 26th until Thursday, December 18th, Santa's Magic Mailbox will be at Central Park. Leave your letter for Santa in the mailbox and Santa will write back.

Don't forget to include your South Daytona address!

SOUTH DAYTONA: THE INSIDER



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



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OCTOBER 2025

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City Calendar

- October 1** Parks, Recreation and ADA Advisory Board Meeting and Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- October 7** National Night Out Against Crime Parade at 6:00 PM
- October 9** Special Master Hearing at 9:00 AM at City Hall
- October 14** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- November 5** Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- November 6** Special Master Hearing at 9:00 AM at City Hall
- November 11** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- December 3** Planning Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 PM at City Hall
- December 3** Christmas Tree Lighting at Central Park
- December 9** City Council Meeting at 6:00 PM at City Hall
- December 11** Special Master Heating at 9:00 AM at City Hall