



INSIGHT

INTO YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT

August 2007
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City of St. Augustine
P. O. Box 210
75 King St.
St. Augustine, FL
32085-0210

www.staugustinegovernment.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency.....	911
Fire/Non-Emergency.....	825.1098
Police/Non-Emergency.....	825.1070
Water Bills/Customer Service.....	825.1037
Utility Dept/After Hours.....	825.1044
Planning/Building.....	825.1065
Public Works.....	825.1040
City Clerk.....	825.1007
Neighborhood Council.....	825.1053

Updates

It's hurricane season and a reminder that the City of St. Augustine coordinates with the St. Johns County Dept. of Emergency Management to protect the lives and property of the residents of St. Johns County through emergency preparedness programs.

For more information call 209.0555 or go to sjcemergencymanagement.org on the Web.

The *Bridge of Lions Bulletin*, summer 2007, is now available. For information on the project or to obtain the bulletin, call project contact Laurie Sanderson, at 825.3647. Interested persons can also be placed on the weekly e-mail updates by contacting Sanderson.

The City of St. Augustine sent the annual Water Quality Report to customers the month of June. If you would like an explanation of the report, please call the Water Treatment Plant at 825.1044.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE • THE NATION'S OLDEST CITY

Stormwater runoff prevention program

The City of St. Augustine takes considerable steps to improve the quality of our surface waters by reducing the amount of pollution carried to our rivers due to stormwater runoff.

Stormwater is water that originates from rain and enters the city's stormwater system. Rainwater that is not absorbed into the ground due to an impervious surface, like concrete or asphalt, is considered stormwater runoff.

The city's stormwater system is designed to col-

lect stormwater runoff in catch basins and storm drains and channel that water to our waterways using a network of under-



ground pipes that make up our stormwater system.

A variety of pollutants are washed from the streets and parking lots into storm drains, creeks,

rivers and ultimately to the ocean. These pollutants include leaking oil, antifreeze and gasoline from motor vehicles, lawnmowers, and small equipment; copper dust, which is released from motor vehicle brake pad linings; rubber tire dust; soaps and chemicals used to wash motor vehicles; and fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides.

This type of pollution is called non-point source pollution due to the fact that it comes from many unidentifiable sources making it hard to regulate and prevent. Stormwater pollution has a significant effect on surface waters and is a major problem in cities all over the country.

(Cont'd next page)

St. Augustine's 442nd birthday celebration

St. Augustine's birthday party has simply gotten too big for one day. So this year, the event will span five days and include traditional annual events as well as first-time activities.

Starting on Tuesday, August 28 and continuing through Saturday, September 1, the events commemorate St. Augustine's standing as the longest continually inhabited city founded by Europeans in what is now the United States making it the Nation's Oldest City.

This year's birthday celebration will focus attention on the religious leaders, Native Americans and women who were there on the first day of the city's existence.

All activities surrounding the St. Augustine 442nd Birthday Celebration are free and within convenient walking distance from the Visitor

Information Center and adjacent parking facility.



The City's Namesake Tuesday, August 28

Vespers will be celebrated at the St. Augustine Cathedral Basilica at 6:30 p.m. followed by a liturgical procession to the Bishop Baker Center for a special theological presentation by Dr. Andrea Sterk, Associate Professor of History and Affiliate Faculty in Religion at the University of Florida (UF). Admission is free.

Celebrating Those Here Wednesday, August 29

Americans known as the

Timucua had been living there for at least 500 years when the Europeans first arrived. As part of the birthday celebration, the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park will feature demonstrations of Timucuan culture and lifestyles from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at which time the UF's Dr. Kathleen Deagan will present a walking tour of the park's archeological sites.

Celebrating The Hearth Thursday August 30

St. Augustine women in authentic period clothing will demonstrate hand-dyeing, weaving and other 16th century skills from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. The demonstrations will be held at Government House on the Plaza de la Constitucion and will include a presentation on the role of women in the Spanish colony.

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Stormwater runoff

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How you can help

The best way to reduce stormwater pollution is to stop it at its source.

Keep storm drains clean and free of debris. Pollutants flushed down storm drains directly affects the quality of our rivers and can make them unsafe for boating, fishing, swimming and other water related activities.

Here are some tips to help keep our waterways clean.

- Work on your car in a place such as the grass, where oil and grease cannot be washed into street gutters.
- Used motor oil should be contained and taken to a collection center. Most automotive shops provide this service.
- Grass clippings should be bagged and disposed of with yard waste.
- Wash water based dirty paint brushes in the indoor sink. Oil based paint brushes should be cleaned with a paint thinner, filtered out, wrapped in newspaper and discarded with the trash.
- Pet droppings should be discarded in trash bins.
- When washing your vehicles, park on grass or another area that can absorb the runoff water. Washing vehicles on streets sends chemicals into a catch basin and directly into our surface water.
- Use pesticides sparingly and don't fertilize before it rains.
- Keep trash and other debris out of gutters and away from storm drains.

Report Illegal Dumping

Dumping waste down storm drains is not only bad for the environment but is illegal.

If you have questions or input regarding the city's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program call the Public Works Department at 825.1040.

Storm drain markers ID'ed

Next month, the city will begin installing storm drain decal markers on all the storm drains and catch basins on city streets with the city limits.

The markers with a crab logo are to remind residents that only rain water should go down the storm drain. As part of the city's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program the program is to prevent

stormwater pollution in St. Augustine.

If you have questions regarding the city's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program call the Public Works Department at 825.1040.



Five days of activities for 442nd birthday

(Cont'd from page 1)

Celebrate Entertainment Friday, August 31

From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 16th century entertainers, including jugglers, madrigal singers, and actors will present authentic skits and comedies in the gardens of Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum located at 19 San Marco Avenue. Admission to the grounds is free.

A Day Long Celebration Saturday, September 1 The Landing

A full day of activities begins at 9:30 a.m. with a re-enactment of the landing by the city's founder, Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles, at the Mission of Nombre de Dios, the exact landing point of the Spanish colonists in 1565.

Each year, a leading citizen is invited to portray Menendez by the organizers of the Founder's Day Reenactment. This year the role of Menendez is portrayed by Herbie Wiles, a lifetime resident of St. Augustine, Navy Veteran, father, grandfather and one of the community's most respected business and community leaders.

Guest Speaker and Mass

The landing reenactment will be followed, as it was 442 years ago, with a celebration of Mass at an outdoor wooden altar by the water's edge. This year the Mass will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Robert J. Baker, Bishop of Charleston, SC. Bishop Baker will also serve as this year's guest speaker prior to the Mass.

The Feast

The First Thanksgiving will be remembered at noon with a cooking contest featuring authentic 16th century foods and recipes. Local restaurants will team with re-enactors to present authentic great cuisine in amateur and professional classes. The contest will take place at a special historical encampment featuring a living

timeline of the city's history on the grounds of the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park.

The Party

Cupcakes will be served at the Birthday Fiesta in the Colonial Spanish Quarter Museum from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. There will also be great Latin music from Luis Mario's Latin Jazz Band, authentic Colonial crafters and artisans and a special ceremony when St. Aug-



ustine's Royal Family cuts the official cake. Birthday cupcakes will be distributed as long as quantities last and soft drinks and water will be available for purchase. No food or drink may be brought into the museum. The museum is open 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and admission is free all day.

The End of the Day

At 7 p.m. the day's events end in much the way a typical day would have ended in Colonial St. Augustine with the 20-minute Changing of the Guard ceremony concluding with the resounding volley of musket fire.

Parking

If you're not within walking distance of the downtown area, you can conveniently park at the Historic Downtown Parking Facility.

For more information go to staugustinegovernment.com.

City streets are historic, some narrow and all public. Drive slowly.

Notes of interest

All city commission meetings are rebroadcast the Monday after the live meeting at 7 p.m. on Comcast Government TV, Channel 3.

City commission meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month.

Planning and Zoning Board meetings are replayed the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. on Channel 3.

The Historic Architectural Review Board meetings are replayed on the fourth Thursday at 7 p.m. on Channel 3.



The Florida Dept. of Transportation has installed additional pedestrian crossing signs at crosswalks in the downtown area.

Residents and businesses are reminded that pedestrians have the right-of-way at uncontrolled crosswalks with vehicles required to come to a full stop.



Resident blacksmith at the Colonial Spanish Quarter and a city employee for 10 years, Bradley Taylor-Hicks, was recently named St. Johns County's "2007 Tourism Employee of the Year" in the attractions category.



Fire Marshall John Rayno was recently promoted to assistant fire chief of the St. Augustine Fire Dept.



City code states all dogs and cats should be registered each September. The cost is \$3.00 per animal. Call Financial Services for more information at 825. 1037.

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