

**WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT
DECEMBER 8, 2023**

City Manager

- As we welcome new residents into the City of Punta Gorda, we often hear that some of the ordinances and standards are very different from their last community. Our local property maintenance laws uphold neighborhood integrity, prevent property value decline, minimize visual clutter and blight, and safeguard the quality of life.

The City adheres to a philosophy centered on attaining voluntary compliance with reported and identified code violations, emphasizing education as the key to achieving this objective. A significant challenge in gaining compliance is that many citizens may be unaware they are violating local ordinances. For example, residents might not realize that parking a vehicle on the City right-of-way without a valid tag or placing an inoperable vehicle on their private property violates the City code. Most individuals are willing to adhere to the rules if they are aware of them.



If a Code Compliance Officer observes a violation, the Officer will initiate contact with the resident. The most common form of initial communication is a 'Courtesy Notice.' The notice is a printed or handwritten document that lists violations and details the required corrective actions to resolve the complaint. The Code Officer may add more detailed descriptions of the violation. In most cases, the Code Officer will try to contact occupants by knocking on the door or ringing the doorbell. If there is no answer at the door, the notice can be left at the front door. The same notice may also be mailed to the property at the address on file with the Charlotte County Property Appraiser. The resident is customarily given 24 hours up to 21 days to take whatever action is requested to correct the problem, depending upon the seriousness of the violation. The Code Compliance Officer does have the discretion to request correction in fewer days. An example of a quicker correction period would be a vehicle parking on and blocking the public sidewalk or a vehicle under repair left unattended on blocks, jack stands, etc. There may be a request to correct these types of violations within 24 hours.

There are times when voluntary compliance is not achieved. The Code Compliance Officer will then initiate an appropriate progressive enforcement step when informal and formal efforts fail to get compliance. Depending on the violation, this might include issuing a Notice of Violation or a Statement of Violation and Notice of Hearing, requiring the responsible party's appearance before the Code Enforcement Board.

The City offers a transparent Code Compliance Portal. This service enables citizens and inspectors to perform case inquiries and view case-related data online, including the case status and next course of action related to a case. It is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2c5vnuzx>. Additionally, the City of Punta Gorda website is open to apply for no-charge permits for garage sales, general parking, recreational parking, watercraft parking, and moving vehicle parking permits. Commercial business no-charge permits for a business event, business promotion event, grand opening event, and temporary promotional event are also available on the website at <https://tinyurl.com/bdwzpvxx>.

In conclusion, as we warmly welcome new residents joining the City of Punta Gorda, we acknowledge the potential adjustments to ordinances and standards from their previous communities. Our steadfast commitment to local property maintenance laws not only upholds the integrity of neighborhoods but also serves as a crucial safeguard against property value decline, visual clutter, and blight, ultimately preserving the quality of life we cherish. *Readers may reach City Manager Greg Murray at citymgr@cityofpuntagordafl.com or by calling the main office line at (941) 575-3302.*

- **Florida Department of Transportation** — US 41/Tamiami Trail from Payne Street to Rio Villa Drive. Motorists should expect intermittent lane closures during daytime and nighttime/overnight hours while crews resurface the roadway, construct curb, gutter, and sidewalk, lanes widenings, and drainage, signage, Street Light, and signalization improvements. Motorists should expect intermittent southbound and northbound lane closures from Aqui Esta Drive to Payne Street during daytime hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during nighttime/overnight hours from 8 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. Motorists should use caution as crews work on the roadway. The expected project completion is late fall 2023.
- **City Council Visit** – At the Dec. 6 City Council meeting Santa Clause made a surprise visit. Santa shared the news that all of the residents of the City of Punta Gorda are on the nice list this year!
- **City Council Meeting** – City Council will meet at 9 a.m. on Jan 3, at the Military Heritage Museum. A few of the items of interest include:
 - Peace River Wildlife Center update
 - History Park - Sandy Moon
 - Cooper St Rec Center



Urban Design

Upcoming Events

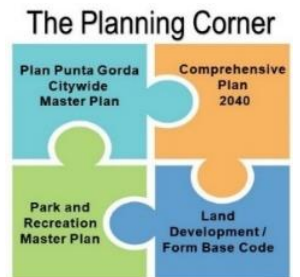
- Charlotte Harbor Event Center, 75 Taylor St. For additional information, visit <https://www.charlotteharborecc.com/events>
- Fishermen's Village events can be accessed at <https://www.fishville.com/events/>
- Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce events can be accessed at <https://puntagordachamber.com/calendar-events/>
- Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce events can be accessed at <https://business.charlottecountychamber.org/events/calendar>
- Military Heritage Museum events can be accessed at [Upcoming Events – Military Heritage Museum](#)
- Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve Street; for all community events and class information, visit <https://pgica.org/>.
- The Visual Arts Center events can be accessed at [Welcome to the Visual Arts Center of Punta Gorda, FL \(visualartcenter.org\)](#)
- Nov. 25 to Dec. 30, Kiwanis Christmas Card Lane, Gilchrist Park.
- Dec. 8, Sunset Celebration of the season from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Join Peace River Wildlife Center for a relaxing evening while enjoying the sunset over Charlotte Harbor. Meet their resident wildlife and ambassadors up close. PRWC, 3400 Ponce de Leon Pkwy, Punta Gorda, (941) 637-3830, www.prwildlife.org.
- Dec. 9, Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce 45th Annual Christmas Parade. For additional information, visit <https://business.charlottecountychamber.org/events/details/45th-annual-christmas-parade-dec-9-2023-3673>
- Dec. 10, Local Ladies Social Network Arts and Craft Show, Laishley Park. For additional information, visit <https://www.llsnevents.com/>
- Dec. 16 — 17, Holly Jolly Arts and Craft Show, Gilchrist Park. For additional information, visit <https://daniellesblueribbonevents.com/>
- Dec. 24, Deep Creek Community Church Christmas Eve Services, Laishley Park. For additional information, visit <https://deepcreekcommunitychurch.com/>



Lot Mowing Program

- The City has completed mowing, edging and trimming the following areas:
 - PGI (Bal Harbor Boulevard, Deborah Drive, Ryan Boulevard, Suzi Street, and Casey Key Drive)
 - PGI Bird Section (Almar Drive, Albatross Drive, Whippoorwill Boulevard, and Turtle Dove Boulevard)
 - Colony Point (Colony Point Drive, West Marion Avenue, Socorro Drive, and Coronado Drive)
 - PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Veneto, W Henry Street, Appian Drive, and Columbian Drive)
 - Burnt Store Isles (Monaco Dr., Tripoli Blvd, Madrid Blvd, and Macedonia Dr.)
Burnt Store Meadows (Areas of Tamiami Tr., N. Blue Sage, S. Blue Sage, Royal Poinciana, and Gold Tree)
 - Downtown and Historic District (W. Marion Ave., W. Olympia Ave., Shreve St., and Harvey St.)
 - The Historic District East of 41 NB and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave., E Olympia Ave., Narranja St., E Henry St., and Cooper St.)

- **Planning Corner** – Last week Urban Design staff highlighted the water quality presentation that was provided to the Punta Gorda City Council and Charlotte County Board of Commissioners joint meeting on Nov 21st. Also at this meeting Charlotte County staff provided an update on the infrastructure sales tax program. The optional one cent sales tax which has been in place in Charlotte County since 1994 is set to expire in 2026. Since first authorized by the voters of Charlotte County over \$648 million in capital funding for public infrastructure, quality of life and public safety projects has been provided. The success of the sales tax program is built on the City and County working together and proactively engaging the community in developing lists of candidate projects as part of each reauthorization referendum vote. Additionally, the City and the County have a strong track record of delivering these sales tax projects providing the necessary public infrastructure to support our thriving community.



As part of this agenda item, Urban Design staff provided a presentation regarding parking needs in the downtown area. The

City provided an overview of the long history of planning for and providing public parking in the historic downtown. The presentation highlighted the potential of adding a parking garage to the Charlotte Harbor Events Center site. A parking garage at this location could be of mutual interest to both the City and Charlotte County with significant public benefit.

The City and the County will continue to work together cooperatively on public infrastructure projects of joint interest that fulfill the needs and desires of our community.

- The meeting agenda and video are available online at:
<https://charlotte.granicus.com/player/clip/5810>.
- The Sales Tax Project [agenda item (b)] begins at hour 1:02:20 of the video. Meeting minutes in PDF format are available for download at:
https://charlotte.granicus.com/player/clip/5810?meta_id=711094

Charlotte Harbor Events Center

- 2 sites
- 300 ft by 150 ft each
- 36,000 sqft ground floor office or meeting space
- 100 parking spaces per floor

Two Bay Garage with Speed Ramp

Site 1, Site 2, Harbor Isles, W. Retta Esplanade, 41st St, 1st St, 2nd St, 3rd St, 4th St, 5th St, 6th St, 7th St, 8th St, 9th St, 10th St, 11th St, 12th St, 13th St, 14th St, 15th St, 16th St, 17th St, 18th St, 19th St, 20th St, 21st St, 22nd St, 23rd St, 24th St, 25th St, 26th St, 27th St, 28th St, 29th St, 30th St, 31st St, 32nd St, 33rd St, 34th St, 35th St, 36th St, 37th St, 38th St, 39th St, 40th St, 41st St, 42nd St, 43rd St, 44th St, 45th St, 46th St, 47th St, 48th St, 49th St, 50th St

- **Building Corner** – Florida Building Code (FBC) 8th Edition (2023) and the National Electric Code (NEC) 2020 will become effective Dec. 31. The following submittal deadlines apply: Complete paper permit applications and related documents submitted by close of business at 4 p.m. on Dec. 29, will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements of the 7th Edition (2020) FBC. All permit applications received on or after Dec. 31, will be reviewed for compliance with the minimum requirements of the FBC 8th Edition (2023) and NEC (2020)

Public Works

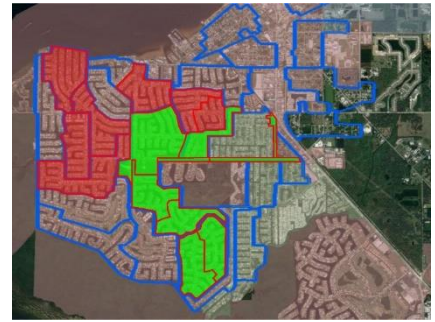
Canal Maintenance

- **Canal Maintenance Production** – Canal Maintenance crews manufactured 32 seawall panels, filled depressions at 25 locations, and repaired seawalls at five locations.
- **Dockside Dredging** – Property owners that are listed on the Hurricane Ian Seawall Damage list will not be allowed to have dockside dredging performed adjacent to the seawall until the seawall has been repaired. Any dredging along the damaged seawall may cause damage.
- **Stabilizing Erosion** – Just a friendly reminder for property owners to regularly check the condition of their tarps or plastic that is protecting the eroded areas. Tarps and plastic tend to become brittle in the sun and may start falling apart. Our area is still experiencing rain events and plastic will help keep the soil in place preventing further erosion.
- **Canal Maintenance Seawall Failure Update** – Construction schedules have been updated and are posted on the Canal Maintenance website for the next six months look ahead. There are 21 projects in Punta Gorda Isles under construction with 21 projects completed, and ten projects under construction with four completed in Burnt Store Isles.
- **Establishing sod after seawall replacement** – Placing the sod is the final phase of seawall replacement construction. As per the City ordinance, property owners are responsible for establishing the sod after it has been placed and the City will not reimburse the owners for their water usage.
- **Vessel Speeds** – Canal Maintenance is asking people to be mindful of the current situation in the canals with seawalls being damaged. City code states that the operation of vessels in the canals shall be Slow Speed Minimum Wake in the waterways within the City limits. The speed and operation in the Ponce Inlet, Pompano Inlet, Bass, and Snook Inlet are Idle Speed and No Wake. Wakes from watercraft can cause additional erosion and damage to seawalls already compromised.
- **Dock Match Program** – The Punta Gorda and Charlotte Harbor Boaters Alliance has created a program that connects boat owners who need a temporary relocation of their boats with owners that have available dock space. This information can be found at [Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance \(boat2puntagorda.org\)](http://boat2puntagorda.org) click on the Dock Match button for information.

Engineering

- **Swale Regrading** – The swale contractor has completed excavating Raven Ct., and will be watering the sod for the next 30 days. They have started to excavate the swales on Albatross. The next street to be graded will be Rio Villa. Engineering is in the process of generating the upcoming swale program list of properties.
- **Ponce de Leon** – The new boardwalk and East fishing pier has opened to the public. The West fishing pier has been closed for the contractor to rehab the piles under the fishing pier and to add bump outs for ADA with new railings. Please take extra caution while driving through the park due to construction personnel and equipment.

- Fiber Optic Internet Network** – The fiber optic internet provider HyperFiber has been issued permits for a portion of the construction project to install a citywide fiber optic internet network within the City right of way. This project will be under construction during the next several months as they install the network citywide. They are currently working in the areas highlighted in red below. The green area is where the work is completed and their permit has been inspected for final by the engineering department. Additional areas are scheduled to be final in the next two weeks. The blue areas are where the installation will be taking place as the project progresses.

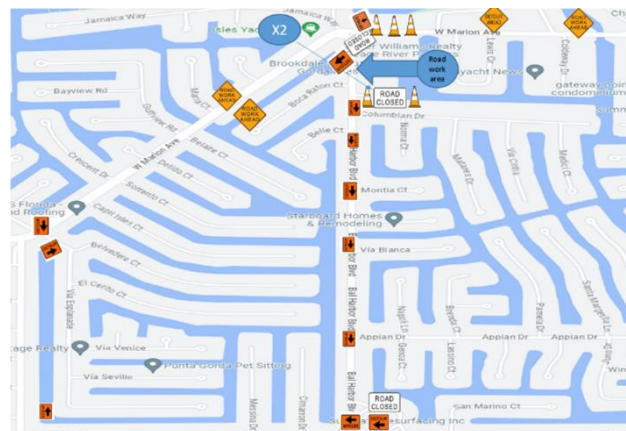


- Initially you will see utility markings within the City right of way, followed by the directional drilling of the fiber optic conduit. Fiber optic boxes will be installed in the right of way or easement at the edge of your property. Once the installation of the underground and service points has been completed for the entire sector, crews will then return to individual locations for the restoration of sod. This will take place at the end of construction in each sector. Please be patient and allow time for the restoration. The City engineering department will be performing spot inspections during construction as well as a final inspection when restoration is complete to ensure the contractor's restoration meets the City's requirements.
- HyperFiber has provided a telephone number to call if citizens have questions or concerns about the project and installation. Please contact HyperFiber's Scott Jackson at (239) 887-5379. Please use extra caution while driving through the project area due to construction personnel and equipment.

- Laishley Interactive Fountain/Splash Pad** – Construction demolition has begun at the Interactive Fountain area in Laishley Park. This work includes rehabilitation and upgrades to the splash pad/play area. Please use extra caution while driving or walking through the park due to construction personnel and equipment. To the highest extent possible the restroom facilities will remain open to the public. The access to the restrooms will be from the marina side of the building. There will be periodic temporary sidewalk closures immediately adjacent to the construction area as required for public safety. The construction area will be closed to the public at all times during this period. The enhanced fountain area is scheduled to reopen in May 2023.



- Road Closure** – Beginning Dec. 16 at 8 p.m., (weather permitting), Bal Harbor Blvd. between Marion Ave. and Aqui Esta Dr. will be temporarily closed to install a new drainage pipe under the roadway. Access will be limited to local traffic only on Bal Harbor Blvd between Marion Ave. and Aqui Esta Dr., with non-local traffic redirected to Coronado Dr. The construction crew will be working at night from 8 p.m. until completion, with the road expected to reopen by 10 a.m. on Dec 17.



Sanitation

- **As a friendly reminder, please follow the guidelines below regarding yard waste** – If you have any questions or to schedule a special pick-up, please contact Public Works (941)575-5050 or [Sanitation | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](http://punta-gorda.fl.us).
 - **Landscaping Companies** – Most companies include a fee for removing yard waste debris with the service they provide. Please do not permit commercial lawn maintenance companies, professional tree trimmers, arborists, landscapers, etc. to leave yard waste curbside. These professionals should haul away the yard debris they removed.
 - **Loose Yard Waste Pile** – Palm fronds, limbs, etc. shall not exceed 4" in diameter or 4' in length. These items must be tied and bundled for collection; bundles shall weigh no more than 35 pounds.
 - **Single Family Residents** – Are allowed no more than three (3) yard waste cans or bags per week. The City does not provide cans for yard waste and residents can purchase a cart from any local hardware store. Please be sure the cart has a lid, wheels, and metal bar across the front.
 - **Tree Removal** – Tree removal and lot clearing are NOT a part of your regular service. If you have a whole tree removed you must first contact Urban Design to obtain a permit (941)575-3372 or [Tree Removal Permit Request | City of Punta Gorda, FL \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](http://punta-gorda.fl.us). The company that removes the tree is responsible for hauling away the remains. The City does not collect whole tree remains or lot clearing remains.
 - **Unacceptable Material** – Lot clearing debris, tree removal, wood, dirt or rocks, cement edging, mulch, sod, fruit, straw, and hay will not be collected by yard waste crews.
 - **Vacant Lots** — Vacant lots are not eligible for trash or yard waste services. Please do not place any trash or yard waste on vacant lots. The debris will not be collected.
 - **Verify Your Service Area** — Simply enter your home address. This allows you to determine if you are within the collection boundaries of the City Limits. City boundaries are outlined in blue [Charlotte County GIS \(charlottecountyfl.gov\)](http://charlottecountyfl.gov).
 - **Yard Waste debris** — Shrubbery, grass clippings, and leaves must be placed at the curb in containers. Containers shall not exceed 32 gallons in size or 35 pounds in weight and must have handles. Biodegradable paper bags designated for yard waste collection are allowed.



Police

- **Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles Explained** – A golf cart is a vehicle designed for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 MPH. Golf carts are not authorized to be operated on streets or public sidewalks in Punta Gorda with the exception of W. Retta Esplanade from the Tidal Basin to the intersection of Shreve Street. When operating a golf cart on the street, a valid driver's license is now required. A low speed vehicle (LSV) is a vehicle with a top speed greater than 20 MPH, but not greater than 25 MPH. Many golf carts can be converted into LSVs by adding the necessary safety equipment and registering them. Low speed vehicles are authorized to operate on streets of Punta Gorda if they are registered and comply with all Florida statutes. LSVs can only be operated on roadways with a speed limit less than 35 mph. A valid driver's license is required to operate an LSV.



- **Family Fun Day** – Punta Gorda Police Department and the Punta Gorda Fire Department will be holding the third annual Family Fun Day on Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Punta Gorda Public Safety Complex, located at 1410 Tamiami Trail (across from the Golden Corral). There will be a bounce houses, dunk tank, crafts, food, K9 demos, bike helmet fittings, music, a visit from Santa and more! The entire community is invited to come out and enjoy this completely free event!



OPEN POSITIONS

- **Police Officer Testing** — We are currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. We will be holding a virtual testing process in February. Applications must be received by Jan. 26. The written exam will be completed online anytime between Feb. 2, and Feb. 9, with virtual oral board exams conducted via Zoom on Feb. 22. We are accepting applications from certified and non-certified candidates.
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** — The police department conducts new hire testing continually in order to be prepared for future openings. We are currently accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. We will be holding a testing process in March. Applications must be received by Mar. 1. The exam will be held on the morning of Mar. 14, beginning at 9 a.m.
- **Internship Program** — The police department is currently accepting internship applications for the Summer Semester of 2024. Our internship program is open to college students and high school seniors interested in gaining educational experience in law enforcement, criminal justice, and small government administration. Spots fill up quickly and the selection process can be competitive, so we encourage potential interns to apply today! **To apply for employment or for more information, please visit www.pgpdjobs.com or contact our Employee Development Coordinator at (941) 575-5571 or by email at employeedevelopment@pgorda.us.**

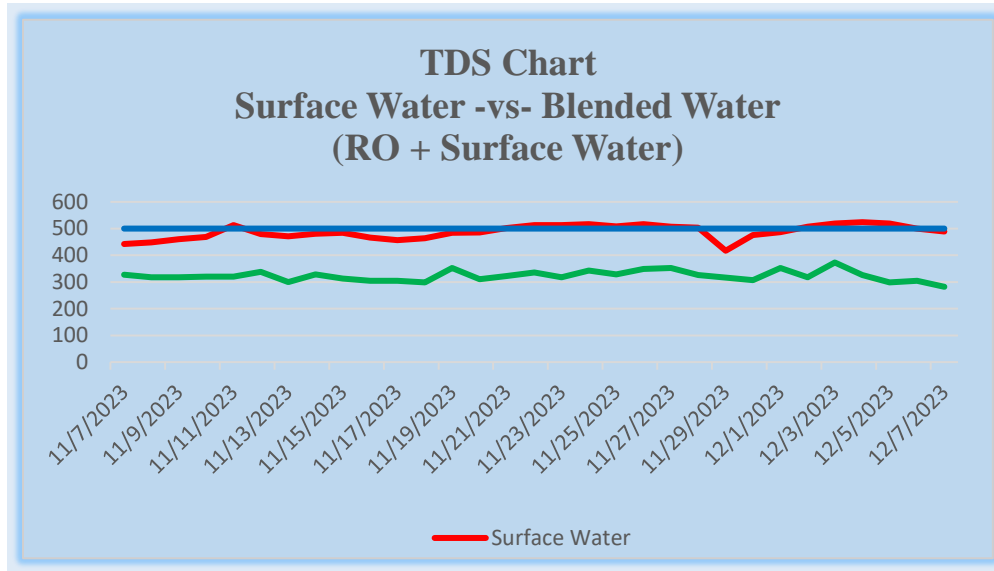
Fire

- **Christmas Cheer 2023** – Community business partners and City residents are teaming up to give back to local children. We will give to a group of Pre-kindergarten students at Baker Center School. We are asking for a Wal-Mart Gift Card of any value or a new child's toy for a girl or boy unwrapped dropped off to the Public Safety Building at 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda or the following:
 - TJ Smith, tjsmith@cityofpuntagordafl.com
 - Justin Davoult, jdavoult@cityofpuntagordfl.com
 - Jennifer Molnar, jmolnar@cityofpuntagordafl.com or Call: (941) 575-5529 for more info. Last year we provided all the students at Baker Center School with a Christmas toy, a cozy blanket, a book and a family meal. Our group efforts also provided independent local families with food & toys and two Foster Homes were supported separate from the Baker Center kids with Christmas Cheer gifts last year. We are always trying to go bigger and be able to sponsor even more children and their families in our community but we can only do this with your generous support. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!
- **Disposal Process for flares** – The Zemel Road Landfill and the Mini County Recycling Center are no longer taking them. Flares, ammunition and explosives should be taken to the Charlotte County Sheriff District #3, 3100 Loveland Blvd, 941-639-2101. *You must call the non-emergency number (941)639-4111 to set up an appointment before dropping off.*



Utilities

- **R.O. Plant**



Administration

- **Leaks** – If you notice a water or sewer leak outside of normal business hours please call the after-hours number (941) 575-5070 or the Water Treatment Plant at (941) 639-2057.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 51.8 MG delivered to the distribution system with a 7.4 MG daily average
- Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Receiving 700 gallons per minute from the new Interconnect (Phase 1 Pipeline). Sending 700 gallons per minute from the tank on 17 (Phase 1A Pipeline).
- Rainfall Nov 2023 – 1.17" Dec. 2023 0.00"
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Currently "hard" – Grains of Hardness 8 –Total hardness. 140 ppm
- TDS Dec 7 – Current 282 ppm. Low 172 ppm, High 551 ppm. 13 year average 400 ppm.
- Reservoir Dec 7 – Current 5.10", Record Low .4.90, Record High, 5.50' 58 Year Average 5.16"

Water Shortage

- Southwest Florida Water Management District has declared a Modified Phase I Water Shortage Order. The Modified Phase I Water Shortage Order does not change allowable watering schedules for most counties, however it does prohibit "wasteful and unnecessary" water use **and twice-per-week lawn watering schedules remain in effect except where stricter measures have been imposed by local governments.** Residents are asked to check their irrigation systems to ensure they are working properly. This means testing and repairing broken pipes and leaks, and fixing damaged or tilted sprinkler heads. Residents should also check their irrigation timer to ensure the settings are correct and the rain sensor is working properly. If you are out and about and find an irrigation system operating outside of the regulated times/dates, please attempt to contact the property owner/manager and advise them of the regulations. That will be a first verbal warning. If the same address is found to be operating outside of the regulated times/dates again, citations can be issued per: Chapter 9A, Section § 9A-10 and 9A-13 (a)(15) 15. Any condition in violation of uses of water during water emergency within and without the City limits.
 - First Offense \$25.00
 - Second Offense \$50.00
 - Third Offense \$250.00
 - Below are the City's current regulations.

Twice-per-week watering allows customers additional flexibility for determining when to water. Residents are encouraged to water only if their lawn and landscape needs it and to turn off irrigation systems when rain is forecasted. Some of the signs that a lawn needs water include a

blue-gray appearance, blades folded in half lengthwise and footprints remaining on the lawn for several minutes after walking on it.

- The District encourages water conservation year-round, and offers many tips to reduce water use and additional information on our website at WaterMatters.org/Water101 or [Water Restrictions | City of Punta Gorda, FL](http://WaterRestrictions|CityofPuntaGorda,FL)

Lawn Watering & Micro Irrigation of Plants

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and any time. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawn watering is limited to no more than twice per week. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawn watering days and times for City residents are as follows: 		
Addresses ending in 0 and 1	Monday and Thursday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
Addresses ending in 2 and 3	Tuesday and Friday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
Addresses ending in 4 and 5	Wednesday and Saturday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
Addresses ending in 6 and 7	Thursday and Sunday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
Addresses ending in 8 and 9	Friday and Tuesday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
Addresses ending in a letter or location without a discernable address	Friday and Tuesday	Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

New Lawns and Plants New lawns and plants have a "30-30" establishment period. On the day of installation, watering is allowed on any day at any time. During the second 30 days, watering is allowed three days per week: even-numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday; odd-numbered addresses may water Monday, Wednesday and Saturday; and locations without a discernable address may water on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday.

City Clerk

- **Current Board and Committee Vacancies** – If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, please visit our online portal to complete an online application at, <https://puntagorda.granicus.com/boards/forms/650/apply/>.
 - **General Employees' Pension Board** (one resident representative) – Meets quarterly and as called in Council Chambers. Five members – two City residents at-large, two pension plan members and one member appointed by the Board. Four-year terms – no maximum. Financial disclosure required. Charged with management of the General Employees' Pension Fund.
 - **Historic Preservation Advisory Board** (one regular and two alternate) – Meets the fourth Thursday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms - maximum of three terms OR partial term plus two more terms. Identifies for the City Council historically significant structures and sites that should be considered for designation as a "Local Historic Landmark" or be nominated for listing on the Florida Master Site File and the National Register of Historic Places. Makes recommendations of the policies for the protection of historically significant structures and sites. Makes recommendations to staff with regard to certificates of appropriateness for any demolition, variance, sign or relocation of structures. Promotes public awareness of historic archaeological preservation and its community benefits.
 - **Planning Commission** (one regular and one alternate) – Meets the fourth Monday at 2 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council with regard to amending, extending or adding to the comprehensive plan for the physical development of the City, platting or subdividing land within the City and adopting and amending a zoning ordinance.

New Businesses

- All persons, firms or corporations engaging in business or occupation within the City of Punta Gorda are required to obtain a Local Business Tax (LBT) Receipt in accordance with Chapter 12 of the Punta Gorda City Code. As part of our effort to promote economic development and vitality in our area, we offer the following list of new or transferred business within our community this week:
 - Shiwa Therapy, 207 Cross Street
 - Hartman Property Management Vacation Rental, 193 Crescent Drive
 - Hartman Property Management Vacation Rental, 2101 West Marion Avenue
 - Hartman Susan Vacation Rental, 2843 Via Paloma Drive
 - Rich Vacation Rental, 2211 Bayview Road