

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

July 5, 2024

### City Manager

- July is celebrated as the nation's official Park and Recreation Month. Created by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Park and Recreation Month specifically highlights the essential and powerful role local park and recreation professionals, such as our staff at the City of Punta Gorda, play in building more robust, more vibrant, and more resilient communities all across the country. The theme for this year's Park and Recreation Month, "Where You Belong," underscores how these professionals foster community belonging through inclusive programs, essential services, and safe spaces that promote meaningful connections.

Unlike many municipalities with standalone Park and Recreation Departments, the City of Punta Gorda employs a unique approach. Park design, rentals, climate readiness, and physical programming are managed by our Urban Design Department, while park maintenance falls under the Parks and Grounds Division of Public Works. Together, their efforts have resulted in the creation of scenic waterfront and neighborhood parks that residents and visitors enjoy throughout the year.

According to NRPA's 2023 Engagement with Parks Report, people place a high value on the programs and services that park and recreation agencies deliver to their local communities every day and strongly support their mission. More than 280 million people in the United States visited a local park or recreation facility at least once during the past year. Seven in ten U.S. residents have at least one local park, playground, open space or recreation center within walking distance of their homes. Eighty-eight percent of U.S. adults agree it is vital for local park and recreation agencies to engage with every member of their community to ensure offerings meet their needs. Visitors who find their parks and recreation facilities to be inclusive visit these areas nearly two times as often as those who do not hold this view.

Parks reduce the impact of large storms and flooding by serving as sponges that soak up runoff from nearby paved surfaces during rain events. This, in turn, prevents flooding and decreases property damage. Well-designed parks also reduce water usage by recycling and storing this water for use during times of low precipitation.



In the U.S., a substantial percentage of adults prioritize high-quality parks and recreation when choosing where to live, citing the benefits of physical activity and mental well-being associated with park proximity. Additionally, parks play a crucial role in environmental sustainability by mitigating flooding and conserving water resources through innovative design and management practices.

The City of Punta Gorda continues to invest in our park assets. The boardwalks that many enjoy at Ponce de Leon Park have been reconstructed to ensure their viability in the future. Work at Gilchrist Park has recently been completed that added on on-street parking, parking lot improvements, and site furnishings. Laishley Park's interactive fountain area is being expanded to include splash pad amenities and equipment, enhancing the quality of life for our residents and visitors of all ages. Nature Park and Hounds on Henry Dog Park have also had recent improvements.

Parks significantly contribute to our ability to preserve our small-town character while promoting diversity, economic development, and sustainability. Our park and recreational opportunities are vitally important to the community. *Readers may reach City Manager Greg Murray at [citymgr@cityofpuntagordafl.com](mailto:citymgr@cityofpuntagordafl.com) or by calling the general office line at (941) 575-3302.*

- **Property fraud alert** - On Jan. 1, new statewide requirement went into effect when recording property deeds, which make it more difficult for persons to file fraudulent deeds. Currently, deeds require two witness signatures to be recorded, with the name of each witness to be legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped immediately below the signature. However, the post office address of each witness will also be required and must be legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped on the deed.



This statewide change is a result of House Bill 1419, signed into law by Governor DeSantis. Clerk Eaton traveled to Tallahassee along with other Florida Clerks and lobbied for passage of this bill. This bill (now law) makes it more difficult for persons to file fraudulent deeds, which adds an additional layer of protection for property owners. Our office will continue working closely with lawmakers and other Clerk's offices to protect your records and assets from fraud.

If you are a property owner and haven't already done so, we encourage you to sign up for our FREE Property Fraud Alert service. It notifies property owners when a deed, mortgage, or other document has been recorded with their name on it. To learn more and register, visit <https://recording.charlotteclerk.com/fraud/fraudalert>

- **City Council** – City Council will meet on July 10, at 9 a.m. at the Military Heritage Museum.
- **PG Waterfront Hotel** – Internal demolition work to commence in early July.
- **Award of Merit** – City of Punta Gorda Comprehensive Plan 2045 - This is the second award our Planning Division has won for the Comprehensive Plan 2045. GREAT JOB for all your hard work. [APA Florida Chapter \(planning.org\)](http://APA Florida Chapter (planning.org))

- **SR 45 (US 41) from Marion Avenue to Retta Esplanade** – Maintenance project Motorists should expect daytime lane closures and on SR 45 from Marion Avenue to Retta Esplanade from July 7, to July 12, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. while crews conduct building repairs to the Wyvern Hotel. Motorists should expect slow-moving traffic and possible delays.
- **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT** - Smiles of Punta Gorda is a dental clinic located at 100 Madrid Blvd, Unit 414, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. They offer a comprehensive range of dental services, visit their website or call 941-242-8637 to see the range of services they offer: <https://smilesopfuntagorda.com>



### Human Resources

- **Open Positions** – The City of Punta Gorda offers a very generous benefit package to include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and a defined contribution retirement plan with matching contributions. Currently hiring for the following professional position:
  - **Utility Engineer – Utilities.** A professional position responsible for Utilities Engineering and providing technical engineering services for City utilities construction and improvement projects.
  - **Senior Accountant – Finance** – A professional position responsible for applying the principles of accounting to analyze financial information and prepare financial reports by compiling information, preparing profit and loss statements, and utilizing appropriate accounting control procedures.
  - **Maintenance Worker II – Canal Maintenance – Public Works** – A skilled laborer position responsible for the maintenance and repair or replacement of seawalls and related structures within the P.G.I. and B.S.I. canal maintenance districts.
  - **Purchasing Agent I – Procurement** - A skilled paraprofessional position responsible for purchasing various commodities and services for the City in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local purchasing requirements.
  - **Network Analyst –IT** – A highly skilled technical position that is responsible for designing and implementing information systems to support the enterprise infrastructure of an organization by ensuring that all systems are working at optimal levels and supporting the use of new technologies. This infrastructure includes core network, email, storage, wireless networks, communications, servers, public cloud, and virtual environments; and security for these systems. The City of Punta Gorda has a variety of employment opportunities available learn more at <https://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/.../employment.com>



- **How to Keep Pets Safe When Temperatures Rise** - Many experts predict parts of the country will see warmer than usual weather over the next few months. Extreme heat is dangerous for us, as well as for your family pets. The American Red Cross has steps to take to help ensure your pet stays safe this summer:

- Never leave your pet in a hot vehicle, even for a few minutes.
- Limit exercise on hot days. Exercise in the early morning or evening hours.
- Walk your pet in the grass if possible, to avoid hot surfaces burning their paws.
- If your pet is outside, make sure they have access to shade and plenty of cool water.
- Water safety is important for your furry friends. Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool—they aren't all good swimmers
- Watch your pets at a backyard barbecue. Keep them away from the grill and know that some food can be poisonous to them. Avoid raisins, grapes, onions, chocolate and products with artificial sweeteners.
- Heat stroke is a common problem for pets in the warmer weather. Dogs with short noses or snouts, like the boxer or bulldog, are especially prone to heat stroke, along with overweight pets, those with extremely thick fur coat or any pet with upper respiratory problems such as laryngeal paralysis or collapsing trachea. Some of the signs of heat stroke in your pet are:
  - Heavy panting and unable to calm down, even when lying down
  - Bright red gum color
  - Fast pulse rate
  - Unable to get up
  - If you suspect your pet has heat stroke, take their temperature rectally.
  - If the temperature is above 105 degrees, cool the animal down. The easiest way to do this is by using the water hose. Stop cooling the animal when the temperature reaches 103 degrees.
  - Bring your pet to the veterinarian as soon as possible as heat stroke can lead to severe organ dysfunction and damage.
  - Open windows or doors are a temptation for pets to try to get outside. Keep all doors and unscreened windows closed, and make sure screens are tightly secured
  - Some plants in your garden can be hazardous to animals.
  - Visit the [Animal Poison Control Center](#) to find out which plants and flowers are poisonous to animals.
  - Download the Red Cross Pet First Aid app for more information on how to include pets in emergency preparedness plans. The app also features step-by-step instructions for first aid emergencies, toxic substances, a pet profile for storing tag ID, photo and medical information, and early warning signs for when to contact a veterinarian and an animal hospital locator. Users can find it in smartphone app stores by searching for the American Red Cross, texting GETPET to 90999 for a link to download the app or going to [redcross.org/apps](http://redcross.org/apps).



## 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 \(visualartcenter.org\)](#) July 13, Queens of Today, Laishley Park, 96 Nesbit Street, for more information contact [queensoftoday01@gmail.com](mailto:queensoftoday01@gmail.com)

### Lot Mowing Program

- The City has started a new trim & edge cycle on July 1, weather permitting.
- The City will be beginning a new mowing cycle on July 8, weather permitting.

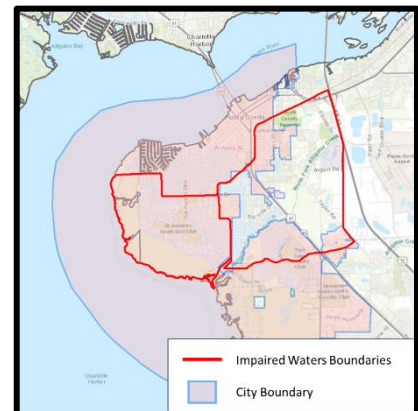
### Planning Corner

- **Citizen Partnership for Clean Canals (CPCC)** - On July 1, Urban Design staff attended a Citizen Partnership for Clean Canals (CPCC) water sampling event. This group of citizen scientists convenes the first Monday of each month, taking water samples from four sites in and around Punta Gorda Isles (PGI). In the Fall of 2023, the State declared some of the waterways in PGI as impaired for fecal indicator bacteria (see map below). Shortly after the State released their findings, residents within the PGI area began voicing concern about the possible health and safety implications of recreating in waters declared impaired for high fecal indicator bacteria (FIB).



Responding to these concerns with accurate information is a challenge due to the lack of available water quality information in this area. In an effort to better understand the root causes of these the FIB impairments, and the extent to which these high levels of FIB exist throughout both watersheds, a coalition of citizen interest groups (TEAM Punta Gorda and Heal Our Harbor) was formed to:

- Utilize community residents to implement a citizen monitoring program, expanding the knowledge of the extent of high bacteria levels in this watershed while providing concerned citizens with an outlet to take action and contribute to local government's drive to find sources and solutions to the issue;



- Working alongside regional and national experts on fecal indicator bacteria, conduct detailed investigations into potential sources and the actual risk posed to public health and safety;
- Using all of the information above, develop information products for neighborhoods and local governments to better inform residents and visitors of the potential public health implications, if any, of fecal indicator bacteria in Punta Gorda's waters, and possible management strategies for addressing any sources of concern;



Utilize this process as a template for other neighborhoods in the region with similar concerns. The initial phase of this effort began in April 2024, with plans to expand to as many as ten sites as resources and processes are finalized. To join the CPCC as a citizen scientist volunteer, or to donate to this organization, please contact TEAM Punta Gorda at [team@teampuntagorda.org](mailto:team@teampuntagorda.org). To view the Fox 4 News story about the work of the CPCC visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uX0ohZ3KLTc>

## **Public Works**

- **Canal Maintenance Production** – Crews Maintenance crews manufactured 90 sea wall panels. Filled depressions at 40 residences and condominiums also patched a sea wall cap and recovered a dock piling from the canal.
- **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. Utilizing plastic during a rain event 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 15 projects in Punta Gorda Isles under construction with 102 projects completed, and 15 projects under construction with 23 completed in Burnt Store Isles. Hurricane Ian Related Seawall Failures | City of Punta Gorda, FL ([punta-gorda.fl.us](http://punta-gorda.fl.us))
- **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

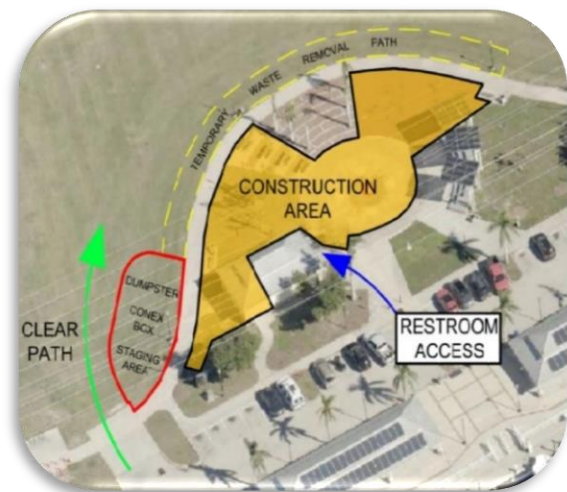
with owners that have available dock space. This information can be found at Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance (boat2puntagorda.org) click on the Dock Match button for information.

## Engineering

- **Swale Regrading** – The swale has completed Don Quixote Dr., Brazilia Ct., Darin Dr., Padre Island Dr. Casey Key Dr. (SW), Ussepa Ct., Casey Key Dr. (SE) Turtle Dove Cir which have been finalized and turned over to the homeowner. The contractor will be watering the sod for the next 30 days weather permitting at Sea Horse Ct., Sea Fan Dr., and Grebe Dr. The contractor has begun to excavate Orange St., W. McKenzie St., Lemon St., and McGregor St. this week, and will be excavating approximately 12,000 SF. Once they have the grades established, new sod will be installed. The swale contractor has excavated approximately 73,000 SF this fiscal year.
- **City Hall Annex** – The contractor has begun the interior work on the third floor where the Urban Design, Code Enforcement, and Zoning offices were. The contractors have replaced all the ceiling tiles this week throughout the third floor besides the IT Department. The new flooring and baseboards have been installed in the Urban Design, Code Enforcement, and Zoning offices. They have completed painting the first-floor foyer area. Next week, the contractor will install the flooring in the conference room and move over into the City Manager Office space. They will begin to deep clean the areas that have been completed and turn them back over to the city. The IT Department will be moving over to the Urban Design office, so the contractor can begin the construction in IT.
- **Laisley Splash Pad** - Construction at the Interactive Fountain area. This work includes rehabilitation and upgrades to the splash pad/play area. Final grading and electrical work in the areas containing new water features has been completed. This is in preparation for pouring the concrete pads.

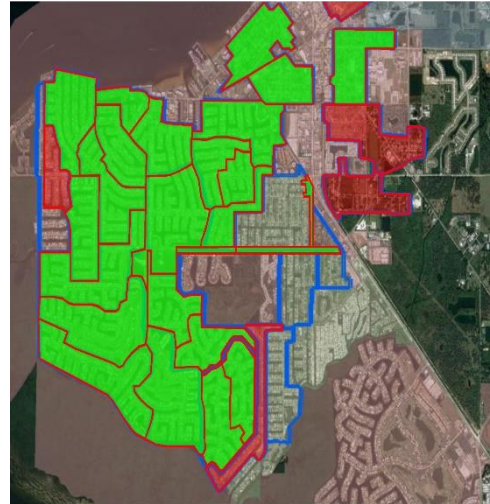


Please use extra caution while driving or walking through the park due to construction personnel and equipment. To the highest extent possible the restroom facilities will remain open to the public. The access to the restrooms will be from the marina side of the building. There will be periodic temporary 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 late 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 during the hours of 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- **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 areas are 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 several 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.

### Right of Way

- Crews have completed the setup for the Fisherman's Village Fireworks display.
- The crews have filled potholes throughout the city.
- Mowing throughout the downtown area continues.
- Removed closures from the Laishley Park Fireworks display.

### Sanitation

- **Tree Removal** – Tree removal and lot clearing is 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 \(punta-gorda.fl.us\)](https://www.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.
- **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

- **2024 Freedom Festival and Fireworks** - The fireworks display at the 2024 Freedom Festival at Laishley Park went as planned with no issues for the police department. We appreciate everyone's patience and willingness to follow the officers' traffic directions while exiting the area.



### **OPEN POSITIONS**

- **Police Officer Testing** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. A virtual testing process will take place in April. Applications must be received by July 12. The written exam will be completed online between July 19, and July 26, and virtual oral board exams will be conducted via Zoom on August 6. The department is accepting applications from certified and non-certified candidates.
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** – The police department continually conducts new hire testing to prepare for future openings. Currently, the department is accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. The exam will be held virtually between July 12, and July 19. Applications must be received by July 5.
- **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 more information, please visit [www.pgpdjobs.com](http://www.pgpdjobs.com) or contact our Employee Development Coordinator at (941) 575-5571 or by email at [employeedevelopment@pgorda.us](mailto:employeedevelopment@pgorda.us).**

## Fire

- **Last call for Fire Marshal "305"** - This week the fire department celebrated the distinguished career of our Fire Marshal Jennifer J. Molnar. Jennifer is retiring after 23 years of service with the City of Punta Gorda. Friends and family joined us on this special day to present Jennifer with a custom-made axe, a commemorative flag that was flown over Station 1 for the day, a plaque presented by the volunteers, an annual award named in her honor for outstanding community service "**Jennifer J. Molnar Distinguished Community Service Award**", a last call for Fire Marshal "305" over the radio, and a final ride home in Truck 1 stopping by key City sites along the way. It was a proud day to be a firefighter as we sent off an irreplaceable team member.

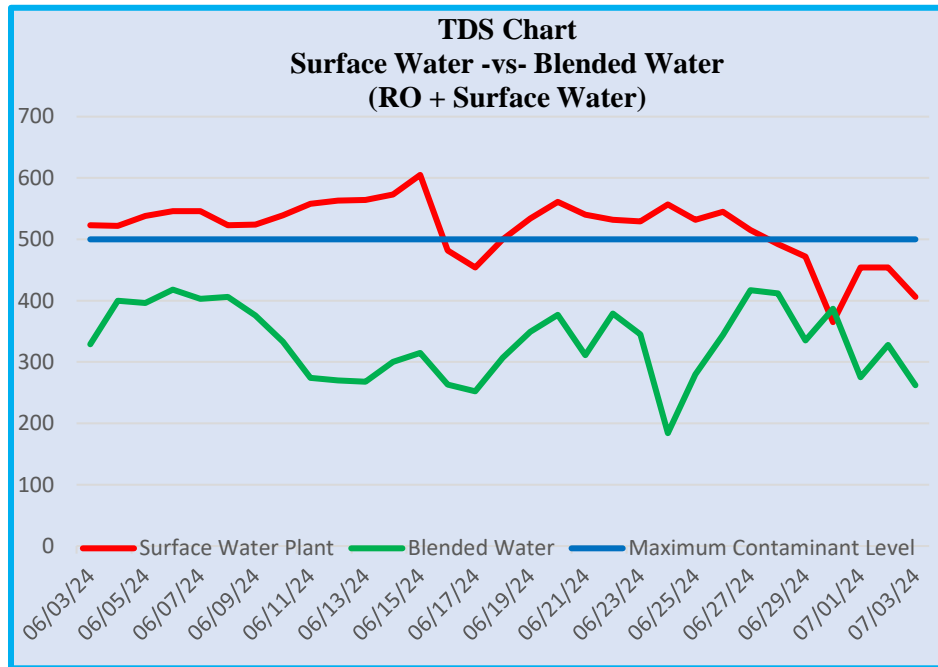


- **Firework Safety Tips** - Here are ten safety tips to help you safely enjoy the holiday:
  - Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water/hose nearby in case of accidents.
  - Designate a safety perimeter.
  - Ditch faulty fireworks.
  - Supervise children when they are handling sparklers.
  - Don't forget about your pets!
  - Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding.
  - Never place a part of your body directly over a firework or hold a firework in your hand when lighting.
  - Only light one firework at a time.
  - Avoid alcohol consumption when handling or using fireworks.
  - Consider safe alternatives to fireworks such as party poppers, bubbles, silly string, or glow sticks.



## Utilities

### RO + Surface Water



### 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 Plan at (941) 639-2057.
- **Water Treatment Plant Operations**
- **30.8 MG** delivered to the distribution system during the last seven days with **4.4 MG** daily average.
- Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Receiving 1000 gallons per minute from the new Interconnect (Phase 1 Pipeline). Sending 1500 gallons per minute from the tank on 17 (Phase 1A Pipeline).
- Rainfall July 2023 – 4.29” July 2024 – .83”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Currently "hard" – Grains of Hardness 6 –Total hardness 104 ppm
- TDS June 27 – Current 262 ppm. Low – 210 ppm, High 579 ppm, 14-year average 389 ppm.
- Reservoir July 3 – Current 5.61', Record Low 5.06', Record High, 7.08' 58 Year Average 5.55'

### Lawn Watering

- **Phase I Water Shortage** – The Southwest Florida Water Management District's (District) Governing Board declared a [Phase I Water Shortage](#) for the District's central and southern regions, which include Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota counties. The primary purpose for a Phase I water shortage is to alert the public that watering restrictions could be forthcoming.

**Irrigation Basics**

Save water and money by making sure your irrigation controller is set to water wisely. Check local watering restrictions for irrigation start times and watering days.

- ▶ **Irrigation Start Time:** Only one start time is needed to initiate watering for all irrigation zones. Set a start time before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- ▶ **Irrigation Run Time:** This is how long each zone in your irrigation system will run. Check with your local UF/IFAS Extension office for run time recommendations.
- ▶ **Irrigation Schedule:** Your system should be scheduled to only water on your designated watering days and only if needed.

For more info visit: <https://www.ci.sunto-gorda.fl.us/residents/code-compliance/water-restrictions>

The order also requires local utilities to review and implement procedures for enforcing year-round water conservation measures and water shortage restrictions, including reporting enforcement activity to the District. A Phase I water shortage order does not change allowable watering schedules, however it does prohibit "wasteful and unnecessary" water use. [Water Restrictions | City of Punta Gorda, FL](#)

- **Lawn Watering Schedule/Times** – Lawn watering is limited to twice per week (if needed) by property address. Before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and at any time using a shut-off nozzle on their hose, so water isn't wasted.

**Lawn Watering Schedule Table**

Addresses	Current Watering Day	May Also Water
Ending in 0 and 1	Monday	Thursday
Ending in 2 and 3	Tuesday	Friday
Ending in 4 and 5	Wednesday	Saturday
Ending in 6 and 7	Thursday	Sunday
Ending in 8 and 9	Friday	Tuesday
Addresses that end with a letter instead of a number will water on:	Friday	Tuesday

**City Clerk**

**2024 Election Cycle**

- The seats for Districts 1, 2, and 4 are scheduled for election this year. A general election will take place on Nov., 5, as two candidates qualified for each district. Qualified candidates are listed on the [City's website](#).
- Did you know your signature can change over the years? Ensure the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections has an up-to-date record of your signature on file for the upcoming election. Stop by their office at 226 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33982, to update yours during regular business hours.
- In order to vote by mail, you must have a valid request on file with the Supervisor of Elections Office. Requests for vote-by-mail ballots can be made in person, by calling (941)833-5400, or by visiting the [Supervisor of Elections website](#).

• **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/>.

- **Building Board** (one consumer advocate, one contractor, and one alternate) – Meets the fourth Tuesday at 9 a.m. in Council Chambers. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms – maximum of three terms OR partial term plus two more terms. Reviews enforcement of all codes related to construction standards and acts as condemnation board in matters of violation of minimum standards. Hears alleged complaints against contractors.

- **Code Enforcement Board** (one regular and one alternate) – Meets the fourth Wed., at 9 a.m. in Council Chambers. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms - maximum of three terms OR partial term plus two more terms. Financial disclosure required. Hears and decides alleged violations of the City Code of Ordinances.
  - **Donation Review Committee** (one historic non-profit representative) – Meets at 10 a.m. in City Council Chambers on the fourth Thurs., of Jan., April, July and Oct., or as needed, immediately following the meeting of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board. Charged with review of all non-monetary gift donation proposals/letters of intent received by the City, in accordance with the review process and established criteria identified in the Non-Monetary Donation Policy. Makes recommendations to the City Council for the acceptance or rejection of non-monetary gift donations.
  - **Historic Preservation Advisory Board** (one alternate) – Meets the fourth Thurs., 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 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) – Meets the fourth Mon., 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.
  - **Utility Advisory Board** – (two regular) Meets the fourth Mon. at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Seven-member board. Three-year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council with regard to revisions to the utility construction standards, alleged billing discrepancies, and review of utility drawings and specifications.
- **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:
    - Black Flag Adventure, 3709 Whip-poor-will Boulevard
    - AIDEAF Connect, 315 Olympia Avenue
    - Quality Treasures, 130 East Ann Street