

City of Miami Springs

News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:
Mayor Xavier Garcia
Vice-Mayor George Lob

Councilman Bob Best
Councilwoman Grace Bain
Councilwoman Jennifer Ator

201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, FL 33166 • City Hall: 305.805.5000 • Police: 305.888.9711 • Water/Sewer Emergencies: 305.274.9272 • Fire & Rescue: 911

JULY 2012

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES COUNCIL MEETINGS

MON., AUGUST 6, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MON., AUGUST 13, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUES., AUGUST 21, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MON., AUGUST 27, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CURBSIDE RECYCLING PICK-UP

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2012
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2012

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Storm Water Runoff

The rainy season is upon us, and although our lawns and gardens welcome the change, not all rain soaks into the ground where it falls. Rain also falls on roads, parking lots, roofs and concrete, all of which do not allow rain to penetrate the earth. Instead, the fallen rain quickly runs directly into storm drains, canals, lakes or bays, carrying pollutants it finds along the way like soil, motor oils and gasoline that leak from vehicles, fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and gardens, and anything else that will float or dissolve in water. This is called non-point pollution, and is a huge problem. Scientists have discovered that non-point pollution from residential areas is a serious threat to the health of Florida's water and ecosystems.

There are many things we can do in our yards to protect our natural environment and reduce non-point pollution. Whether your yard is two feet or two miles from the nearest canal or lake, it affects our water quality. With your help, we can work to make storm water runoff cleaner, which in turn, makes Miami Springs a better place to live.

- **Fix that leaky crankcase or transmission.** If repair is not possible, put a drip tray under the car and recycle the collected oil.

- **Keep suds out of the storm drains.** Use low-phosphate soaps when you wash your car. Wash your car on the lawn rather than the driveway. Do not dump detergents or cleaning compounds into local waterways. Consider washing your car at a carwash,

which disposes of the wash water properly.

- **Sweep walkways and driveways** rather than hosing debris into storm drains.

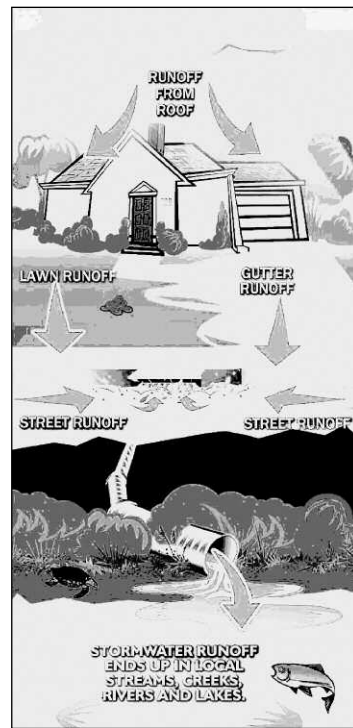
- **Fertilize wisely and use pesticides only when necessary.** Pesticides can be toxic to fish and can contaminate drinking water. Chemical and organic fertilizers both can cause excessive plant growth in water. When these plants die, they rob the water of oxygen and this can kill fish.

- **Compost your yard wastes.** Keep grass clippings out of waterways, where they will become unwanted fertilizer. Encourage insect-eating birds and "friendly" insects like ladybugs.

- **Never spray pesticides or fertilizers near ditches, lakes, or canals.** Spray on windless days.

- **Dispose of lawn and garden chemicals carefully.** Follow instructions on the container. Never dump them down the drains, in the gutter or near water.

- **Garden with native plants.** Native plants require little additional water after they become established. They are also more dis-



ease susceptible, requiring less fertilizers and pesticides.

- **Seek non-chemical solutions to plant pest problems.** Some chemicals may remain in the environment for many years, accumulating to cause damage to aquatic life. Additionally, chemicals may pose a health risk.

- **Plant more trees and shrubs.** They capture and hold a lot of rain before it reaches the ground.

- **Avoid landscaping plastic.** Large plastic sheets used to prevent weeds create as much runoff as paved streets. Use burlap or special perforated landscaping fabrics.

- **Collect roof water with a rain barrel.** Use collected water for the garden.

- **Clean up pet wastes.**

Runoff can carry wastes into lakes and streams. Either bury pet wastes or flush them down the toilet.

- **Drain hot tubs and swimming pools away from waterways and storm sewers.** Chlorinated water is deadly to fish and aquatic life, and should be drained onto the ground or into domestic sewers.

WELCOME

The City of Miami Springs welcomes the following new business to our City, and wishes them every success:

The Center for Paramedical Esthetics
45 Curtiss Parkway • Beauty Shop

ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.

305.805.5160 SENIOR CENTER,
343 PAYNE DRIVE

The City of Miami Springs Senior Center, located on Prince Field at 343 Payne Drive, offers a variety of activities and services to older residents, age 60 and over, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. A variety of services and activities are offered to include:

- **CONGREGATE MEALS:** Hot lunch meals are served weekdays from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. to assist area seniors in maintaining a nutritionally balanced diet and to provide opportunities to volunteer and socialize with their peers.

- **HOME DELIVERED MEALS:** A limited number of lunch meals are delivered each weekday to functionally impaired, older residents who are homebound, unable to cook properly for themselves, and who have little or no additional support available.

- **NUTRITION EDUCATION:** Nutrition education programs are provided each month by the program's consulting Registered Dietician or the Elderly Services Director.

HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:

- **YOGA-STYLE CLASSES,** sponsored by the Miami Springs Elderly Services Department, are provided free to those age 60 and over on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:45–10:00 a.m. at the City's senior center through August 17th. Class size is limited.

- **"GET-IN-SHAPE" DANCE FITNESS CLASSES,** free to area seniors, are provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, Certified Personal Trainer, through the Miami Springs Elderly Services Department. Classes meet on M-W-F from 10:00–11:45 a.m. at the City's senior center.

- Free **CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES** are provided at the senior center every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11-11:30 a.m. by Instructor Liz King.

- Free **LINE DANCING CLASSES** are offered every Thursday from 9:30–11:00 a.m. by Instructor Denise Gishler.

- **TRANSPORTATION:** Daily pick-up, utilizing the city's mini-bus, is provided to older residents with no means of transportation to and from the center. In addition, weekly trips are made to a local grocery store and assistance is given with shopping and carrying packages. Field trips to area stores and other places of interest are planned each month.

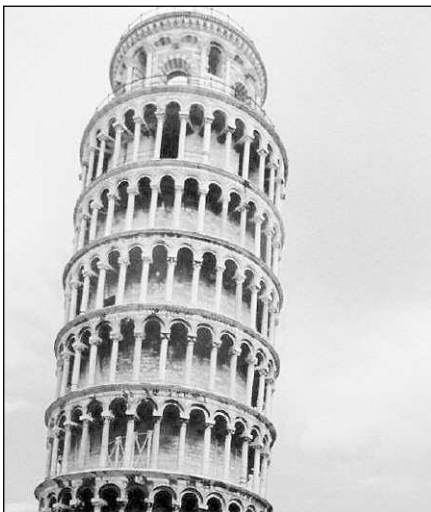
- **RECREATION:** Recreational and social activities are planned for August to include: Bingo games (8/6, 8/13, 8/20 and 8/27); a field trip to Westfield Mall on the 10th; a rummage sale fundraiser slated for the 29th; a birthday and anniversary celebration planned for the 16th; and a meeting of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens' Club scheduled for 8/7.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

In partnership with the S.T.E.P.S. Silver Surfers Program, the Miami Springs Elderly Services Department is currently offering

CONGRATULATIONS to Monica Santana, who won a \$25 gift certificate to Holleman's in the 2012 Communications Survey drawing! Special thanks to Holleman's for the donation, and to everyone who participated. If you didn't win this time, there will be opportunities for more prizes in future surveys.

Art in City Hall



James Holland (Zoning and Planning Director), Leaning Tower of Pisa, c-print, 18" x 22"

Our own Miami Springs City Employees and their family members will "show their true colors" and display selections of their art work in City Hall Lobby during the month of August. A reception to meet the artists will be held on Monday evening, August 6th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public will be able to view the art exhibit Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. during the month of July.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and feel you have some special contribution to make for a future exhibit, please contact Barbara Robinson in the City Manager's Office for information about exhibit requirements and scheduling. The telephone number is 305.805.5010.



Internet "Silver Surfers" Bill Coull and Lois Floyd working in the computer class at the Senior Center

free computer and Internet training for seniors. The program is designed to meet individualized learning needs through self-paced classes and to introduce seniors to a variety of opportunities provided by the Internet (i.e. applying for government benefits and access resources on a variety of topics and interests, connecting with family members & friends, paying bills and conducting banking, etc.) Each course meets for 5 consecutive weeks on Tuesday mornings at the City's senior center. Call 305. 805.5160 to reserve your space in an upcoming class.

Presentations on crime prevention, health, nutrition, city and consumer issues are presented at 12:15 p.m. on different dates throughout each month. On August 1st, Attorney Diana Gonzalez will present a program on "Living Wills, Advanced Directives and the Importance of Estate Planning." Seniors Helping Seniors and the Alliance for Aging, Inc. will provide information on "Physical Activity and Health" on August 8th. On August 9th, Councilwoman Jennifer Ator will present a "Council Report" and answer questions from the citizenry. Officers from the MSPD Community Policing Office will conduct a "Crime Watch Meeting" for seniors on August 21st. The American Red Cross and the Alliance for Aging, Inc. will sponsor a program on "Hurricane Preparedness" on August 29th.

In addition, a large selection of jig-saw puzzles, magazines, books and audio-books are available to area residents on a free loan basis. A monthly "Calendar of Events" can be obtained at the senior center and at City Hall, and is posted on the City's website under the Elderly Services Department section. For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, please call 305.805.5160.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
305.888.9711

Back-to-School Safety Tips

The Miami Springs Police Department wants to make sure your kids travel safely. Accidents can be prevented, if parents are on the lookout for potential hazards. To help you keep your kids free from harm, here are some back-to-school safety tips to help in preventing accidents as children return to schools.

- Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings.
- Walk the route with your child beforehand. Tell your child to stay away from parks, vacant lots, and other places where there aren't many people around.
- Tell your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Remember a stranger is anyone you or your children don't know well or don't trust.
- Be sure your child walks to and from school with a sibling, friend, or a neighbor.
- Teach your kids-whether walking, biking, or riding the bus to school-to obey all traffic signals, signs and traffic officers. Remind them to be extra careful in bad weather.
- When driving kids, deliver and pick them up as close to the school as possible. Don't leave until they are in the schoolyard.
- If your child bikes to school make sure they wears a helmet (it's the law for children under 16 years of age) that meets one of the safety standards (U.S. CPSC, Snell, ANSI, ASTM, or Canadian).
- Teach children to arrive at the bus stop

early, stay out of the street, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching the street, watch for cars and avoid the driver's blind spot.

- Remind your children to stay seated at all times and keep their heads and arms inside the bus while riding. When exiting the bus, children should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, exit from the stop using the handrail to avoid falls and cross the street at least 10 feet (or 10 "giant steps") in front of the bus to insure they are in sight of the bus driver.
- Tell your child not to bend down in front of the bus to tie shoes or pick up objects, as the driver may not see them before starting to move.
- Look left-right-left when coming to the edge of the bus to make sure traffic is stopped before crossing.
- Be sure your child knows his or her home phone number and address, your work or cell phone numbers and how to call 911 for emergencies. If old enough, teach them the phone number of another trusted adult
- Avoid long drawstrings prevent catching in car and school bus doors or getting caught on playground equipment.
- Give your child some strategies for coping with bullies. They should not give in to a bully's demands, but should simply walk away or tell the bully to stop. If the bullying continues, talk to a teacher.
- Make sure your child's school has your (and an alternate) up-to-date contact information.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.
305.805.5075/76 1401 WESTWARD DRIVE

FACILITY RENTAL:

The Multi-Purpose Room is available for rentals.

Contact the main office at the Community Center for availability & pricing. 305.805.5075

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

After School Care registration will begin on Monday, August 13th. The registration fee is \$35.00; cost is \$8.00 per day. This includes bus transportation from Miami Springs Elementary, Springview Elementary & Miami Springs Middle. After school care is available until 6:00 p.m. Limited space is available, be sure to register early!

We also offer bus transportation ONLY from Miami Springs Middle School. This does NOT include child care once they're brought to the Recreation facility. The cost for bus transportation ONLY is \$15.00 per week.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Registration for our School Holiday Program will begin on Monday August 13th. The registration fee is \$35.00 unless registered for ASC; cost is \$20.00 per day. SHP is available for: Teachers Work Days, Christmas Holiday & Spring Break from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

GYMNASIUM:

Open Gym Basketball: Effective June 18th – August 6th Open Gym Basketball: Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. open play, 17 & under Free 18 & over \$4

Open Gym Volleyball: is offered every Friday night from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. 18 & over \$4.00, 17 & under are free.

Walking Club: Register Now! Members will be rewarded for miles completed. We'll not only walk on the Indoor Jogging/Walking Track in our Gymnasium we'll also do different trails located throughout the Miami Springs area and will begin field trips January 2012. For additional information, contact Caitlin Smith.

FITNESS:

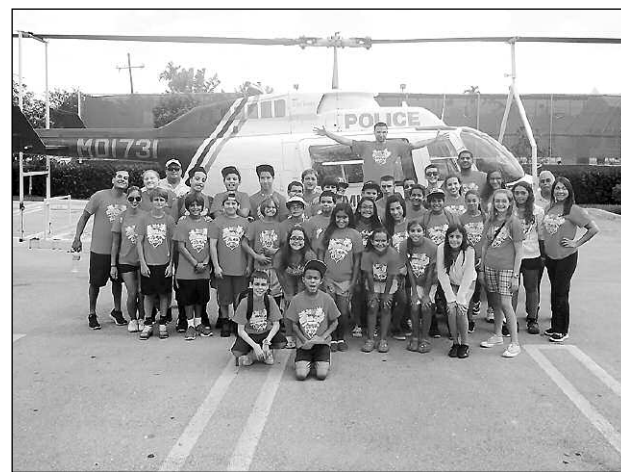
Fitness Room & Jogging Track: Monday – Friday 6:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Fitness Room Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE:

Adults: 18 & over \$150.00. Senior: 60 & over \$75.00. Youth: 13 – 17, \$150.00 (must be accompanied by a PARENT)
Family of 2: \$187.50. Family of 3: \$262.50. Additional family members \$75.00*

*Immediate Family Members ONLY

Yoga: The yoga class is hosted by certified yoga teacher and personal trainer, Natasha Salmon Cagno. Yoga is held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:15 p.m.- 8:15 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 8:45 a.m. The next yoga registration will be on Monday, September 10th at 6:45 p.m. at the Miami



The 11 to 13 year-old summer campers were thrilled by a visit from the Miami-Dade Police helicopter.

Springs Community Center. The cost is \$95 for an 8 week session. Please call the Community Center for details.

We are now offering a Saturday drop in yoga class. The cost per class is \$5.00 and starts at 8:45 a.m.

JAZZERCISE:

Burn up to 600 calories in one fun and powerfully effective 60-minute total body workout. Every Jazzercise group fitness class combines dance-based cardio with strength training and stretching to sculpt tone and lengthen muscles for maximum fat burn.

Tuesday & Thursday Mornings: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday: 7:05 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Jr. Jazzercise:

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. For information visit jazzercise.com or call 305-888-7625

AQUATICS:

Pool Hours

Monday-Friday: Lap Swimming 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Open Swim 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday: Open Swim 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Swimming Lessons: With certified American Red Cross Instructors, and an outstanding facility, the Miami Springs Aquatic Center welcomes all children, ages six months and up, to join our American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program.

Sessions run every two weeks and swim classes are offered year round. Our prices are \$45.00 per session and we offer various types of classes.

Class Times: There are both morning and evening classes offered at the following times:

Mornings: 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. Afternoons: 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Water Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. Cost: \$40.00 for 8 classes, per participant Pool Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE: Adults: 18 & over \$80.00. Child: 17 & under \$40.00. Senior: 60 & over \$40.00

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

305.805.5170

Summertime is here and the grass and trees are growing. Just a reminder: for regular tree trimming you are not required to have a permit, but the trimming has to be performed correctly or penalties could be imposed. If you are planning to remove a tree you are required to have a permit which is available online or can be picked up at the Code Compliance Office in City Hall.

Public Works collects all bulk waste and garbage in the alley ways where overgrown hedges and trees have become a challenge. We request that you look at your alley the next time you take out your trash to see if trimming is needed. Our trucks are 14 feet wide and we lose our mirrors. Ideally, if the overgrown material can be cut back to the property line, it would help us out a great deal.

One of our other challenges is the bulk waste being placed on top of the water meters. Our operators do not see them until the water is spraying past them. While on the subject of bulk waste we collect everything except tile, concrete, rebar, paints, solvents, and any other hazardous materials such as car batteries and bio hazards.

Public Works is located at 345 North Royal Poinciana Blvd. Our hours of operation are Monday thru Friday from 7am to 3:45 pm. Our contact number is 305.805.5170. After hours Public Works can be reached via the Miami Springs Police Department at 305.805.5100.

We take great pride in serving you, our customers!



Public Works reminds residents to trim their foliage along alley ways.

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

KEEP YOUR HEDGES AND TREES TRIMMED!

One of the common complaints that we get from residents is neighbors allowing their hedges or trees to grow over the property line and encroach on the adjacent property.

Our Code states:

Sec. 150-013. - Residential plantings, fences and walls.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, all hedges, shrubs, trees and other forms of vegetation planted and cultivated on residential properties in the City shall:

- (a) Be maintained in a manicured and presentable condition.
- (b) Be maintained by the owner in a like manner on all sides.
- (c) Be maintained so as not to constitute a safety hazard or visual clearance obstruction to pedestrians or vehicular traffic utilizing City sidewalks, swales, alleys, streets or other rights-of-way.

Please make sure that you keep your hedges and other plantings well maintained and don't allow them to grow over the property lines onto the street, alley, sidewalk or a neighbor's property. You wouldn't want to be responsible for cutting your neighbor's hedges, so don't make them responsible for cutting yours.

If you have any questions about Code Compliance, feel free to contact the Code Compliance Officer for your area:

Lourdes Taveras • 786.255.0995

ALL COMMERCIAL AND MULTIPLE FAMILY ZONES


Jose Sadin • 786.367.4962
ALL RESIDENTIAL AREAS AT THIS TIME

Tex Ziadie • 786.255.0497
SUPERVISOR-DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

	8/6	Robert Barrios	8/17	David Bente
	8/8	Gene Chery	8/22	Charlene Thompson
	8/9	Oscar Garcia	8/22	Maureen Harkey-Torres
	8/10	Noemi Darias	8/23	Shiketa Duberry
	8/11	Linda Hurtado	8/26	Kyle Kegley
	8/12	Erik Estok	8/28	Allene Paz
	8/17	Anthony Thompson		

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in July

Joe Perez	completed 27 years of service.
Loretta M. Boucher	completed 18 years of service.
Jeffrey A. Collins & Florentino F.Vasallo	completed 13 years of service.

Thank you for your loyal service to the City of Miami Springs.

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK		1 Architectural Review: 7:00 p.m.	2 Gen. Emp. & Police Ret. Systems Joint Mtg: 8:30 a.m.	3	4
5	6 Bd. Adjustment: 6:30 p.m. & Council Workshop: 7:00 p.m.	7 Code Enforce- ment: 7:00 p.m.	8 Golf & Country Club: 7:00 p.m. / Curbside Recycling	9 Parks and Parkways: 7:00 p.m.	10	11
12	13 City Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	14	15 Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart Open House: 2:45 p.m.	16 Historic Preservation: 7:00 p.m.	17	18
19	20 Revitaliza- tion and Redevel- opment: 7:00 p.m.	21 City Council Workshop Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	22 Curbside Recycling	23 Code Review Board: 7:00 p.m.	24	25
26	27 City Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	28 Ecology Board: 7:00 p.m.	29	30	31	