

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

JUNE 2012

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

COUNCIL MEETINGS

THURS., JULY 26, 2012 – 5:01 P.M.
 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

MON., AUGUST 20, 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, JULY 11, 2012
 WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2012

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Being Prepared

Summertime in Miami Springs is truly idyllic ... the season for vacation plans, barbecues, beach, pool and family time, our spectacular hometown Fourth of July events...it would be just about perfect if it weren't for two other seasonal events that aren't so wonderful: mosquitoes and hurricanes.

Summer rains have again brought the annual invasion of 45 different species of these little suckers to Miami-Dade County. Besides being annoying to humans and pets, they can carry West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and most recently Dengue Fever. Join the "swat" team to reduce mosquito numbers in your neighborhood by removing or regularly draining breeding sources around your home. Containers with standing water such as bird baths, pet water dishes, plant saucers, children's pools, boats, and even bromeliads are ideal breeding spots. Keep gutters clear so they drain properly, and repair any screening on windows, doors and patios. For personal protection, cover your bare skin and clothing with repellent with DEET if you must be outside when mosquitoes are most active during



the hours of dusk and dawn. Wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long sleeves. Always use repellents according to the label. Use mosquito netting to protect children younger than 2 months.

In summertime, families are also making back-to-school plans. But what about a hurricane plan? The official storm season started June 1, and if you haven't already gotten around to your hurricane preparations,

there's no better time than the present to get started. If you already have a plan, it couldn't hurt to revisit it. A new baby, new pet or other major life event may call for a few changes.

Here are some tips from the experts to make sure that you've covered all bases:

- Miami-Dade County has a hurricane guide online at http://www.miamidade.gov/hurricane/library/Hurricane_Guide.pdf.

- AAA also has resources online at https://autoclubsouth.aaa.com/Insurance/storm_help.aspx?intcmp=5_29_12_ECC2776_EmailNewsletter.

- The South Florida Red Cross provides a checklist and links to many other informative sites at <http://southfloridaredcross.org/get-prepared/hurricanes.html>.

- You can also sign up to receive text alerts for weather advisories and other emergency events with Miami-Dade Alerts at www.miamidade.gov/oem.

So, to ensure that your family experiences the best of this summer season, be prepared. Fight back against the mosquitoes! Make a hurricane plan! And enjoy!



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

Crackers off the Beaten Path
 78 Canal Street
 Restaurant

Springs Pharmacy
 357 N. Royal Poinciana Boulevard
 Pharmacy

DID YOU KNOW?

Miami Springs City Council meetings are webcast live (and archived as well) at www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast

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. The city's multipurpose senior center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.--5:00 p.m. and provides older citizens with numerous opportunities to: improve their health by participating in the nutritionally balanced, daily lunch program, free nutritional counseling, and in health support screenings and activities; improve their knowledge through informal health, nutrition, and consumer education workshops scheduled each month; obtain information and referral assistance to services available throughout the county; stay active by socializing with their peers, volunteering to help others and participating in recreational activities such as field trips, Bingo, line dancing, chair exercises, Yoga and "Get-in-Shape" classes; and improve their use of leisure time. Older citizens may also be eligible to utilize the center's transportation service or the home delivered meal program.

In addition to these core service offerings, and as part of a continuing focus on consumer, crime, and wellness issues, educational workshops have been scheduled in July as follows:

- Latest Trends in the Residential & Commercial Real Estate Markets" by Pedro Garcia, Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser – 7/26 at 12:15 p.m.;
- Crime Watch Program" by MSPD's Community Policing Office – 7/24 at 12:15 p.m.;
- "Rheumatoid Arthritis" by Dr. Elda Regalado, sponsored by CAC Florida Medical Centers – 7/25 at 12:15 p.m.; and
- Silver Surfers," a basic computer and Internet training course, sponsored by S.T.E.P.S. in the Right Direction, Inc. and the Alliance for Aging, Inc. – Tuesday mornings from 9:00–11:30 a.m. for those that have registered.



Graduates of the "Tomando Control de Salud" course recently offered at the Senior Center are pictured above: (back row, l-r) Instructor Ana Arias, Maura Rodriguez, Instructor Jorge Hurtado, Yolanda Saumell, Rodolfo Castillo, Olga Funcia; (front row, l-r) Dulce Cruz, Palmira Cortez, Josefina Torres, Maria Castaneira

In addition, the Xiques Family Quartet will entertain participants with patriotic music on July 5th at 12 noon.

A monthly "Calendar of Events" can be obtained at the Senior Center, at City Hall or on the City's Website. For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305)805-5160. Your inquiries and suggestions for program and service development are always welcome.

Art in City Hall



Two Magnolias on Teal Velvet, Gladys Coello, oil on canvas, is included in the Hibiscus Art Guild exhibit during July.

Members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild will be continuing to display their art work in City Hall Lobby during July. 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.

The Hibiscus Art Guild was organized over 40 years ago to foster art appreciation in our community. The Guild brings artists together to share techniques and to promote artistic creation. All artists are welcome, and they encourage interested local residents to join the. For information, please call 305.887.3042 or 305.888.8133.

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.

Recycling Facts from the Ecology Board

More than 32 million tons of municipal solid waste are generated every year by 18 million Floridians and 80 million visitors. That's almost two tons per resident. Yet Floridians collectively recycle only 28% of their solid waste.

We can do better! Recycling is the key to waste reduction. By reclaiming valuable materials for productive uses, new markets and economic opportunities are opened, landfill space is freed up for truly unrecoverable wastes and the need for more landfills is reduced. Additionally, recycling provides potential sources of energy, conserves natural resources, and often requires less energy than the production of virgin materials.

www.miamisprings-fl.gov

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POLICE DEPARTMENT
305.888.9711

Be a Traveler, Not a Target

Let's face it: you're an easy target - wandering around with a guide book in your hands, ignorant of the local surroundings and unsure how to get along, you exude all the body language that keeps thousands of hustlers, pickpockets and scammers in business the world over.

It's not that people are any less honest, but rather that tourists make for such easy pickings. Still, follow the tips in this article and you'll see the scammers coming a mile away.

General Precautions

- Try not to dress like an obvious tourist. If the locals don't wear baggy shorts, baseball caps and cameras around their necks, then neither should you. Even if it's hard to blend in you don't want to look like you just stepped off the plane.

- Leave most of your money back at the hotel. That way pickpockets won't be able to take much.

Pickpockets

Ask any thief how he chooses his target and he'll most likely answer "body language." Just as a predator chooses his prey from the lost, weak-looking animals in the flock, so too, pickpockets and thieves target those who look like they don't know where they're going.

So it's as well to walk with a purpose and a confident stride but it's also important to keep your valuables close.

To avoid being robbed:

- Don't wear conspicuous money belts around your waist that an enterprising thief could detach in moments. The same goes for carrying all that you own in a handbag that could be snatched away.

- Be careful in crowds. When in a queue or a crowded place like a subway train, keep one hand on your pocket or bag. That way even if you can't see all that's going on you'll be able to feel it if anyone tries to rob you.

- Thieves often work in teams. One of them might spill something on you to distract your attention while his partner grabs your bag or camera from the other side.

- If the place you're visiting has a reputation for being a little dangerous, don't walk down dark streets at night. Keep to brightly lit areas and take taxis when it gets late.

- And if you are unfortunate enough to get mugged, just hand your money over without a fight. No price can be put on your health or your life.

Retail scams

- No matter how friendly a salesperson might be, at the end of the day they want your money. Not all of them are that scrupulous how they get it or what they give you in exchange.

- If you want to buy something expensive check prices and qualities in a few different stores. You don't owe anything to the first shopkeeper who invites you in -- even if he does bring you coffee!

- There are plenty of bargains to be had, or you may want to bring some souvenirs home with you. But unless you really know the business it's unlikely that you'll stumble onto some get-rich-quick scheme. Making money in the import/export business takes many years of expertise and experience.

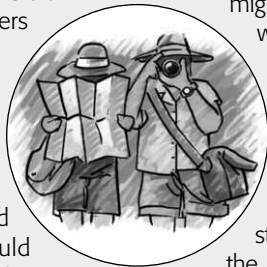
The Millionaire's Ride

This one is particularly common. The name of the scam is pure irony, instead of driving you to your destination; the driver takes you to some deserted area where his accomplices are waiting to rob you. When abroad, you're best off asking the hotel or restaurant to call a cab for you from an authorized taxi firm.

But Don't Get Paranoid!

You just have to be careful when on vacation, that's clear but at the same time your fears can stop you from enjoying yourself and meeting the people and sights you've travelled to see. The majority of people in the world are friendly and helpful, wanting nothing from you other than to be of assistance. If you arrive with a head full of fears though, it's easy to attribute sinister motives to the most innocent of gestures or actions.

So keep your wits about you when you're on vacation, but do not let fears of getting ripped off take away the pleasure of discovering and enjoying yourselves.



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

GYMNASIUM:

Open Gym Basketball: Effective June 18th – August 6th
Open Gym Basketball: 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 field trips. 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 Cugno. 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 session registration will be held on Monday, July 16th at 6:45 p.m. 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.



Summer campers Christian Miranda and Daniel Casariego enjoying the computer lab at our new NBA Cares Learn and Play Center

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Annual Summer Luau will be on Saturday July 28th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the City of Miami Springs Pool. Everyone is invited to come out with their family and friends for an evening of swimming, food and fun! The cost is \$5 per person, children 5 and under are free. There will be a special appearance by the Polynesian dancers which is sure to bring a thrill to everyone there.

Are You Election Ready?

On August 14th Miami Springs voters will have the opportunity to vote on some important charter changes. If you're not registered to vote, you may obtain a form at the City Clerk's Office, and send it to the Miami-Dade Elections Department by July 16th. A copy of the Miami-Dade Voter Information Guide can be found at http://www.miami-dade.gov/elections/Library/voter_information_guide.pdf.



BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.
305.805.5030

SCOOP THE POOP

Dear Residents and Visitors:

We have once more started having some instances of violations of Ordinance 96-09 which requires that you pick up your dog's feces.

This Ordinance is enforced by the Code Compliance Department and the Police Department. There is a fine of \$25.00 for failure to pick up your dog's feces.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Miami Springs Beautiful.



Sec. 96-09 Removal of animal feces.

(A) Any person owning, possessing, harboring, having the care, charge, control, or custody of any animal shall immediately remove and thereafter properly dispose of any fecal matter deposited by the animal on any property in the City.

(B) The provisions of subsection (A) shall be applicable to all City owned property, other public property including parks, parkways, medians, swales, sidewalks, streets, alleys, and other dedicated rights-of-way, and all privately owned property, unless the deposit of such matter has been consented to by the property owner.

(C) For the purpose of compliance with this section, animal fecal matter shall be immediate-

ly removed, placed in a closed or sealed container, and disposed of by depositing the container in a trash receptacle, sanitary disposal unit, or other closed or sealed disposal container.

(D) The provisions of this section shall not apply to dogs used for assistance by blind persons.


(E) The provisions of this section may be enforced by any code enforcement procedure contained in the City's Code of Ordinances or pursuant to any applicable county ordinance, state law, or other enforcement procedure by the City Code Compliance Department or City Police Department.

(Ord. 949-07, passed 2-12-07)

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

	7/2	Andres Quintanilla	7/23	Christopher Dweck
	7/4	Gregory Glover	7/25	Jorge Capote
	7/9	Harry Mayer	7/26	Carlos Blanco
	7/14	Albert Vargas		Julio Ferreira
	7/19	Moira Ramos	7/27	Matthew Castillo
	7/23	Magali Valls	7/30	Justin Robbins

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in June:	
Linda Bosque	completed 30 years of service.
Gary M. Fetters	completed 14 years of service.
Lazaro M. Garaboa and Thomas W. Nash	completed 12 years of service.
David Olivas	completed 11 years of service.
Cheryl R. Mulet completed	10 years of service.

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

JULY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Curbside Recycling	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart Open House: 2:45 p.m.	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Curbside Recycling	26 Special Council Meeting: 5:01 p.m.	27	28
29	30	31			CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK