



Town of Shalimar

Tidbits

Spring 2015

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

The Town is extremely fortunate that we have volunteers willing to give their time so freely to running the Town (Town elected officials and board members are not paid!). We have three highly qualified volunteers running for two open Town Commission positions. Please take the time to support your candidate on Election Day, March 10th. As you read this, early voting (2-6 March, 8AM-5PM at both Supervisor of Election offices) may still be available.

For the past several months, the Town has been working with a professional planner to revise our Code of Ordinances. The entire code will be reviewed, updated, and revised. During 2015, we will be advertising several workshops to allow everyone ample opportunity to influence how the Town will be regulated for the foreseeable future. If there is a particular Town Ordinance you don't like, this will be your opportunity to express your views.

I look forward to another two years of serving as Mayor of Shalimar. Honestly, maybe I am biased, but I am sure we have the best overall municipality in Florida and maybe anywhere. I am sure we will continue to have issues especially with changes on the horizon for many of our commercial developments. The Commission has been working with many residents who have parking-related issues, and parking-related issues will continue to be an item of concern. I promise to address parking for new development within the new Code of Ordinances.

So in closing, look around and be thankful that you reside in a beautiful, safe neighborhood. Help us keep it that way by reporting any suspicious activity to the Town Staff or Police Department.

As always, you are welcome to email me directly. If you would like to be on a Town of Shalimar electronic email listing, please send me an email requesting to add you (mayor@shalimarflorida.org). In the email include your full name and address.

NOTES FROM THE POLICE CHIEF

The Department has recently received reports of attempted scams. The scam(s) start when someone receives a check in the mail. A letter with the check asking the person to deposit the check and withdraw a portion and return the money via gift card back to a certain address. In return you can keep the remaining money that was deposited. Any time you receive questionable phone calls or mail please report it to the Police Department.

Like many other law enforcement agencies nationwide, your Police Department has recently acquired body cameras for each officer. The cameras will be an important tool in more accurately documenting and refining our law enforcement activities.

Thank you to residents who have registered their pets with the Police Department. For those who haven't, please contact Town Hall or the Police Department - help us keep them safe.

I am always available to attend homeowners' association meetings and other citizen gatherings. I speak about the services your Police Department provides, services the town provides, and receive your feedback on ways the Police Department can improve services.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Police Department, please do not hesitate to call Town Hall (651-5723) or the Police Department (651-1115), or call 225-1272 to speak to an officer about non-emergency issues.

FLOOD AND HURRICANE INFORMATION

FEMA Flood Insurance Reminders

Residents can stop by the town hall and check out flood maps for specific flood zone determinations. Copies of elevation certificates for structures located in special flood zones should be on file at Town Hall and applications and instructions for elevation certification are available. A library of Flood Information and Mitigation Strategies is also available.

Spring Cleanup 2015!

Two dumpsters will be located in the town for disposal of household items and yard waste - no household garbage please. One will be placed in the lot next to Town Hall and the other will be on the corner of Shalimar Drive and Erwin Fleet.

DUMPSTERS WILL BE IN PLACE FROM APRIL 18 - APRIL 26.

These dumpsters are NOT for Hazardous Materials(HazMat).

There will be a pallet for HazMat somewhere near each dumpster designated as the HAZMAT DISPOSAL AREA. Please ONLY PUT HAZMAT IN/ON POSTED RECEPTACLE. If it is full, you may lay your item next to the HAZMAT DISPOSAL AREA, drop it off at town hall behind the green dumpster, or call us and someone will come pick it up. (The Town pays approx. 700% more if HazMat is found in spring clean-up dumpsters.)

Hazardous Materials include:

smoke alarms	paint thinners	engine degreasers	fluorescent bulbs	pesticides	paint strippers
brake fluid	used oil filters	oil	furniture polish	anti-freeze	gas cylinder
solvents	tar	pool chemicals	explosives	gasoline	fire extinguishers
insecticides	flares	paint	batteries	ammo	TVs & AC's

Please refer Hazardous Materials questions to Waste Management at (850) 862-7141.

A NOTE ON CONTRACTORS – Please make sure that any contractor you hire has a license from the Town of Shalimar. To protect our residents, we keep records of each licensed contractor's Liability and Worker's Compensation Insurance, along with a copy of their Okaloosa County Occupational License. A contractor's unwillingness to secure a very inexpensive Town License may very well be the first RED FLAG indicating possible unscrupulous business practices. Sometimes, contractors are only unaware of Shalimar's licensing requirements and once informed of this requirement, will readily complete the very easy process to help keep those who are not correctly insured or don't have correct licenses out of Shalimar. Please feel free to call Town Hall before entering into any contractor agreement and avoid being a victim of illegal contractors.

A REMINDER ON PROTECTED TREES- All trees in Shalimar with a trunk size of at least 8 inches in diameter (at chest height) require a permit for removal. Some species of trees of this size are also "protected" by ordinance and require approval for removal from the Town Manager when inspection reveals safety, disease, or property damage issues. Removal for other reasons requires approval of the Planning and Zoning Board. This protection is afforded to these species on all **public and private property**. Species of trees that enjoy protected status may be found by referencing the landscaping sections of the **Code of Ordinances at www.municode.com** or checking with Town staff. While most area tree services are aware of these laws, please contact the Town admin office or maintenance staff with any questions before removing trees.

*** Visit www.shalimarflorida.org for upcoming meeting agendas and FAQ***