

CITY MANAGER'S

Sunshine

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

May, 2008

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Protect your property from flood - here's how

Elevation - This method consists of raising a house on an elevated support structure to place it above future flood waters. The exact method can include a number of possibilities that depend on local conditions such as expected flood and wind forces, building type and size, and soil bearing capacity.

Relocation - Perhaps the only technique for completely preventing future flood damage, this method involves moving a house out of a flood area to a new location where there is no threat of flooding. The technique for moving most any house in good structural condition is well developed. It is generally more expensive and time consuming than most elevation techniques, but it can be a very feasible method in many cases.

Levees - A possible technique in areas of shallow and moderate flooding depths with low velocity, this is a method of creating a barrier of compacted soil to keep the water away from a house. It can be one of the least expensive techniques, and it can be attractively landscaped. Its construction, however, requires great care, and there must be continued attention and maintenance to prevent its failure.

Floodwalls - This method is sometimes practical for areas with low to moderate flooding depths and velocities. As with levees, floodwalls are designed to keep the water away from a house, but are constructed of materials such as masonry block and reinforced concrete. They are more expensive than levees, but if properly designed, do not require as much concern with continued inspection and maintenance.

Closures - Often used in conjunction with other techniques such as floodwalls and levees, closures involve techniques for protecting gaps that have been left open for day-to-day conveniences, such as walks, doors, and driveways.

Sealants - Sometimes referred to as dry floodproofing, this method can be used only in areas of very shallow flooding to completely seal a home against water. Because of the tremendous pressures that water can exert against a structure protected by this method the techniques can only be used on brick veneer or masonry construction in good structural condition, and then only when the flood levels cannot exceed two to three feet and flood velocities are negligible.

Utility Protection - Often very costly damage to utilities such as heating, air conditioning, electrical, and plumbing systems occurs during floods. Simple and relatively low-cost measures can usually prevent damage to these systems, which are essential to the habitability of a residence.



Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1

**In observance of Memorial Day,
the City of Niceville offices
will be closed
Monday, May 26.**

From the Police Department...

During the month of March the Police Department responded to 2127 calls for police assistance. A total of 83 vehicles were involved in reported crashes. The estimated amount of damage to these vehicles and related property was \$158,075. A total of 299 Traffic Citations were issued, 46 Misdemeanor, 11 Felony and 4 DUI Arrests were made.

BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT

March, 2008

City of Niceville
Monthly Report to the City Manager

Department of Building Inspection

Month of Mar 2008

Permits Issued	This Month	Last Month	Same Month Last Year	
Building Number	24	36	35	
Permit Fees	1,739.00	7,351.00	2,902.00	
Value	301,230.00	2,553,508.00	566,647.00	
Electrical Number	9	14	14	
Permit Fees	117.00	211.00	566.00	
Plumbing Number	1	1	7	
Permit Fees	26.00	6.00	514.00	
Mechanical Number	4	9	10	
Permit Fees	228.00	182.00	210.00	
Gas Number	1	3	7	
Permit Fees	11.00	39.00	85.00	
Total All Fees	2,121.00	7,789.00	4,277.00	
Water Taps	2 4,847.00	2 7,545.34	2 4,916.73	
Sewer Taps	1 5,830.00	3 35,080.00	6 7,130.00	
Nature of Building Permits				
#	Type	Dwellings	Permit Fees	Valuation
1	Single Family		408.00	75,000.00
	Two Family/Multi-family			
	Commercial Buildings			
	Industrial Buildings			
1	Swimming Pools		150.00	28,000.00
2	Signs		405.00	81,600.00
2	Sheds		40.00	2,700.00
2	Fences		6.00	2,200.00
	Garages			
7	Repairs		470.00	78,320.00
	Other:			
	Alterations/Additions			
8	To Dwellings		225.00	28,410.00
1	To Commercial Buildings		35.00	5,000.00
	To Industrial Buildings			
24	Totals		1,739.00	301,230.00
Building Valuation				
This Fiscal Year to Date		This Calendar Year to Date		
9,889,050.00		4,292,167.00		
Last Fiscal Year to Date		Last Calendar Year to Date		
18,894,267.00		14,051,312.00		

Fire Department Report

During the month of March 2008, the Niceville Fire Department responded to a total of 99 calls. There were 98 calls located within the city limits and 1 automatic/mutual aid calls. A breakdown of these calls is as follows:

Structure Fire	1
Vehicle Fire	1
Brush, Woods, Grass Fire	4
Medical	57
Vehicle Crash	8
Gasoline Spill/leak	2
Natural Gas Leak	2
Arcing/shorted Electrical	1
Service Call/Other	2
Lock In/Out	1
Illegal Burning	2
Dispatched/Cancelled en route	16
False Call	1
Alarm Activation	1

For more information on the Niceville Fire Department, check us out on our web page at: <http://www.cityofniceville.org/fire.html>

City Notes

The City's Utility Billing Office offers electronic drafts for our customer's utility payments. We now have **over 1,900** customers that use this method of payment. If you travel frequently, want to save on postage, or just save time with the process please consider this option. To sign up for the service visit our office at 208 N. Partin Drive to complete the necessary paperwork and provide us with a voided check. Some of our customers use the services of their financial institution to pay their City Utility Account. Customers who choose this method of payment need to insure the payment reaches our office no later than the 10th of the month to avoid a late fee, and no later than the 20th to avoid disruption of water service. For information, call 729-4000.

Saving Water ~ Encourage your friends and neighbors to be part of a water-conscious community. Promote water conservation in community newsletters, on bulletin boards and by example. Support projects that will lead to an increased use of reclaimed wastewater for irrigation and other uses.

Library Lines



New Books:

Change of Heart by Jodi Picoult
Remember Me by Sophie Kinsella
Killer Heat by Linda Fairstein
A Prisoner of Birth by Jeffery Archer
Christ the Lord: The Road to Cana by Anne Rice
Strangers in Death by J.D. Robb
Honor Thyself by Danielle Steel
Lady Killer by Lisa Scottoline
Another Thing to Fall by Laura Lippman
Losing It by Valerie Bertinelli
Beautiful Boy by David Sheff

New Books Audio/CD:

Lady Killer by Lisa Scottoline
Standing Tall by C. Vivian Stringer
Dumas Key by Stephen King
True Valor by Dee Henderson
Just Beyond the Clouds by Karen Kingsbury
Flee the Night by Susan May Warren
Lord John and the Hand of Devils by Diana Gabaldon

Adult Library Programs:

The Library host a Wii Gaming Program for Adults

Have you ever wondered what in the world Wii is and why children and teens are fascinated with it? Wii isn't only for the young it is for the young at heart. Many adults are discovering the fun too. It's a great way to socialize and also has great health benefits such as improved blood pressure and weight control. Surprise your children /grandchildren with your talents and skill. Niceville Library – Teen Room, Wednesday, May 14 10:30 a.m. If you would like to see what the buzz is about, please call 729-4090 to reserve a spot. Don't miss out on the fun!!!

May is Fines Free Month at the library~ if you have overdue books now is a great time to return them without incurring a fee. This does not include existing fines.

YOUTH SERVICES CALENDAR

Raising Readers-Preschool Storytime - Inspire your future reader at our preschool storytime. Join us for exciting stories selected just for children ages 3-5 years old. Programs will be held in Youth Services Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

May 1st; "Mother Goose Friends"

May 7th & 8th; "Over the Moon"

Be Safe this Summer - Make sure your young ones are properly secured while riding in the car. Officers from the Niceville Police Dept. demonstrate proper measures to secure car seats for infants and toddlers

as well as those riding in booster seats.

This program will be held in Youth Services May 14th & 15th from 10:30-12:30, and May 16th from 9:00-12:00.

Group Storytimes & Tours - For special groups, schools, clubs, etc. please call to make arrangements. Reservations required. Call 729-4554.

Baby Bookworms-Lapsits consist of music, stories and rhymes especially chosen to build the bond between you and your child. Please meet in YS program room. Fridays 9:30: Prewalkers, 10:30 Walkers
Programs will be held May 9th & 16th only.

Saturday Morning Family Treasure Chest-

Something new each week will be offered for all age groups; story times, craft days, movies, guest readers, games, music, trivia, and more! Drop in for a great family time between 10:00 a.m.-noon.

May 3rd; "Beary Fun Things to Do" includes books, fun pages, "Corduroy" and Little Bear's adventure in "Panama" videos.

May 10th; "Juggling with Ms.Barbara". Watch her perform and then learn to juggle.

May 17th; "Classic Book to Movie" and popcorn. Call for details.

Celebrate Children's Book Week May 12th-18th

Special performance by the "**Walk-about Puppets**"! Gather in the Council Chambers May 15th at 6:30 for the amazing puppet theater of Australian puppeteer, Bob Parsons, accompanied by Ashley Parsons. With the use of marionettes and hand and rod puppets, Mr. Parsons encourages plenty of audience participation, fun and laughter. Although this program is FREE please call 729-4554 for sign up. And check out their website:

www.walkaboutpuppets.com

Diego Rivera - Youth Services will host a Teacher's Discovery Traveling Exhibit May 6-23rd. Explore the beautiful, culturally rich paintings of Diego Rivera. Giant size reproductions help us appreciate the intricacies that make these murals some of Mexico's national treasures. Stop by Youth Services anytime during library hours.

Teen Space- Ages 13-17 - Regular activities are planned for each month along with a book club. There are craft and movie days, birthday celebrations, video gaming on the big screen and refreshments. Want to be a part of it all? Stop by the Teen Space or see Ms. Paula. You can also call 729-4554 or email pbonner@okaloosa.lib.fl.us. Upcoming events:

May 6th; "Picture Frames" craft

May 13th; "Price is Right" DVD game

May 20th; "Shrek 3" movie

May 27th; Teen gaming on the big screen

Children's Park

Due to revenue shortfalls for the City of Niceville, the decision was made to shorten Park hours and to add/increase some of our fees. These changes are in place now in the hope that we can still continue to provide the same quality of service that our community and our visitors have come to expect. We do apologize for any inconvenience.

Summer Hours:

(May 1 – Sept 30)

Tues – Sat. 9am – 1pm & 3pm – 7pm Sun. 3pm – 7pm

Spray Park Hours:

(May 1 – Sept 1)

Tues – Sat. 10am - 12 noon & 4pm – 6pm Sun. - 4pm – 6pm

Parties in the Park: We now charge a \$50.00 set up fee for all birthday parties. Parties must be booked and paid for in advance. We suggest coming in at least two weeks in advance of the party to pay and reserve the area.

We will no longer be mailing out Park & YS Calendars. The calendars will be available online for your convenience at <http://www.cityofniceville.org/docscal/ncvcal.pdf> or you can pick one up at the Park or in the Library.

Memory Bricks

- ❖ Standard 4" x 8" size for individuals and/or families at \$45 each;
- ❖ Businesses, teams and organizations at \$55 each;
- ❖ Large 8" x 16" size bricks are available for \$180 each.

We look forward to seeing you at the park.

SAFETY THOUGHT...CAR KEYS/REMOTE ALARM

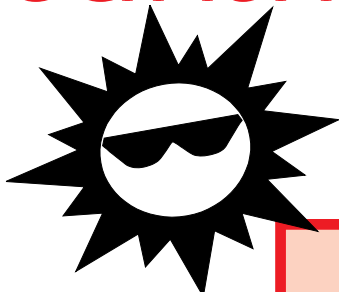
Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone is trying to get in your home, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: it's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your home and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off while someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the criminal won't stick around . . . after a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. Also, remember, to carry your keys while walking to your car in the parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.

Older Adults Among Our Greatest Treasures ~ Since 1963 the month of May has been designated as Older Americans Month. Older adults support our society by providing millions of hours of volunteer, community and civic service through formal organizations and a variety of informal arrangements. They enhance our communities and personal lives by sharing knowledge of cultures, values and life experiences among generations. Please take the time to honor our community's older adults and the professionals, family members and citizens who care for them. Find a way to enrich the lives of the older adults who touch your life!

~Northwest Florida Area Agency on Aging/PSA 1 Aging Resource Center

CITYMANAGER'S

Sunshine



- City Council meets the second Tuesday of every month.
- Planning Commission meets the first Monday of every month.
- Other meetings as announced in *Sunshine* and other publications.

Sunshine Online...

at the City's website www.cityofniceville.org

VISIT NICEVILLE ON THE INTERNET AT
<http://www.cityofniceville.org/>

