



Town of Haverhill
4585 Charlotte Street
Haverhill, FL 33417

PRESORTED STANDARD
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WEST PALM BEACH, FL
PERMIT NO. 1974



Summer 2025 Newsletter



ATTENTION! PLEASE

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

COLLECTION DAYS

Garbage	TUESDAY & FRIDAY
Recycling & Vegetation	TUESDAY
Bulk Pick-up	FRIDAY

Town Council Members and Town Staff

Jay G. Foy
Mayor

Lawrence Gordon
Vice Mayor

Dennis Withington
Council Member

Ray Caranci
Council Member

Dr. Teresa Johnson
Council Member

Tracey L. Stevens
Town Administrator

Jean Wible
Deputy Town Clerk

Joe Petrick
Public Services Coordinator/
Code Enforcement Officer

Gina Botello
Assistant Town Clerk

Durrani Guy
Building Official

Rodrick Jones
Public Works

Council meets the fourth
Thursday of each month at
6:00 p.m. Special meetings
and workshops are held on the
second Thursday of the month
at 6:00 p.m. as needed. All
meetings are open to the
public and the agenda is
posted on the Town's website
www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov

Protect our Storm Water Drainage Systems

The Town of Haverhill is regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. This program regulates storm water discharges that lead directly to surface waters. The storm water drainage system collects all the rain water that runs off hard surfaces such as roofs and sidewalks. This storm water runoff drains into catch basins. If that runoff contains pollutants, then those pollutants are routed to the nearest canal, lake and eventually the ocean. Water pollution damages the environment and wildlife and can restrict recreational activities like fishing, swimming and boating.

Please help us protect our waterways by controlling discharge pollution. Be aware of an accidental oil or paint spill, soapy wash water, wastewater and grease that may be draining into our catch basins. These are pollutants and illicit discharges. Please do not blow grass clippings into the storm drains and remind landscapers not to as well.

Every little bit helps and we appreciate your efforts to help protect
our environment!



Contractor Regulations

Hiring an **unlicensed** contractor can be
DISASTROUS.



Unlicensed activity is against the law. Verify licenses at www.myfloridalicense.com.

Potential Problems When Hiring Unlicensed Contractors

Lack of education, insurance, and qualifications

Insurance coverage problems for the customer

Construction/Workmanship not meeting building codes

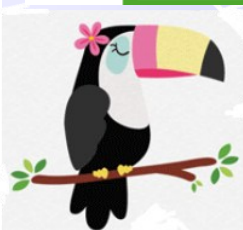
Code enforcement actions with daily fines

Inviting someone with a possible criminal background into your home

Delays in title insurance when selling property

Extra money to hire a licensed contractor to redo or complete work that an unlicensed contractor left incomplete or shoddy

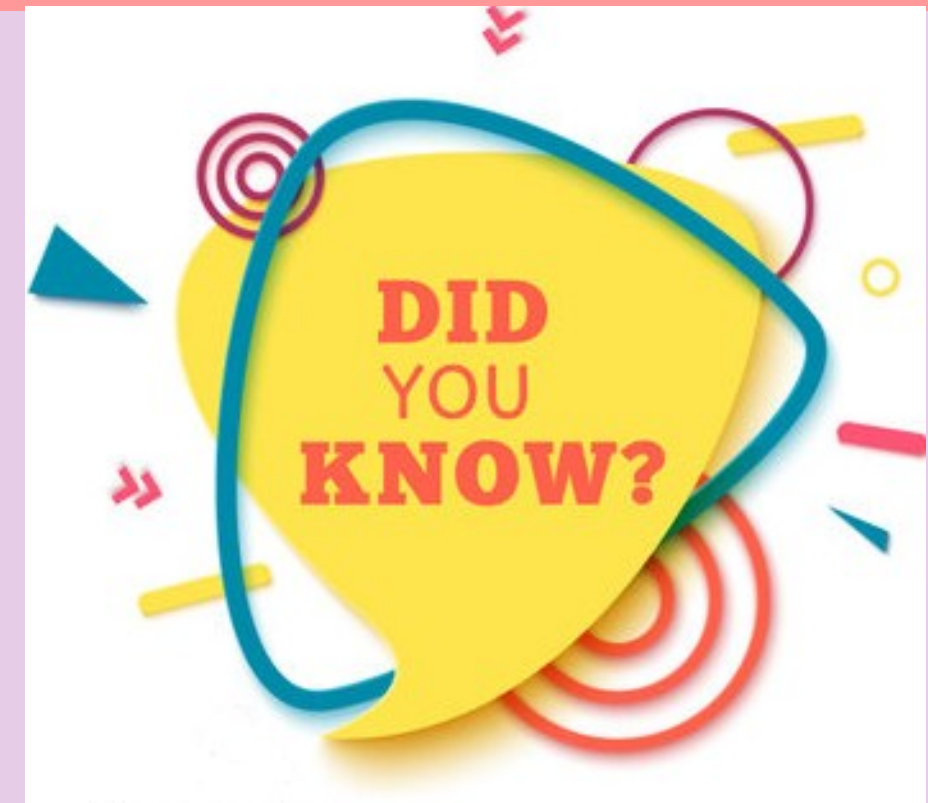
**It's your property and money,
protect it!**



Using a *qualified, licensed* contractor is
not just a good idea...**IT'S THE LAW**

The Town contracts with Alpine Towing d/b/a Galactic Towing to tow vehicles that are improperly parked within the Town, at the expense of the owner of the vehicle.

In accordance with Chapter 38 of the Town Code, vehicles may not be parked on the grass in the town's rights-of-way, across a sidewalk, in a bike path, in a swale or drainage area within the Town, or between no-parking signs at any time. Residents are urged to properly park vehicles in their garage and in their driveway to avoid being towed at the owner's expense.



STATE LAW DICTATES CODE ENFORCEMENT COMPLAINTS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED ANONYMOUSLY PER F.S.162.06:

1 (b) A code inspector may not initiate enforcement proceedings for a potential violation of a duly enacted code or ordinance by way of an anonymous complaint. A person who reports a potential violation of a code or an ordinance must provide his or her name and address to the respective local government before an enforcement proceeding may occur. This paragraph does not apply if the code inspector has reason to believe that the violation presents an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare or imminent destruction of habitat or sensitive resources.

Palm Beach County's First Internship Portal

A one-stop destination for high school and college students to connect meaningful learning and work experiences in our community to strengthen our county's workforce and support local businesses in attracting emerging talent.

www.internpalmbeach.com

InternPalmBeach.com

Palm Beach County's 1st Internship Portal

CareerSource Palm Beach County and the Business Development Board bring you Palm Beach County's very first internship portal! InternPalmBeach.com is a platform designed to bridge the gap between local businesses and emerging talent. The mission is to facilitate meaningful connections between 18+ high school and college students, recent graduates, and employers, fostering a thriving ecosystem of professional growth and development within the county.



Access to Local Opportunities

The portal offers in and out-of-town students and graduates a centralized platform to easily find and apply for internships in Palm Beach County, opening up new opportunities.



Experience in a Diverse Market

Palm Beach County's diverse industries, from tourism to healthcare, offer out-of-town interns valuable, real-world experience to broaden their skills and enhance their resumes.



Networking & Professional Connections

Interning in Palm Beach County helps out-of-town students build a network of professional contacts, invaluable for job searches, mentorship, and career growth in a new region.

Your Bright Future Starts in the Sunshine!



It is **IMPORTANT** to hire a contractor to trim trees away from power lines due to the dangers associated with live power lines. See instructions below on how to submit a vegetation ticket to FPL:



Go to this link: <https://www.fpl.com/reliability/trees.html>

1. Scroll down to Vegetation Request
2. Click on Learn More
3. Log in to your FPL account with your username and password. If you don't have an account setup yet, click on Create Account to the bottom right of the screen - you may need your FPL bill that shows your account number to complete the setup process.
4. Click on Create New Request
5. Click on Tree and then answer all of the following questions to submit the ticket to FPL.

If you have questions during the process, we can assist you here at Town Hall

Trim Now!

Keep a year-round tree trimming plan to reduce hurricane damage.

Learn More:
swa.org/hurricane



PROTECT YOURSELF!

To verify a contractor is certified or licensed, check online, by phone or in person:

- www.myfloridalicense.com
- www.pbcgov.com/pzb/contractors
- 561-233-5525
- 2300 N Jog Road, 2nd Floor
West Palm Beach, FL 33411
Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm



Announcement



301 S. Bronough St., Suite 300 • Post Office Box 1757 • Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757
850.222.9684 • Fax: 850.222.3806 • Website: flcities.com

Town of Haverhill Town Administrator Appointed to Serve on Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee

Tracey L. Stevens appointed to Municipal Operations Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 27, 2025

CONTACT: Mayor Jay Foy

TALLAHASSEE, FL – The **Florida League of Cities**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, announced that Town of Haverhill Town Administrator Tracey L. Stevens was recently appointed to serve on the Florida League of Cities 2025-2026 Municipal Operations Committee, one of the League’s five Legislative Policy Committees.

Legislative Policy Committee chairs, vice chairs and members were appointed by Florida League of Cities **President Holly D. Smith, Vice Mayor of Sanibel.**

As a Legislative Policy Committee member, Town Administrator Stevens will help develop the League’s Legislative Platform, which details priority issues that are most likely to affect daily municipal governance and local decision-making during the upcoming legislative session, as well as help League staff understand the real-world implications of proposed legislation. Committee members are also asked to serve as advocates for local decision-making throughout the legislative process.

Town Administrator Stevens has been instrumental in shaping Florida’s future by serving as a Director of the Florida City & County Management Association, Past President of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Florida Government Finance Officers’ Association, and various other committees throughout Palm Beach County.

For a complete list of committee members, as well as more information on each committee and the League’s legislative policy development process, visit: <https://www.flcities.com/policy-committees/>



Neighborhood Drainage and Storm Response for Residents

Flood control does not equal flood proof. Heavy rainfall in a short period may result in flooding, even with a well-engineered and maintained system. Residents can prepare for potential flooding by storing items in waterproof containers, using shelves 6 inches or more from the ground, moving cars from lower to higher ground if flooding is expected, and keeping storm drains clear of trash and vegetative debris.

Water leaves your neighborhood through an interconnected 3-tiered system:

1. Neighborhood excess water drains into community ponds through street and yard drains. Stormwater then flows through underground pipes to the next link in the flood control chain - the Lake Worth Drainage District (LWDD) canals.
2. LWDD canals move excess water to a larger-capacity regional flood control system - the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD).
3. The regional canal system channels excess water to storage areas or coastal discharge points.



Contact Us
www.lwdd.net
info@lwdd.net
561-498-5363

When a neighborhood pond discharges water to LWDD, it does so through a discharge control structure. Whether the control structure is in the open or closed position, excess water will continue to drain from the pond until the proper water elevation is achieved.

LWDD is unique in that we are the only drainage district in the area authorized by the SFWMD to permit the opening of operable discharge control structures by communities. This authorization is given before a weather event to increase capacity in a stormwater pond. Coordinating this operation with the community is an important part of flood control.

LWDD works closely with property managers and community boards to manage potential flooding. However, residents should note that some standing water in roads, sidewalks and yards is normal and required to keep flood water away from homes.

Residents should first report flooding issues to their property manager because the situation may have already been identified and addressed. Additionally, residents can provide storm damage reports and flooding issues online at lwdd.net/storm-response.

Resident’s CHECKLIST

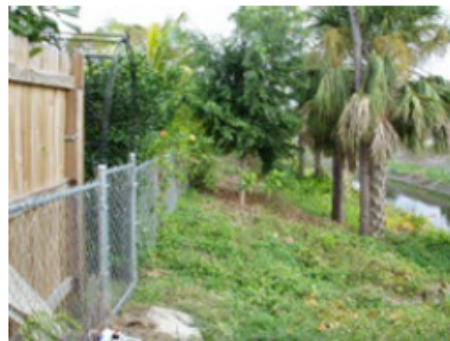
- ✓ Recognize that flood control is a shared responsibility.
- ✓ Understand the unique drainage system of your neighborhood.
- ✓ Identify the community representative authorized to operate your drainage system.
- ✓ Regularly check and clear debris from storm drains and report any issues.
- ✓ Accept that living in south Florida means flooding is always a possibility.



Why Keeping The Canal Rights-of-way Clear Helps You

The mission of the Lake Worth Drainage District (LWDD) is to provide flood control and water supply to our residents. Managing over 500 miles of drainage canals and associated rights-of-way is a monumental task. It requires over 90 employees working daily to maintain the free flow of water and unencumbered access along our canals.

Many people in Palm Beach County live along an LWDD canal. To enhance their landscapes or properties, residents often plant vegetation or place other encroachments such as swing-sets, fences and patio furniture on the LWDD canal rights-of-way. These enhancements and/or encroachments can topple into the canal during high winds and become obstructions to the proper flow of storm water or interfere with emergency response by LWDD personnel.



Since most of the land in our region is low and flat, proper drainage depends on a sophisticated network of canals to remove excess storm water after major rainfall events, including tropical storms and hurricanes. A well maintained and operating canal system is your best defense against possible flooding.

The health, safety and welfare of you and those around you are paramount. Unauthorized property enhancement can threaten the welfare of residents adjacent to the canal and residents many miles inland.



LWDD canals and rights-of-way vary in width throughout the service area. Some property enhancements may be permissible but depend on the location and size of the canal and if there is adequate right-of-way for maintenance and emergency response.

Specific improvements, such as fences or docks, will be allowed to encroach into the canal right-of-way pursuant to LWDD's Policies. All allowable improvements must be permitted or licensed by LWDD.

On a case-by-case situation, and as determined by LWDD, limited encroachments including native trees and vegetation may be allowed if these encroachments do not interfere with the maintenance operations or emergency response of LWDD. For more information contact the LWDD office.

Contact Us
www.lwdd.net
info@lwdd.net
561-498-5363

Upcoming Town Events

SAVE A LIFE



GIVE BLOOD

WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER WITH



We'll be hosting a blood drive at Town Hall on Friday, September 19th from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

Every person has the power to save a life. Donating blood only takes a little of your time, and it can mean a lifetime for patients in need!

The Town will be hosting our annual Trunk or Treat event at Town Hall on Halloween night, Friday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to bring their children to this fun family event which will include Halloween treats and activities.

We are looking for residents who would like to decorate their trunks and provide candy for this event. If you are interested please contact Jean Wible at jwible@townofhaverhill-fl.gov or by phone at 561-689-0370 Ext 4. no later than October 22nd, 2025.



PROTECT WHAT WORKS: THE FLORIDA FORMULA

Florida's tax system wasn't designed by politicians. It was created by homeowners and approved by voters. And it works. Our system prioritizes local accountability, low taxes, and essential services that deliver value where it counts. This document equips local officials with clear answers to common questions.



Q: WHY ARE LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES IMPORTANT?

A: Local property taxes fund essential services that make our communities livable—like police, fire rescue, clean water, and roads. These services are tailored to local needs and managed by leaders directly accountable to the people they serve.



Q: ISN'T FLORIDA ALREADY A LOW-TAX STATE?

A: Yes. Florida ranks among the most tax-efficient states in the nation. Our property tax burden is about half that of Texas, thanks to smart spending, local accountability, and the "Florida Formula" that keeps dollars and decisions close to home.



Q: WHAT IS SAVE OUR HOMES?

A: Save Our Homes is a voter-approved constitutional amendment that caps annual increases in taxable value for full-time Florida residents at 3% or less. It protects homeowners from surprise tax hikes, even when property values skyrocket.



Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF WE ELIMINATE PROPERTY TAXES?

A: Eliminating local property taxes won't eliminate costs, it just shifts them. It means higher sales taxes, new fees, or cuts to local services. And it reroutes decision-making from local communities to Tallahassee.



Q: WHO BENEFITS FROM PROPERTY TAX "REFORM"?

A: Not local residents: Snowbirds and large corporate landowners. The people who lose are the full-time Floridians who rely on well-funded services and expect a system that benefits them.

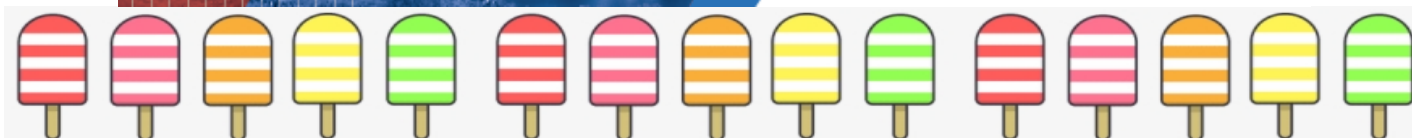


Q: WHAT'S THE REAL AFFORDABILITY CRISIS IN FLORIDA?

A: The real pressure on family budgets is home insurance, not property taxes. Insurance premiums have more than doubled since 2021, while homesteaded property taxes remain capped.



FLORIDA
FORMULA
2025



Property Taxes

THE BIG PICTURE



KEEPING FLORIDA... FLORIDA



THE "FLORIDA FORMULA" Local services support Florida's unique quality of life.

Florida's long-standing formula of low taxes, limited government, and cost-efficient local services contributes to our state's distinctive character. In fact, Florida ranks among the best in the nation for taxpayer return on investment (ROI), meaning **Floridians get some of the best value in public services for the taxes they pay.**

One of the reasons? **Over 70% of Florida cities have kept property tax millage rates at or below 2020 levels**—proving that, in Florida, local governments deliver efficient, disciplined spending, even in the face of rising costs. That's why Florida's effective property tax rate is about half that of Texas. Preserving this proven "Florida formula" will ensure Florida remains a desirable place to live for our residents.

Unfortunately, plans to upend Florida's tax system (under the guise of "tax reform") threatens to disrupt this formula, and will likely benefit snowbirds and special interests at the expense of full-time Florida homeowners.



"Dollars and decisions" belong close to home.

Florida's 400+ communities have unique needs. Allowing local leaders, who are directly accountable to residents, to address these needs helps maintain effective, efficient, and responsive community services. **That's part of the "Florida Formula."**

Today, most of Florida's tax dollars are raised and spent locally, not sent off to a distant capital. This local focus leads to better-tailored decisions and greater accountability. That's why Florida voters approved 89% of local tax referenda in the 2023-24 election cycle—and a total of 177 times between 2010 and 2022—directing funding to priorities like schools, infrastructure, and public safety. When voters see value, they vote "yes."

Centralizing property tax decisions in Tallahassee would ignore the unique differences between Florida's communities and erode the accountability that comes when spending is controlled close to home.



FLORIDA
FORMULA
2025

