



Town of Haverhill  
4585 Charlotte Street  
Haverhill, FL 33417

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WEST PALM BEACH, FL  
PERMIT NO. 4600



# Spring 2024 Newsletter

## Receive Important Alerts from the Town Directly to Your Phone or Email

The town has implemented a new mass notification system in order to help keep you informed and to enhance the safety of our residents. For more information and to sign up to receive important alerts that could directly impact you and your family:

1. Visit our website at [www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov](http://www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov)
2. Click on Alerts & Notifications at the bottom left of page
3. Click on Sign Up
4. Complete the sign up form to subscribe
5. Make notification selections
6. Click Sign Me Up
7. Please make sure you confirm your account to ensure you are receiving notifications

Questions? Call Town Staff at 561-689-0370 Ext 1

### 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

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](http://www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov)

## DID YOU KNOW?

All property owners must display address numbers on the front of their house, mailbox, and business. For more information on the specific regulations regarding size of the numbers, placement, etc, please see Town Code Section 58-587 which can be accessed on the Town's website at [www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov](http://www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov)





## Congratulations Council Members Withington and Caranci Who Were Re-Elected to the Town Council



Dennis Withington, Seat 1 - Dennis Withington, a lifelong resident of Palm Beach County, has been a resident of the Town of Haverhill for 36 years. Dennis is a retired City of West Palm Beach Battalion Chief. He and his wife Pat (a registered nurse), raised their two children Bill, a West Palm Beach firefighter and Maura, a Palm Beach County School teacher, in Haverhill. As a retired City of West Palm Beach firefighter, Dennis understands the role of local government and its relationship with County and State governments. As parents raising children in the Town, the Withington's became quite involved locally. Both Dennis and Pat had been very active in the Briarwood Neighborhood Association as well. Dennis has served on the Town Council, Seat 1, since March 2020, and we welcome him back to serve another 3-year term.



Ray Caranci, Seat 2 - Ray Caranci and his husband, Scott, have been residents of Haverhill since 2005. Ray immediately took an interest in the Town and served as a member of the former Beautification Committee. Ray became quite familiar with the different neighborhoods in Town by choosing a new route every night to walk his dog! By doing so, he got to know the lay of the land as well as having the pleasure of meeting many of the Town residents. As well as attending all Town sponsored functions, Ray and Scott often stopped by the Town Hall to chat about current events happening within the Town. Ray is very familiar with local government, its Ordinances and how things operate having worked for local government for the past 17 years in planning and zoning, primarily in landscape review. Ray is quite versed in planning, as well as being a certified arborist and certified landscape inspector. Ray has served on the Town Council, Seat 2, since March 2020, and we welcome him back to serve another 3-year term.

Both Council Member Withington and Council Member Caranci have been hard at work since 2020, adopting Ordinances, passing budgets, authorizing grant projects and making decisions for the betterment of community and the residents of the Town of Haverhill. We thank them both for their service to the Town!

### BUILDING & PERMITTING

Most home improvement repairs inside or outside of your home, including driveway or paver installation and tree removal, require a building permit. Please don't take a chance and incur 4 times the permit fee by not obtaining the required permits before beginning the work. If in doubt, call Jean Wible at 561-689-0370, Ext. 2. See more information on page 6.

FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE TOWN OF HAVERHILL'S MINIMUM PROPERTY STANDARDS. THE TOWN'S CODE OF ORDINANCES CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.TOWNOFHAVERHILL-FL.GOV/fl/haverhill/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](http://WWW.TOWNOFHAVERHILL-FL.GOV/fl/haverhill/codes/code_of_ordinances)

## Smart Landscaping Starts with a Plan

Keeping trees away from power lines improves your electric service. Did you know that trees are among the most common causes of outages and flickers, especially during storms? While FPL trims trees near power lines located in the public right of way or easement, most damage is due to large trees located outside of the utility pruning zone, and due to guidelines not being followed by homeowners. One of the most important things homeowners and businesses can do is follow FPL's Right Tree / Right Place guidelines.

### 1. Note the location of power lines

Power lines are usually located at the top of the utility pole, farthest from the ground. Cable television and telephone lines run closer to the ground, below power lines. When planting your trees, be sure to give them ample room to grow without interfering with power lines.

### 2. Find the right tree, choose the right place

Before selecting a tree, consider how tall, wide and deep it will be at maturity. Then carefully consider the location and appropriate set-back distances to prevent avoidable power disturbances for years to come.

### 3. Keep transformers clear

Keep the transformer cabinet clear at all times to allow for maintenance and repairs. Maintain a "clear zone" of 8 feet in the front and 3 feet in the back and on both sides.

## Stay Safe!

**When planting**, what you can't see can hurt you, so before you reach for a shovel, reach for the phone. One easy call to 811 starts the process of getting underground utility lines marked. Make that call at least two full business days before you start digging; it's fast, free and required by law.

**Homeowners share the responsibility of keeping power lines clear. If you have vegetation growing near power lines on your property, do not take it upon yourself to perform the work. Hire a qualified professional to do it for you!**



## PERMITS, PROJECTS AND PROPERTY STANDARDS

Our residents continue to show pride of ownership through the improvements being made to homes and property. Please remember that most home improvements require a permit. Doing work without a permit can be costly; you can be assessed 4 times the cost of what would have been the permit fee as well as the potential requirement that you submit signed and sealed plans, from an engineer, confirming the work done met the requirements of the Florida Building Code.

Obtaining a permit protects you, the homeowner. **Should you ever need to file a claim with your insurance company, it is most likely they will contact the Town's Building Department to confirm that a permit was issued and passed inspection prior to paying the claim.** The same when you sell your home; the Realtor or Title Examiner will contact this office. Among other things, doing work without a permit could possibly result in the denial of an insurance claim as well as the potential loss of a sale of your house.

Some yard work such as the laying of pavers, fence repair, removal of trees, (whether native or exotic), or extending your driveway also requires a permit.

The Town of Haverhill has Ordinances that govern property standards, and although your improvement may be in response to a letter received from the Town, a permit is still required prior to commencing the work.

It's always better to be safe and ask if a permit is required prior to beginning any projects. Please contact the Town Hall at 561-689-0370 Ext 2, and we can let you know if a permit is required and if your project meets all requirements of the Town's Code of Ordinances.

### Your Assistance Is Needed to Help Prevent Criminal Activity

Lock your doors at home and use your alarm system if you have one. PBSO would much rather respond to a false alarm than to take a report of a crime from you after the fact. Always lock your car and take the keys inside with you. Please do not leave valuables in your car when you are not in the car.

### IMPORTANT! DO YOU RENT OUT YOUR PROPERTY?

If you rent out your property, please contact Town Hall to obtain a rental license as required by law in order to avoid receiving a notice of violation from Code Enforcement.

Please be aware that "No Parking" signs will be installed around the Town soon to protect the Town's rights-of-way, swales, and storm-water drainage systems. **Violators may be towed.**

## Palm Beach County Election Dates & Deadlines

### 2024 Primary Election

Deadline to register or change party: Monday, July 22, 2024  
Deadline to request Vote-by-Mail ballot: 5:00 p.m. Thursday, August 8, 2024  
Deadline to return Vote-by-Mail ballot: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 20, 2024  
Election Day: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 20, 2024

### General Election

Deadline to register to vote: Monday, October 7, 2024  
Deadline to request Vote-by-Mail ballot: 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 24, 2024  
Deadline to return Vote-by-Mail ballot: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 5, 2024  
Election Day: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Early Voting is to be determined, for more information and updates please visit <https://www.votebeach.gov/Elections/Election-Dates-and-Deadlines>

### **Vote-by-Mail ballot requests for past elections have expired!**

Please have your Florida driver license or ID number, or the last four digits of your SSN ready when making your new request.



Visit [www.VotePalmBeach.gov](http://www.VotePalmBeach.gov)  
or scan the QR Code;  
Call 561-656-6208; or  
Visit an Election Office

### **Become an Election Worker!**

On Election day 5,000 election workers are needed to staff the precincts of PBC. Being an election worker is a paid position, for more information and requirements:



Visit [www.VotePalmBeach.gov](http://www.VotePalmBeach.gov)  
or scan the QR Code;  
Call 561-656-6208  
Option 3





## Please Help Protect Our Water Resources

Stormwater runoff is generated from rain events that flow over land of impervious surfaces, such as paved streets, parking lots and building rooftops, and does not soak into the ground. The runoff picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment that can harm our rivers, streams and lakes. To protect our precious resources, here are some easy tips to prevent yard runoff into the stormwater system:

- **Clean up outside your home** including trash, **pet waste**, leaves, and yard clippings.
- **When walking your dog** along the streets of the town, pick up the waste and place it in the trash when you return home.
- **Water the yard only as needed** and avoid spraying streets, sidewalks, and driveways to prevent water from carrying pollutants directly into storm drains.
- **Divert rainspouts and garden hoses away from paved surfaces.** Provide landscaping next to sidewalks and driveways to help collect and filter rain runoff.
- **Control erosion around your property** to prevent dirt and debris being carried into the storm drains.
- **Read labels on pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides** prior to use and follow instructions carefully.
- **Wash your car on an unpaved area** or take it to a commercial car wash where the wastewater will be treated.
- **Maintain your car** so that it won't leak fluids onto roads/driveways. If leaks can't be avoided, use drip pans. Clean up spills with absorbent materials, bag it, and dispose of it in the trash or at a Household Recycling Center. [www.swa.org](http://www.swa.org)
- **Keep paints, solvents, and other "toxic" chemicals off the ground** and away from storm drains. Painting tools used with water-based paints can be rinsed in the sink. Take all unwanted paint and solvents (including waste from washing tools used with latex and oil-based paints) to a household hazardous waste facility.
- **Pet waste is not part of a healthy watershed.** Be sure to pick it up when walking your dog, and place it in the trash. Clean up pet waste around your home as well and place it in the trash. The watershed should only shed water.

Let's protect our environment-together!



## Safely Prepare and Make a Plan for Hurricane Season

Here are some proactive steps to ensure your safety and well-being:

- Have a well-practiced plan with the family in case of an emergency. A family plan can establish clear roles and responsibilities, minimizing panic and confusion during a potentially stressful time.
- Assemble an emergency supply kit with food, water, first-aid, medication, flashlights, a battery-operated radio, and batteries, among other essentials.
- Pack important documents such as family records, passports, social security cards, and credit and bank account information in a waterproof container.
- Secure the safety of your home by reinforcing doors and windows, clearing gutters and trimming trees.
- If needed, pre-register for the county's Special Needs and Pet-Friendly Shelters.
- Familiarize yourself with your evacuation zone and hazards in your area.
- Stay alert for storm surge warnings and evacuation orders.
- Sign up at [ALERTPBC.com](http://ALERTPBC.com) to receive up-to-date information about your location.
- **Sign up with the Town for Civic Ready alerts to receive important information.**

Palm Beach County's Division of Emergency Management maintains webpages dedicated to ensuring public safety ([readypbc.com](http://readypbc.com)). The Official Palm Beach County Hurricane Planning Guide is available in English, Spanish, and Creole. Begin preparations now.

### KNOW YOUR ZONE!!

Do you live near poor drainage areas, or sheet flow? Access Palm Beach County's Flood Zone Look-up Tool to determine if your address could be adversely affected.

<https://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/pages/know-your-zone.aspx>

FEMA has numerous resources for property owners to protect their assets from flooding.

Visit the website at: <https://agents.floodsmart.gov/toolkits/flood-protection-toolkit>

### REVISED TIMEFRAMES TO PLACE YARD WASTE CURBSIDE

The Town Council modified the day vegetation/yard waste may be placed curbside. Vegetation / yard waste may be placed curbside beginning on Friday at 4:00 p.m. for the following Wednesday pickup. Please remember that vegetation / yard waste shall not be placed in the roadway, on a sidewalk, or in the Town's drainage areas. Questions regarding proper placement may be answered by staff at Town Hall.