



CITY OF PALMETTO  
PO BOX 1209  
PALMETTO, FL 34220

**Numbers to Know**

**Department of  
Public Works  
723-4580**

Public Works Director  
Code Enforcement  
Fleet Maintenance  
Planning Development  
Project Management  
Building/Permitting  
Sewer, Water, Reclaim  
Signs and Markings  
Solid Waste  
Stormwater & Ditches  
Road & Bridge

**City Hall  
723-4570**

Mayor's Office  
City Clerk  
Finance Department  
Facilities & Events  
Utility Billing

CRA Director - 723-4988  
Building/Permitting - 721-2166  
Police Department - 723-4587  
Toilet Rebate - 417-2890  
Treatment Plant - 723-6106

**Commission  
Meeting Dates**

All meetings are held in the  
Commission Chambers  
Meetings start at 7:00 P.M.

**April 5th & 19th  
May 3rd & 17th  
June 7th & 21st**

The public is encouraged to  
attend.

**Commissioners**

Tamara Cornwell—At Large  
Sheldon Jones—At Large  
Harold Smith—Ward I  
Tambra Varnadore—Ward II  
Brian Williams—Ward III

# City News In Brief

Second Quarter

April 2021

[www.palmettofl.org](http://www.palmettofl.org)

## From the Mayor



The last year was a challenging one for sure. First of all, let me thank everyone for their efforts to eliminate the spread of the Coronavirus. We have come a long way but still have more to do. There has been a lot of heartbreak this year and yet our community has come together in multiple ways to help each other. Whether it was collecting, donating, or distributing food to those in need, or all those that have reached out and physically helped others in multiple ways, it makes me proud to be a part of our wonderful community. I send a heartfelt thanks to each one of you.

As we attempt to return to some level of normalcy and curb the spread of COVID-19 perhaps the following information from Manatee County could prove helpful:

If you have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic you might be eligible for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program being administered by Manatee County. To apply: go to [www.mymanatee.org/renthelp](http://www.mymanatee.org/renthelp) and/or call 941-745-6270 for additional information.

From Jacob A. Saur, RPL, Director of Public Safety: The Manatee County vaccine waiting pool has caught up with demand. Anyone wishing to receive a COVID-19 vac-

cine can now sign up at [www.vax.mymanatee.org](http://www.vax.mymanatee.org). Starting April 5th, anyone 18 and older is eligible to receive the vaccine. Appointments are being handled quickly and efficiently through the county's vaccine site at Tom Bennett Park.

On behalf of Palmetto, I also want to thank the Florida Department of Transportation, Manatee County Transportation and our own Public Works Department for installing the traffic signal at Canal Road and Hwy 301.

Take care of one another, and please remember to support our local businesses.

*Shirley Groover Bryant  
Mayor*

## From the Police Department

The City of Palmetto has seen an uptick in burglaries west of 10th Avenue since March 1st. The crimes seem to occur between 11:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. All of these burglaries have been to unlocked vehicles or homes. We have stepped up patrol in the neighborhoods on the west side of town to counter this trend but, we also need your help. Please report suspicious activity right away when you see it or hear it. Call anytime at 941-721-2000

or 941-723-4587. When the call connects, press "4" for dispatch. Also, please remember to lock your homes and vehicles. Don't leave valuables like purses, computers, money, keys, jewelry, or firearms in plain sight in your vehicle (in fact, it's not a good idea to leave these items in your car, at all). Lights are an excellent crime deterrent and there are many do-it yourself options available for energy efficient bulbs and fixtures.

The Palmetto Police Department offers free security surveys for your home and business. We would be happy to meet with you and provide security tips for your property. If you would like a security survey, please call the department at 941-721-2000.

**Please stay safe, and again, if you see something, say something!**

Scott Tyler  
Chief

### City of Palmetto Movie in the Park

Providing entertainment for Palmetto families to enjoy year around, the City of Palmetto will be showing a movie, free of charge, on the first Friday of every month, weather permitting.

Movie in the Park - where more than 3,000 current and classic movies are at our disposal.

There is no better place to be this season than Sutton Park. Grab a picnic basket and a blanket and enjoy the show. You bring the snacks, we'll bring the stars, thanks to our sponsors.



For more information about Movie in the Park, contact the Facilities and Events Specialist at 941-723-4570

Remember!  
Popcorn and sodas provided before the movie starts

Sponsored by  
Waste Management

Movie starts at dusk



## From the Public Works Department

### FROG

We would like to remind our citizens about items that do not belong in the sanitary sewer collection system. In the utility industry, these items are known collectively as **FROG**. This acronym stands for **Fats, Rags, Oils, and Grease**. Fats, oils, and grease mainly come from cooking and are sometimes improperly disposed of into the sewer. Pouring your used cooking grease in a can or bottle, allowing it to cool and disposing in the garbage can is the safest way to get rid of

these items. Rags are solid items that are not toilet paper and cannot break down during the treatment process. Commonly, wipes are sold as "flushable." Unfortunately, for us this does not mean that they are safe for the sewer. Anything that goes down the drain ends up in the sewer and hopefully at the WWTP. When FROG is disposed of in the sewer, they solidify in the water and form blockages in the collection system that cause unsanitary and costly sewer spills. These are bad for the envi-

ronment as well as all of us who live, work and enjoy the City of Palmetto. For more information on FROG, please see [www.palmettofl.org/FROG](http://www.palmettofl.org/FROG).

### Parks

We are currently working with engineers to add restrooms in Martin Luther King Jr. Park. City utility crews have installed the water and sewer utilities necessary for the addition. We hope to break ground for the structure in the second quarter of this year.

Moe Rayan

Public Works Director

## From City Hall

### Movies in the Park resumes in May 2021

On Friday, May 7, 2021 the City of Palmetto will resume Movies in the Park at Sutton Park. The feature

film that evening will be **The Croods 2- A New Age**. The movie will begin at dusk. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets as the movie will be outdoors in

the park. We ask to please follow current CDC social distancing guidelines in place during that time. We look forward to seeing you very soon!

## From the Parks Department

Mangroves are tropical trees, generally not found in freshwater systems. They come in three species, red, black and white, and each species responds differently to trimming. Mangroves can grow rapidly and often form dense thickets that may block the view of the water for waterfront property owners. However, mangroves provide important benefits to us and our environment, which is why they are protected.

Mangrove roots and trunks resist and prevent shoreline erosion. They provide food and habitat for the marine food chain, including fish we like to catch and eat. They assist with maintaining and improving the quality of our coastal waters and they protect homes from severe wind damage.

The Florida Legislature enacted the 1996 Mangrove Trimming and Preservation Act to regulate the trimming. As shoreline property owners, please be aware of the

regulations in place to ensure healthy and allowable trimming. Familiarize yourself with the styles of trimming for healthy plants, the differences between the red, black and white trees, qualifications for professional mangrove trimmers, exemptions for homeowners, and general permits needed to trim a mangrove.

Perhaps you are new to our beautiful community and you are unfamiliar with mangroves. Please reach out to the Department of Environmental Protection at (813) 470-5700 or (813) 744-6100 for guidance.

### Additional resources:

Mangrove Trimming & Preservation Act [www.dep.state.fl.us/water](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water)

Mangrove Trimming & Alteration Applications [www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/erp/form](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/erp/form)

Facts About Mangroves [www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/erp/mangrove](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/erp/mangrove)