



*City of St. Augustine Beach Seal*

# Beyond the Beach

## March 2024 Newsletter

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*Entrance to St. Augustine Beach City Hall*

### City Hall Update

[Read the Whole Article Here](#)

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*City Manager, Max Royle*

## SHAPE

Tarpon Springs, population 25,000-plus residents, is a Florida Gulf coast city west of Tampa on the Anclote River. It was incorporated in 1887, when it was settled primarily by immigrants from Greece who in that country had earned their livelihood by diving for ocean sponges. As they continued that occupation in Tarpon Springs, the city became known as the Sponge Capital of the World, and to this day diving to harvest natural sponges is an important part of the city's economy.

[Read the Whole Article Here](#)

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## City News & Updates

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### Early Voting at City Hall

Early voting in the Presidential Primary will run March 9th through March 16th, from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Primary election day is on March 19th and voting will be open from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

City Hall Commission Room  
2200 A1A South





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On January 29, 2024, construction began on the A Street Parking West Improvements project in the City of St. Augustine Beach.

The intent of the A Street Parking West Improvements project is to improve the safety, aesthetics, and drainage of the city owned parking area located on A1A Beach Blvd between A Street and 1st Street.

During the construction of this project, the public A Street Parking lot located on the west side of A1A Beach Blvd will be closed until further notice. Businesses immediately adjacent to the construction site will remain open during this time. The current construction activity will have little to no effect on the residents located on 1st Street, however, we urge residents to utilize 2nd Ave when leaving or returning to avoid any delays while construction materials and equipment are being brought into the project site.

**Parking improvements to include:**

- +The installation of a new stormwater drainage retention system that will connect to the existing St. Johns County stormwater system.
- +The Installation of new concrete and brick-paver parking area that will accommodate:
  - +Nine (9) standard parking spaces
  - +One (1) ADA space
  - +Two (2) motorcycle spaces
- +Reworked entrance from 1st Street and a redesigned exit on County Road A1A Beach Blvd,
- +Sidewalk and landscaping work.

**The tentative schedule is below:**

01/29: Erosion Control Measure Installation and Site Demolition.

02/05: Underground Drainage System Construction

03/01: Parking Lot Concrete Curb, Driving and ADA Parking Surfaces Installation

04/01: Paver Installation.

05/18: Substantial Completion.

06/01: Final Completion.

Funding for this project is by received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

For updates on this project as well as general city information, please visit The City of St Augustine Beach website [www.staugbch.com](http://www.staugbch.com), Facebook and Instagram page. For Media inquiries, contact Melinda Conlon at [eventspio@cityofsab.org](mailto:eventspio@cityofsab.org).

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## Do you know your Flood Zone?

A Hurricane Preparedness Meeting presented by the City of St. Augustine Beach and St. Johns County Emergency Management was held on February 22, 2024.

If you missed the meeting, click below for all of the information!

[Read the Whole Article Here](#)

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## Glass Recycling Program



In partnership with the City of St. Augustine, a glass recycling program is in full swing in the City of St. Augustine Beach.

A glass ONLY recycling dumpster is located at the South end of the City Hall parking lot (between the old Post Office Building and the Police Department).

The program is expected to run indefinitely, and the City of St. Augustine Beach welcomes the opportunity to provide additional services for its residents.

Below is a break-down of acceptable and not acceptable items:

**What glass IS acceptable?** Packaging food, beverages, hot sauces, spices, syrups, baby foods, perfume bottles, cosmetic jars, mason jars.

Remove metal and plastic lids and caps. Remember to rinse.

**What glass is NOT acceptable?** Dishware, crystal and stemware, and all drinkware, figurines of glass, ceramic, and porcelain. Automotive windows, mirrors

picture frames, tabletops, mirrors, computer monitors, and screens of any type.  
Magnifying glass, eyewear, marbles, light bulbs.

For a complete list of what can and cannot be accepted, please visit  
[www.staugbch.com](http://www.staugbch.com), The City of St Augustine Beach Facebook and Instagram page,  
and sign up for the monthly e-newsletter by texting CITYOFSAB to 22828.

## **CITY MEETINGS**

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**March 4, 2024, 6 P.M.**

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 6, 2024, 6 P.M.**

**SEPAC**  
**March 21, 2024, 6 P.M.**

**PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEETING**  
**March 26, 2024, 6 P.M.**

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



# Spring Break Beach Cleanup

Join Matanzas Riverkeeper and the  
City of St. Augustine Beach for a  
community cleanup along A1A  
Beach Blvd from Pier Park to A Street.

16 March 2024  
09:00 - 11:00  
10th Street Parkette



## ARBOR DAY APRIL 26, 2024

Join us on Friday, April 26 for our Arbor Day Event!  
Come out to the City of St. Augustine Beach City Hall and enjoy a  
kid-friendly, and fun for the whole family educational event!  
The event will run from 5:30PM-7:00PM.  
Featuring our FREE TREE GIVEAWAY!

Presenters from Matanzas Riverkeeper, SEPAC, Anastasia State Park, Fish Island Community Alliance and many more!  
More details to come in our April newsletter and our website!

[Read the Whole Article Here](#)







## **SEPAC News!**

*Sustainability & Environmental  
Planning Advisory Committee*



### **Share Your Ideas & Take “Pride in our Plazas”**

City of St. Augustine Beach visitors and residents may have noticed some recent improvements along A1A Beach Boulevard, including the new eco garden between 7th and 8th Streets. SEPAC has been working hard to beautify the City’s public plazas/parks. Do you enjoy the plazas? Do you have ideas to beautify them? Do you have a favorite plaza that might be a good candidate for an environmentally friendly landscaping project? SEPAC would like to know!

The City has numerous plazas, and they serve several purposes. Of these,

about 20 spaces are reserved for the public to enjoy. Some have benches, some have signature teal signs, some have coquina rocks, and all have trees, plants and flowers native to Northeast Florida. These plazas increase the visual appeal of the City and enhance residents' quality of life, though many City residents may not be aware that these areas are actually parks that are meant for their leisure use.

"It's a unique feature of the City. I don't know of other cities in our area that have them," City Manager Max Royle says. "They are meant to be beautified areas along the public right of way. The Committee has been very keen on beautifying them and has done a good job. They are nicely landscaped, and they're really pleasant."

SEPAC, formerly the Beautification Advisory Committee/Tree Board, started in 1997. The group's original mission was to beautify A1A Beach Boulevard, and the Committee is known for helping organize the City's Arbor Day celebration. SEPAC continues to develop beautification projects, but has expanded to look at various environmental issues facing the City, inform and involve the public in discussions, and make recommendations to the City Commission.

To share your plaza ideas with SEPAC, please email City Clerk Dariana Fitzgerald at [dfitzgerald@cityofsab.org](mailto:dfitzgerald@cityofsab.org) or attend SEPAC's next meeting at 6 pm on March 21 at City Hall.

## **SEPAC Members Needed: Work on Important Projects!**

SEPAC volunteers plan and undertake beautification projects, examine environmental issues, and advise the City Commission on issues of note.

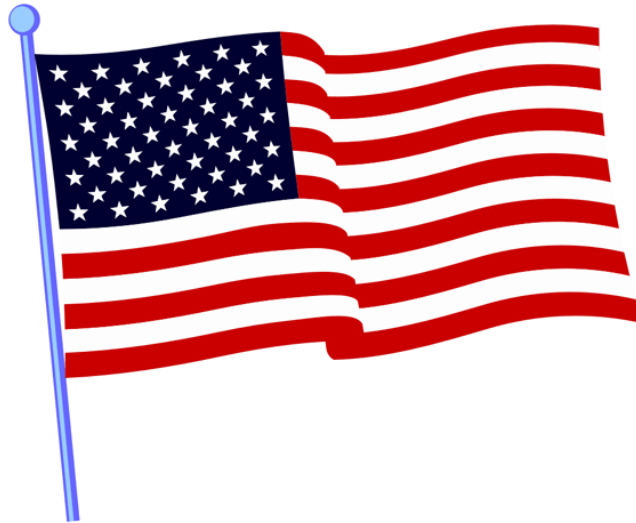
If you'd like to join the team, [please visit our website](#). Members must be residents of the City of St. Augustine Beach.

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## **American Flag Rescue Program**

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The American Flag Rescue (AFR) program was initiated in 2019 after St. Johns County Solid Waste Management staff observed worn and damaged American flags in drop-off garbage containers at the Tillman Ridge facility. Although some flag collection containers already were in place in several stores that sell American flags, more collection points were clearly needed. The initial shipment of new flag collection boxes was funded by local radio personality Kevin Geddings. These units were placed in St. Johns County libraries. Of the nearly 1,000 flags collected in 2020, about 10% were reusable and these are available to the public. Damaged flags are retired according to established protocols by local Scout troops and veteran's organizations. An American Flag booklet provided by Supervisor of Elections Vicky Oakes is also available. For information about flag collection/retirement or site participation, contact Chris Benjamin at (904) 827-6980 or [cbenjamin@sjcfl.us](mailto:cbenjamin@sjcfl.us). Flags can be dropped off at City of St. Augustine Beach City Hall.



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## City of St. Augustine Beach Resident Self-Service module

You can access this module in one of two ways:

Go to our website –[www.staugbch.com](http://www.staugbch.com). Here you will find the link by selecting Resources -> Contact Us -> Self-Service Portal.

**Read the Whole Article Here**

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## Thank you to our sponsors and partners!

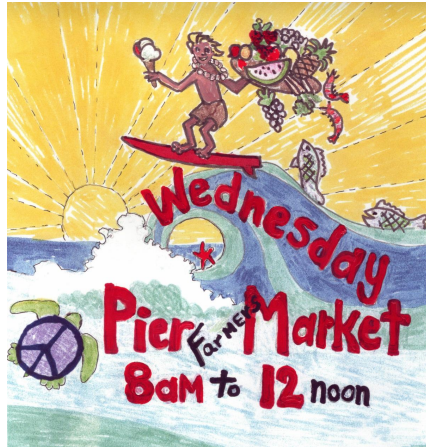
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904-471-2122, [www.staugbch.com](http://www.staugbch.com)



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