

Town of Haverhill Newsletter

Summer 2013

THE HEAT IS ON!!

No, we're not talking about the Miami Heat, but kudos to them for winning the NBA championship this year. What we are talking about is the wonderful South Florida heat that heats up even more this time of year. Summers can be extremely hot down here which makes the possibility of heat stroke even greater.

Do you know the facts and symptoms of heat stroke and what to do to prevent it? Here is the rundown on heat stroke:

What is heatstroke?

Heat stroke occurs when the body's core temperature rises above 104.9 F and its internal systems start to shut down. It can be brought on by high environmental temperatures, by strenuous physical activity, or by other conditions that raise your body temperature. Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency that requires immediate medical treatment to prevent brain damage, organ failure or death! Adequate hydration and keeping cool is the best way to prevent all heat-related illness, including heat stroke.

Who is at risk?

All people are at risk of heat related illness; those at greatest risk are

- People over 75 years of age
- Babies and young children
- People with chronic disease (high blood pressure, heart disease, respiratory disease, diabetes or circulatory diseases)
- People who are obese
- People who work outdoors or in hot and poorly ventilated areas
- People engaging in vigorous physical activity in hot weather
- People who are not acclimatized to the heat

How is it treated?

- Call 911 and get the person to a cool, shady area to lay them down while waiting for help
- Cool the person rapidly, using whatever methods you can like placing them in a tub or shower with cool water or sponge or spray them with cool water and if they are able to drink, give them cool non-alcoholic drinks
- If unconscious, position the person on their side and clear their airway

How can it be prevented?

- Drink plenty of water or non-alcoholic cool drinks
- Stay indoors in air conditioning or in the shade
- Reduce physical activity and avoid vigorous exertion in hot weather
- Rest often if activity is unavoidable
- Eat regular light meals
- Wear lightweight clothing
- Never leave a person or a pet in a closed parked car
- If you must be out in the heat, limit outdoor activity to cooler times (mornings & evenings)

This is just an overview of the facts about heat stroke and the steps you can take to prevent or avoid it as well as help someone who may suffer from it.

Be Aware and Be Safe

The Town of Haverhill and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office want you to be safe this summer. Recent crimes sprees are a result of thieves distracting you while posing as a person interested in either the neighborhood, your pet, the new car in the driveway or some other guise. While you are busy answering questions, their counterparts are breaking into your home stealing your valuables. Here are a few tips to be sure that you do not fall victim to crime:

Do not leave your garage door open, or your valuables in plain sight. Keep your vehicle locked. Keep all doors locked at all times. If you are having a garage sale, keep it contained to the outside of your home. Do not afford thieves the opportunity to see just what valuables you may have inside your home. Call 911 if you are suspicious of any person or persons. Spread the word to your neighbors about crimes you hear of or crimes in your neighborhood. Be aware of strangers trying to distract you and, again, **report any suspicious behavior to the Police.** Be aware and be safe!

All of us at the Town of Haverhill want you to have a safe, happy and healthy summer!

HURRICANE & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

HURRICANE FACTS

- A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone, the generic term for a low-pressure system that generally forms in the tropics. A typical cyclone is accompanied by thunderstorms and, in the Northern Hemisphere, a counterclockwise circulation of winds near the earth's surface
- All Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are sub-storms. Parts of the southwest United, and the Pacific coast experience heavy rains and floods each year from hurricanes spawned off of Mexico
- The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June to November, with the peak season from mid-August to late October
- Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland.
- Winds can exceed 155 miles per hour. Hurricanes and tropical storms can also spawn tornadoes and microbursts, create storm surges along the coast, and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall.

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

Category 1: Winds 74-95 mph; minimal damage

Category 2: Winds 96-110 mph; moderate damage

Category 3: Winds 131-155 mph; extreme damage

Category 4: Winds greater than 155 mph; Catastrophic damage

KNOW YOUR FLOOD INSURANCE OPTIONS

The National Flood Insurance Program makes federally backed flood insurance available to residents and business owners. Ninety-five percent of all Florida communities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. Even if you do not live near water, your home still has a chance of being flooded. In fact, 25 to 30 percent of flood insurance claims are paid in low-risk areas. Flood losses generally aren't covered by your homeowner's insurance policy. Flood waters have the power to damage not only your home and sense of security, but also your financial future.

OPTION 1: Hope you'll receive disaster relief if a flood hits

Many people wrongly believe that the U.S. government will take care of all their financial needs if they suffer damage due to flooding. The truth is that federal disaster assistance is only available if the president formally declares a disaster. Even if you do get disaster assistance, it is often a loan you have to repay with interest, in addition to your mortgage loan that you still owe on the damaged property. Most importantly, you must consider the fact that if your home is flooded and disaster assistance isn't offered, you'll have to shoulder the massive damage costs alone.

OPTION 2: Buy flood insurance and stay protected no matter what. When disaster strikes, flood insurance policyholder claims are paid even if a disaster is not federally declared. Flood insurance means you'll be reimbursed for all your covered losses. Unlike federal aid, it never has to be repaid. Unlike a standard homeowners policy, flood insurance covers losses to your property caused by flooding. You can also buy a flood insurance policy to cover the contents of your home. As a homeowner, you can insure your property up to \$250,000 and its contents up to \$100,000. If you're a renter, you can cover your belongings up to \$100,000. With the Preferred Risk Policy (PRP) coverage, people in low-to moderate-risk areas can get lower premiums on the full range of flood insurance coverage available for residential and business structures and contents. It is important to know that if you have a federally backed mortgage on a home located in a high-risk area, federal law requires you to purchase flood insurance. Also, if you've received a federal grant for previous flood losses, you must have a flood policy to qualify for future aid.

For more information about this program, call toll free 1-888-379-9531 or visit www.floodsmart.gov

THE ABOVE ARTICLES ARE BEING PROVIDED AS INFORMATION ONLY (SEE BELOW ARTICLE) AND WERE TAKEN FROM THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE FOR ELDERS FROM THE STATE OF FL DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS. COPIES OF THEIR PUBLICATION CAN BE OBTAINED AT TOWN HALL.

ADOPTION OF FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS BY PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

FEMA has presented the Town of Haverhill with preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance (FIS) report for Palm Beach County including Haverhill. The preliminary version of the FIRMs are undergoing technical review and will be available for community review and comment over the next several months. Mayor Jay Foy represents the Town of Haverhill on the FEMA Flood Map Task Force and has brought several inaccuracies to the attention of FEMA through their consulting engineers. It is his top priority to be sure that the published maps correctly and accurately reflect true floodplain elevations throughout the Town. We will notify you when public meetings are scheduled and urge you to participate in these meetings so you can be aware of your property's designation. This will be your opportunity to comment on the flood hazard areas, boundaries and zone designations. The publication of the maps and the adoption of floodplain management regulations will have an affect on your property so we are asking you to be proactive, not reactive in this regard.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!!

THE TOWN OF HAVERHILL IS NOT A FIRST RESPONDER!!

Please be aware that in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster the Town of Haverhill is NOT a first responder. The Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center is the first responder in the event of any natural and man-made disasters for our area. The center is overseen by the Florida Division of Emergency Management which prepares and implements a statewide Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and routinely conducts extensive exercises to test state and county emergency response capabilities. The division is the State's liaison with federal and local agencies on emergencies of all kinds. Should one of these emergencies occur, the staff at the Town of Haverhill will only be able to assist in a limited capacity, secondary to the EOC.

VERY IMPORTANT!!!

Also, please be aware that once a storm is named, yard clippings and debris cannot be placed out for pick up!! Please contact the Town Hall at 561-689-0370, or visit us at www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov to learn of schedule changes for Town Hall openings and garbage/debris pick up.

MEET YOUR TOWN'S STAFF

Standing from left to right: Joseph Roche, Director of Public Services, Wayne Cameron, Building Official, Rodrick Jones, Public Works. Sitting from left to right: Janice C. Rutan, Town Administrator and Jessica Green, Deputy Town Clerk.



PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE SET BY TOWN COUNCIL AT 4.250.

The Town Council will consider the final millage rate and the proposed budget at the first of 2 public hearings scheduled for September 12, 2013. The final public hearing will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2013. Both hearings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 4585 Charlotte Street,

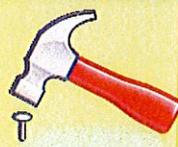
BUILDING PERMITS ARE A REQUIREMENT

Building Department Permits are required for most home improvement projects, including electrical, plumbing, windows, doors, roof and driveway repair projects.

Failure to obtain a permit will result in fines up to four times the amount of the permit fee.

Please contact the Town Building Department at 689-0370, ext. 21, to determine if a permit is required for your intended improvement.

Building Department permit applications and fees can be found on the Town's website at www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov or at Town Hall.





Town of Haverhill
4585 Charlotte Street
Haverhill, FL 33417

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BEACH, FL
PERMIT NO. 4600

The Town Hall will be closed Monday, September 2, 2013 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday. The Town of Haverhill wishes everyone a safe and happy Labor Day!



TOWN COUNCIL

JAY G. FOY, Mayor

JAMES E. WOODS, Vice Mayor

JERRY E. BEAVERS, Council Member

LAWRENCE GORDON, Council Member

MARK C. UPTOGRAPH, Council Member

TOWN OF HAVERHILL STAFF DIRECTORY

JANICE C. RUTAN, CMC, Town Administrator	561-689-0370, ext. 24
JESSICA GREEN, CMC, Deputy Town Clerk	561-689-0370, ext. 21
JOSEPH M. ROCHE, Director of Public Services	561-689-0370, ext. 23
RODRICK JONES, Maintenance	561-689-0370
WAYNE CAMERON, Building Official	561-689-0370 ext. 26
PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	561-688-3000 (non emergency)
EMERGENCY	911

SAVE THE DATES
ANNUAL HALLOWEEN
EVENT: 10/25/2013

ANNUAL PICNIC:
3/15/2014

THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETS THE SECOND AND FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M.
A TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP IS HELD THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT NOON
ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED!

Town Hall is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
www.townofhaverhill-fl.gov