

CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH



RESIDENT PACKET

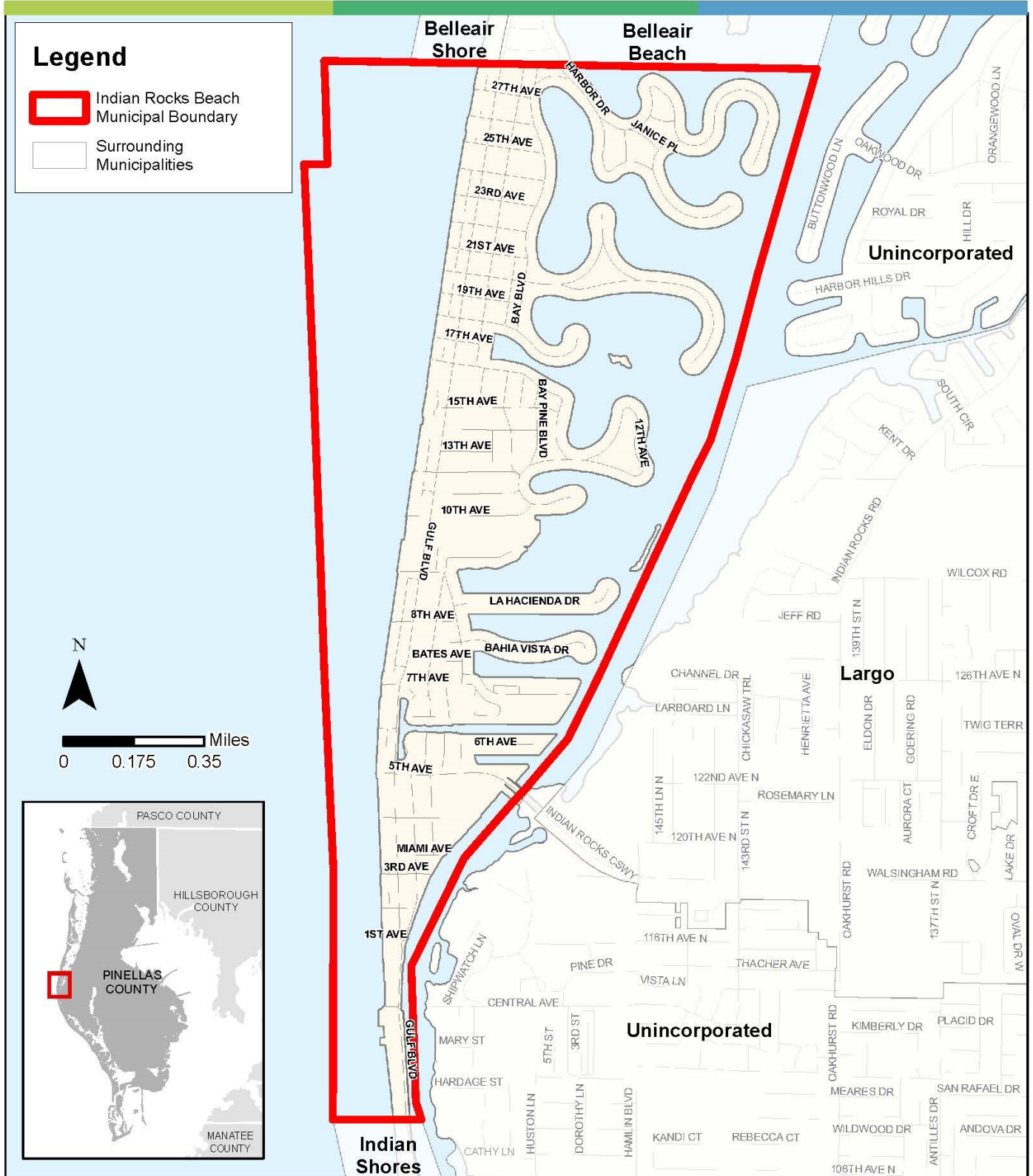
WWW.INDIAN-ROCKS-BEACH.COM

WORKING



TOGETHER

Indian Rocks Beach



Data Source: Pinellas County eGIS; Pinellas County Planning Department, 2019. Map Produced: June 13, 2019.

City of Indian Rocks Beach

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IRB AT A GLANCE



A QUICK GUIDE TO GETTING STARTED IN INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

POLICE/ FIRE EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Police: Pinellas County Sheriffs' Office
727-582-6200

Fire: Pinellas County Suncoast & Fire
727-595-1117

Water & Sewer : Pinellas County Utilities
727-464-4000 www.pinellascounty.org

Electric: Duke Energy
727-443-2641 www.duke-energy.com

Gas: Clearwater Gas
727-562-4900 www.clearwatergas.com

Voters Registration: Pinellas County
Supervisor of Election
727-464-3551 www.votepinellas.com

Cable/Phone /Internet:
Spectrum 855-222-0102
Verizon 727-443-2641

The early settlers of Indian Rocks Beach, the Tocobaga Indians, visited Indian Rocks Beach as early as the 1500s and the pioneer families, Hendrick and Hamlin followed in the early 1800s. "I liked the place, I thought it was the most beautiful place on God's green footstool, and I think so yet." Quoted by pioneer settler Harvey K. Hendrick.

The fish and wildlife, the availability of freshwater from mineral springs and a climate suitable for agriculture made the area attractive.

One of the legends claims the name Indian Rocks Beach came from the Native American Indians crossing from the mainland to the island to fish the shore. They chose a narrow spot, where the rocks protruding from the water made it easy for them to cross to the island. So, the rocks became known as Indian Rocks.

Indian Rocks Beach was developed in the early 1920s as a weekend getaway destination. Mainlanders flocked to this newly discovered paradise seeking escape from city life. The shoreline retreats they built ranged from cottages to grand beach homes.

The City of Indian Rocks Beach is located on a barrier island between the Gulf of Mexico and the Intracoastal Waterway in Pinellas County, or more precisely at 27°53'45"N 82°50'51"W .

Our City is approximately 1.4 square miles of which 0.9 square miles is land and 0.5 square miles (33.09%) is water. We boast 9 City parks, Docks, Skate Park, Dog Park, 27 public beach accesses, and a nature preserve. "Indian Rocks Causeway" bridge is located on Gulf Boulevard and 5th Avenue .

Indian Rocks Beach is a state-chartered municipality and was incorporated on June 25, 1955.

Visit the Indian Rocks Beach Historical Museum for more history at 203 4th Avenue - 727-593-3861

IRB CITY GOVERNMENT

CITY DEPARTMENTS

Administration 727-595-2517

City Hall is open Monday through Friday
from 8:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

City Manager , Brently Gregg Mims
gmims@irbcity.com

Finance Director, Dan Carpenter
dcarpenter@irbcity.com

Business Tax License, Elizabeth Atkinson
eatkinson@irbcity.com

City Clerk , Deanne B. O'Reilly, MMC
doreilly@irbcity.com

Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Kelley
mkelley@irbcity.com

Planning & Zoning 863-646-4771 x211
Senior Planner, Hetty Harmon
hharmon@irbcity.com

Public Works 727-595-6889
Parks, Streets ,Drainage, & Sanitation
Public Works is open Monday through
Friday from 7:00 AM—3:30 P.M.
Public Works Director, Dean Scharmen
dscharmen@irbcity.com

Library 727-596-1822
Library is open Monday through Friday
10:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
Librarian, Lee Miller
lmiller@irbcity.com



The Indian Rocks Beach City Commission consists of 5 members, one of whom is a Mayor-Commissioner who presides at all Commission meetings and is the head of the City for ceremonial purposes. The City Commission also elects a Vice Mayor-Commissioner annually from among the commission members. The City Commission adopts resolutions and ordinances, which are the policies and laws of the City.

The City Manager is appointed by the Commission and serves as the Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for the administration of all City affairs such as the hiring of all personnel, enforcement of all City laws, preparation and submission of the annual budget and capital improvement program.

The City Attorney, also appointed by the Commission, advises and represents the City and Commission in all legal affairs.

The City Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M. At the beginning of every meeting, time is set aside for public comments. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes.

The agenda is the official guide for City Commission meetings. Prepared by staff in consultation with the Commission, the agenda includes current legislative and policy issues that must be reviewed by the full Commission. Agendas are posted on the City website www.indian-rocks-beach.com.

The City of Indian Rocks Beach City Commission

Mayor - Commissioner Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy

jkennedy@irbcity.com

Vice-Mayor- Commissioner Joe McCall

jmccall@irbcity.com

Commissioner Jude Bond

jbond@irbcity.com

Commissioner Phil Hanna

phanna@irbcity.com

Commissioner Denise Houseberg

dhouseberg@irbcity.com

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Local Planning Agency (LPA)

The LPA consists of 7 regular and 2 alternate members appointed by the City Commission for a 2-year term of office. The following are the duties and responsibilities of the Agency:

Conduct the comprehensive planning program and prepare the comprehensive plan, or elements or portions thereof, for the City.

Coordinate the comprehensive plan, or elements or portions thereof, with the comprehensive plans of other appropriate local governments and the State.

Make recommendations regarding the adoption of the comprehensive plan, or elements or portions thereof, to the City Commission.

Review proposed land development regulations, land development codes or amendments thereto, and make recommendations to the City Commission as to the consistency of the proposal with the adopted comprehensive plan or elements or portions thereof.

Boards and committees advise the City Commission on policy issues. All meetings are open to the public. Applications can be found on the City website www.indian-rocks-beach.com or at City Hall at 1507 Bay Palm Blvd.

Board of Adjustments and Appeals (BOA)

The BOA consists of 5 regular and 2 alternate Board members appointed by the City Commission and whenever possible, shall consist of an engineer, real estate broker, businessperson, and architect. The term of office is 3 years with no member serving more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms. Following are the duties and responsibilities of the Board:

Hear appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the enforcement of the City's land development regulations after public notice has been given and a public hearing has been held.

Hear special exception uses to the City's land development regulations.

Finance & Budget Review Committee (F & B)

The F & B Review Committee consists of 5 regular Board members appointed by the City Commission for a 3-year term of office. Following are the duties and responsibilities of the Committee:

Review the requests for annual budget appropriations, as submitted by the City Manager, and prepare a report to the City Commission.

Review the 5-year capital improvement plan and the comprehensive annual financial report on an annual basis with written reports to the City Commission.

Planning & Zoning Board (P & Z)

The P & Z consists of 7 regular and 2 alternate members appointed by the City Commission for a 2-year term of office. The following are the duties and responsibilities of the Board:

The P&Z Board shall have advisory powers but shall have no authority to make binding recommendations.

The P&Z Board shall have the power to review and recommend approval or disapproval of site plans when such is required by the zoning ordinance.

The P&Z Board shall review PUD (Planning Unit Development).



PARKING BY PERMIT ONLY DECAL

IRB property owners or residential lessees with at least a one year lease may obtain (2) decals per property.

Decals can be obtained at City Hall with the following documentation:

~ A copy of Pinellas County Property Appraiser's record identifying the applicant as a property owner, or recorded deed. If the applicant is a lessee, a copy of the one year lease agreement or a notarized letter from the landlord of the property for which the decal is sought, confirming the lease for at least one year.

If the applicant is a corporate entity, a copy of the current year's annual report on file with Florida's Secretary of State identifying the applicant as an authorized member of the corporate entity that owns the property for which the decal is sought.

~ A valid drivers license for the applicant.

~ A valid vehicle registration for each vehicle.

Decal must be permanently affixed to the exterior rear of the vehicle in a visible location.

The decal is vehicle and license plate specific, if found on another vehicle or plate other than it was applied for, may result in a fine in addition to the confiscation of the decal.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

The City of Indian Rocks Beach Code Enforcement Division's responsibility addresses such items as inoperative cars and trucks, trash and debris, overgrown yards, commercial and recreational vehicles in residential areas, minimum housing standards and the zoning code, including sign regulations. Call Code Enforcement 727-595-2517 to report a violation.

TOP CODE VIOLATIONS

1. UNKEPT LANDSCAPING (CITY CODE SEC.26-61)

All owners, agents, lessees and occupants of real property shall cut and keep cut to a height not to exceed 6 inches : all weeds, grass or underbrush on any property owned, controlled or occupied by them and will edge and trim all grass abutting street curbing; and remove any cuttings, trimmings, trash, debris, refuse, filth or other noxious matter located on property.

2. FAILURE TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE

Trash should be set curbside no earlier than 7 p.m.. the day before garbage day and containers should be put away no later than 7 p.m. on garbage day.

3. CONCEALMENT (CITY CODE SEC. 50-63)

To preserve the aesthetic quality of the City, all residents, occupants, and or managers must provide some means of concealing cans or containers from public view from the streets of the City. The concealing of cans may be accomplished in a variety of ways such as fences, hedges or other vegetation, which should be placed in a way as to conceal cans from public view, or kept in garage, back or side yard out of public view.

3. DOGS ON THE BEACH (CITY CODE SEC 74-62)

Dogs are not allowed on the Beach and it is a \$500.00 Fine. Check out the dog park at the Nature Preserve at 10th Ave.

4. ITEMS LEFT ON THE BEACH (CITY CODE SEC. 74-103)

All personal property brought to the beach must be removed from the beach when a beach goer leaves the IRB beach. All items must be off the beach by 10:00 p.m. daily. By way of an example, personal property includes, but is not limited to, tents (including tent frames), canopies, cabanas, umbrellas, picnic tables, beach chairs, tiki huts, volleyball nets, hammocks, kayaks, canoes, ice chests, sailboards and kites.

Any items of personal property that remain on the beach after 10:00 p.m. shall be considered abandoned by the owner and shall be removed by a deputy of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Public Works staff, Code Enforcement Officer or other authorized designee .



WELCOME TO INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

Enjoy this piece of paradise we call home.
Think about being on vacation in your own hometown.
Stay safe. Be kind. Respect your neighbor. Keep it clean.



Trash

Please don't litter on the beach or off.
There are trash cans at every beach access
and every park on Indian Rocks Beach.



Sound

We love our sleepy beach community.
Keep loud music and loud voices down
while respecting your neighbors.



Beach/Turtles

IRB is home to nesting baby turtles
from May 1 to Oct.31st. Fill in your holes,
push down sand castles and have all items
removed from the beach no later than 10pm
to avoid trapping baby turtles.



Smoking

Dispose of your cigarette butts in
the receptacles. Do NOT throw
butts in the sand or on the street.



Crosswalks

Pedestrian crosswalks are available
for crossing on Gulf Blvd. Be sure and
press the button for the flashing light.



Golf Carts

If golf carts are on Gulf Boulevard they
must have tags, thus the carts have to
be made street legal with windshields,
lights, and signals.



Speed Limit

The speed limit on Gulf Blvd within
the city limits of Indian Rocks Beach
is 30 mph. Please do not speed.



Pets/Dogs on the Beach

Dogs are not allowed on Indian Rocks
Beach. \$500 Fine. However, we are
dog friendly and have a dog park
at the Nature Preserve at 10th Ave.



Parking

A few free public parking spaces
are available at beach access points
and 80 paid spaces at 1700 Gulf Blvd.



Fireworks

All fireworks and fires on the beach
are prohibited. Anything that explodes
or leaves the ground is illegal and can
be fined up to \$500.



For additional information, please contact IRB City Hall at 727-595-2517

SEA NESTING TURTLES



KEEP IT DARK– TURN LIGHTS OUT

Nesting sea turtles seek a quiet, dark beach on which to nest. Indian Rocks beaches are lined with condominiums, private residences, businesses and hotels. Lights from these developments are problematic for nesting females and hatchlings trying to return to the sea. Sea turtle hatchlings can become easily disoriented by bright lights on the coast. First, identify what lights on your property are visible from the beach. Then ... **KEEP IT LOW** – Low mounting height and low bulb wattage. Flood, spot and pole lighting are highly discouraged.

KEEP IT SHIELDED – Use full cut-off fixtures that direct light down to the ground. Shield fixtures so you cannot see the bulb, lamp or glowing lens from the beach. If the lights are not needed for safety, simply turn

them off. Reduce interior lighting problems by applying window tint. Close opaque curtains or blinds after dark to

reduce the amount of visible light reaching the beach.

KEEP IT LONG – Sea turtles are less disturbed by the long wavelengths of light, such as lights that are yellow, amber, or red.



REMOVE OBSTACLES

Clear the way at the end of the day. Beach furniture, canopies, boats and toys left behind on the sand can become obstacles that block nesting and hatching turtles. Remember, sea turtles like to nest on the mid to upper beach, to protect their nest from tide, so all those things should be completely removed from the beach. Fill in any holes dug in the sand.



Program the phone number for the Florida Wildlife Commission into your phone so you'll be prepared if you happen to encounter a dead, sick, stranded or injured sea turtle. It is also important to report any harassment of sea turtles or disturbance of nests.

The FWC Wildlife Alert Number is 1-888-404-3922.



ENOUGH OF THE BALLOONS

Helium-filled party balloons often end up in the ocean. Sea turtles mistakenly eat the balloons and die.



TRASH PICK UP

Indian Rocks Beach is a full service City with twice-weekly trash pickup, curbside recycling once a week and special services for bulky items.

Each residence receives one 64 gallon trash container and one recycling container. Containers should only contain household garbage and/or recycling. No hazardous waste.

Carts may be brought to the curb after 7:00 P.M. the night before service.

Carts must be removed from curb by 7:00 P.M. the day of service.

Lids on carts must be securely closed.

Loose trash bags outside of carts are not allowed.

Only City supplied trash carts allowed.

To arrange for special pick up, updates or questions call Public Works 727-595-6889

BULKY ITEM SPECIAL PICK UP

Sanitation will haul away most larger items that cannot be normally thrown away with regular trash collection at an additional charge. These items can include appliances and furniture. The City offers four free curbside pickups each year scheduled in the months of February, May, August & November. To arrange for special pick ups or updates call Public Works at 727-595-6889

YARD WASTE

Normal yard waste and trimmings of shrubs or trees are picked up for free, maximum 1 yard pile when cut in four-foot lengths and when limbs are not more than four inches in diameter and when stacked neatly at the curb, no more than 4 feet high and 4 feet long. Anything larger will require a special pick up and will be charged based on the size. Do not bag, and place within 2 feet of the curb and at least 5 feet away from any obstructions.

PICK UP SCHEDULE

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

East Side of Gulf Blvd.

Whitehurst Ave. to 5th Ave

7th Ave.

Haven Beach Drive

West Side of Gulf Blvd.

Whitehurst Ave. to 28th Ave.

TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS

East Side of Gulf Blvd.

2nd Street

6th Ave. to 28th Ave.

Curlew Landing

WEDNESDAY Recycling and Yard Waste

HOLIDAYS WITH NO TRASH SERVICE

- New Year's Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

If the holiday is on a Monday, then collection will be on Tuesday, and Tuesday collection will be on Wednesday.

If the holiday is on a Tuesday, then collection will be on Wednesday.

If the holiday is on a Thursday, then collection will be on Wednesday.

If the holiday is on a Friday, then collection will be on Thursday, and Thursday collection will be on a Wednesday.



RECYCLING ONLY

Deposit Only These Clean Items:



Clean paper, Milk Cartons, Cardboard (limit 18 x 24) Junk Mail, Paper Egg Cartons, Cereal Boxes



Newspapers Magazines, Catalogs Phone Books



Plastic Bottles and Jugs (no caps) Plastic Dairy Tubs (yogurt margarine, etc.) no lids



Aluminum Cans Steel or Tin Cans



Loose Glass Bottles and Jugs



No Pizza Boxes



No Aerosol Cans



No Hoses



No Plants



No Toys



No Dishes/ Paper Plates



No Juice Boxes or Pouches



No Tires



No Styrofoam



No Clothes Textiles/Carpet



No Batteries



No Plastic Bags



No Electronics

RECYCLING

Residents of Indian Rocks Beach are provided single-stream curbside recycling service once a week. This allows residents to combine all recycling materials in one single container.

WHAT IS RECYCABLE?

Clean clear, brown, and green glass. Aluminum and tin cans. Plastic bottles (no lids), Newspaper, and Cardboard (Please flatten and remove plastic liners and any Styrofoam fillers)

QUESTIONS CALL 727-595-6889

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Antifreeze, Oil, Gasoline, Cell Phones, Computers, TV, Cleaners, Chlorine, Paint and Stains can be brought to : Pinellas County Solid Waste

727-464-7500

2855 109th Ave N. St. Petersburg

Monday through Saturday 7 a.m.—5 p.m.

Check out the website for more specific things that can be brought:

www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/hec3

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT IRB PARKS



The Parks Division is responsible for the maintenance of over 37 +/- acres of parkland in the City of Indian Rocks Beach.

Public Works: 727-595-6889

Brown Park—Bay Blvd. & 2nd St. Tennis and Pickleball Courts	7 am— dusk
Chief Chic-A-Si Park—4th Ave & 2nd St.	7 am— dusk
Keegan Clair Park—3rd Ave. & 1st St.	7am—11 pm
IRB Boat Dock—Miami Ave. & 2nd St.	7am—11 pm
Kolb Park—1507 Bay Palm Blvd. Skate Park Basketball Court Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts	7 am— 9 pm
Nature Preserve—903 Gulf Blvd. Community Garden Dog Park	7 am— dusk
Pocket Park— 5th Ave. & Gulf Blvd.	7am—11 pm
10th Ave Park—10th Ave. & 1st St.	7 am— dusk
12th Ave Park—12th Ave. & Gulf Blvd	7 am— dusk

Contact Public Works regarding park amenities: 727-595-6889

Where can I park to go to the beach?

Indian Rocks Beach has 18 beach accesses sites where residents and visitors alike may park for free. Appropriate signage depicts resident parking versus visitor parking. Additionally, there is paid parking available at the Indian Rocks Beach/Pinellas County Beach Access Park at 1700 Gulf Boulevard. The fee is \$2.50 per hour.

Are there handicap accessible parks (playgrounds) within the City?

Indian Rocks Beach has two handicap accessible parks (playgrounds) located at: Kolb Park - (16th Avenue & Bay Palm Boulevard) and 10th Avenue Park - (10th Avenue & Bay Pine Boulevard).

What restrictions are there for using the 15th Avenue Boat Ramp?

The 15th Avenue Boat Ramp is restricted to use by Indian Rocks Beach residents/property owners only. No resident/property owner is allowed to park or use the boat ramp for longer than 30 minutes at one time and are limited to the hours of 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Who is allowed to use the Skate Park?

Indian Rocks Beach Skate Park may be utilized by residents/property owners and visitors alike, however anyone under the age of 17 is required to obtain a permit through City Hall and wear a helmet.

What if/any restriction are there for using the Leash Free Park?

Indian Rocks Beach Leash Free Park may be utilized by residents/property owners and visitors alike. Use of this facility is at own risk.

Can I use and/or reserve the City's picnic pavilions or gazebo?

Indian Rocks Beach has multiple picnic pavilions and gazebo's located throughout the City. Use of the facilities are non-exclusive daily, the facilities may be reserved through the City Hall. Obtain permit from the City's website— www.indian-rocks-beach.com or call 727-595-2517

Can I get married on the beach?

Indian Rocks Beach does not prohibit weddings on the beach. However, if more than 50 people are in attendance, a Temporary Use/Event Permit must be approved by City Hall. Obtain permit from the City's website— www.indian-rocks-beach.com or call 727-595-2517



Community Garden is a member-run garden located in the Indian Rocks Beach Nature Preserve, between 9th and 10th Avenues on Gulf Boulevard. It was created as an area for neighbors to plant, learn, socialize, and enjoy nature in a shared community space. Gardeners use Earthboxes to sustainably grow vegetables, fruits, flowers, herbs, and plants year-round.

The IRB Community Garden is maintained by the gardeners and City. The boxes are automatically irrigated by the City. No toxic sprays are allowed in the garden, and organic gardening is encouraged.

Earthboxes can be rented from the internet and or at local home improvement stores. Earthboxes remain in the garden and are the responsibility of the gardeners to maintain, harvest, and replant throughout the year. All gardeners are responsible for purchasing their on-going Earthbox supplies and any gardening tools.

GreenTown Kids (GTK) - an Indian Rocks Beach based 501c3 environmental nonprofit - is the community garden coordinator. GTK holds several garden work days, events, and educational opportunities throughout the year for garden members, GTK members, and/or the community.

Seasoned and rookie gardeners, alike, are encouraged to try out Earthbox gardening in the community garden! IRB gardeners are welcoming to all and always excited to share their gardening tips, knowledge, and ideas with fellow gardeners.

Interested gardeners may contact Allie DeVore and Ann Hanna of GreenTown Kids at: greentownkids@gmail.com for more information. Interested garden volunteers or donors can go to www.greentownkids.org for more information.

All new gardeners must email a signed Community Garden Membership Agreement to the garden coordinator (greentownkids@gmail.com) prior to installing a box.

More information on Earthbox gardening: <https://www.earthboxstore.com>.

Helpful Florida gardening and planting guides: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/VH/VH02100.pdf>

"There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments."

- Janet Kilburn Phillips

PLANNING ZONING & BUILDING SERVICES

The Pinellas County Building Services Department assumes the role of Building Department for the City of Indian Rocks Beach. All mechanical, electrical, plumbing and roofing permit requests, which do not require review by the City of Indian Rocks Beach may be secured from Pinellas County Building Services located at 440 Court Street in Clearwater
PH: 727-464-3888.

Below is a list of permits that will require approval from the City prior to submitting to the County, Applications may be found on the City 's web-site: www.indian-rocks-beach.com or at City Hall 1507 Bay Palm Blvd.
727-595-2517

New Permits

Complete the Land Development Review Application for: new construction, additions, enclosing a garage or porch. Application, building and site plan should be emailed to Hetty Harmon, the City's Planning and Zoning Consultant: hharmon@irbcity.com. 863-646-4771 X211 . Once the review is complete, the approved application will be sent to you for inclusion in your building permit submittal to Pinellas County.

Permits that will only need zoning approval and flood information from the City: Interior remodels that includes adding bedrooms, pools or spas, any changes to existing permits-adding square footage or changing the building footprint, and wireless cell towers. Building and site plan should be emailed to Hetty Harmon, the City's Planning and Zoning Consultant, hharmon@irbcity.com 863-646-4771 x211 and you will receive approval via email which you will submit to Pinellas County along with your Pinellas County Building Permit Application.

Permits that do not need sign off from the City and should be submitted directly to Pinellas County:

Mechanical, air conditioning, solar, generators, electrical equipment, and associated structures in the side yard setbacks, window/door replacement, re-roof, replacement of water heater, electrical service upgrades, interior remodel of bath or kitchen, solar panels, siding or deck/handrail replacement, wireless antenna replacement, plumbing, gas (LP/Natural).

Permits that go to Pinellas Water and Navigation which do need sign off from the City :Docks.

Permits that go to Pinellas Water and Navigation which do not need sign off from the City: Dredge and Fill Permit.

Permits that the City of Indian Rocks Beach will issue a permit: Driveway, Fences, Signs, tree removal

**UNDERGROUND UTILITY LOCATED MUST BE OBTAINED
PRIOR TO EXCAVATION—DIAL 811**

LIBRARY CARD— RESIDENTS

The IRB Library card is free for property owners and residents with proof of residency. Please complete the registration form and sign it indicating responsibility for materials borrowed by the member. IRB Library card holders have reciprocal borrowing privileges at Pinellas Libraries (PPLC). You must register your card at PPLC library.

PPLC Members may apply for reciprocal borrowing privileges for the IRB Library.

ALL MATERIALS BORROWED MUST BE RETURNED TO THE LENDING LIBRARY.

Using OVERDRIVE downloadable E content:

IRB Members can go to the library catalog. Access to OverDrive E-content is available using your IRB card. Your password is your phone number. For more information setting up your OverDrive account please contact the IRB Library.

**CITY
OF**

INDIAN ROCKS BEACH LIBRARY



**1507 BAY PALM BLVD.
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH
PHONE 727-596-1822
Lee Miller Librarian
E-MAIL: lmiller@irbcity.com
Hours: Monday ~ Friday : 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**



**FREE TAKE A BOOK
LEAVE A BOOK
LIBRARIES**

Locations:

City Hall—1507 Bay Palm Blvd
4th Ave Beach Access
12th Ave Beach Access
22th Ave Beach Access

LIBRARY CARD—NON-RESIDENTS

The cards for non-residents are available for anyone **NOT** living in IRB, who provides ID, and a proof of temporary residence in IRB.

A red non-resident library card is good for **ONE** year at **25.00** per year. Please complete the registration form and sign it.

NON residents do **NOT** have PPLC reciprocal borrowing privileges.

Please see the library card policy for specifics.

**CHECK OUT
THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
BOOK STORE**



HURRICANE PREPARDNESS

Hurricane Season runs from June 1 to November 30.

City of Indian Rocks Beach is in Evacuation Zone A due to the City's low elevation and a very strong possibility of a storm surge and flooding.

Flooding and storm surge will not just prevent you from leaving—it will also prevent emergency responders from assisting you, if you were to ignore the order and remain on the island. Hurricane Preparedness Handbooks containing more detailed information are available free at City Hall and the Library.

INFORMATION BY THE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY DIAL 911

FIRE DEPARTMENT
727-595-1117

PINELLAS COUNTY SHERRIF DEPARTMENT
727-582-6200

PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
727-464-3800

FIND YOUR EVACUATION LEVEL
727-453-3150

PET FRIENDLY SHELTERS
727-582-2150

PINELLAS COUNTY
READY ALERT TEXT MESSAGING
EMERGENCY INFORMATION SERVICE
888-689-8905

FLORIDA EMERGENCY INFORMATION
800-342-3557

PINELLAS COUNTY HIGHWAY
727-464-8900

NOAA Weather Radio
162.550 MHz

Pinellas County Emergency Radio
940AM WEOC

BEFORE THE HURRICANE

Have disaster supplies on hand.

Select a safe haven now. You might choose a hotel, motel or the home of a friend or relative in a safe location. As a last resort, go to a shelter.

Make arrangements for pets. Pets are not allowed into emergency shelters.

Develop an emergency communication plan. In case family members are separated from one another during a disaster, have a plan for getting back together. Ask an out of state relative or friend to serve as the "Family contact".

HURRICANE WATCH - Hurricane conditions are possible threat within the next 36 hours

Listen to a radio or television for hurricane progress reports.

Check emergency supplies.

Fuel the car.

Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture and garden tools and anchor objects that cannot be brought inside.

Secure buildings by closing and boarding up windows.

Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest settings, open only when necessary.

Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles.

Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place.

Stay inside, away from windows, skylights and glass doors.

Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy.

Avoid open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.

If power is lost, turn off major appliances to reduce power "surge" when electricity is restored.

Elevate furniture to protect it from flooding.

In condominiums, avoid elevators.

Helpful Flood Hazard Information

Are you doing all you can to protect your property from flood damage?

The City of Indian Rocks Beach is concerned about flooding and has an active program to help you protect yourself and your property from future flooding.

FLOOD HAZARD AREA: The location of Indian Rocks Beach between the Gulf of Mexico and the Intracoastal Waterway or “Narrows”, and Clearwater Harbor, together with the low elevations, makes the City highly vulnerable to the dangers of flooding. Indian Rocks Beach is affected by two types of flooding: coastal flooding, primarily due to storm surge from tropical depressions, and flooding from rainfall in sufficient quantities to overcome natural and manmade drainage provisions. Many areas flood with only a high tide and west wind. With most properties developed prior to the adoption of local storm-water management facility requirements, flooding during heavy rainfall occurs in many areas of the City. When there is a high tide and/or heavy rains the City’s drainage system will rapidly fill up from stormwater run-off and tidal waters, causing flood conditions on our lawns and in streets and swale areas. Consequently, rainwater can back up into homes from the streets. Most often flooding occurs in conjunction with severe tropical storms and hurricanes. The more intense the hurricane and the closer to perpendicular its track is in relation to the coastline, the higher the storm surge and resulting destruction will be. Because of the high shoaling factor (shallow water and gradual slope of the Gulf bottom) off the coast of our City, we will receive higher surges than those indicated in the generalized Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale.

FEMA FLOOD ZONES: the entire City is designated as a Special Flood Hazard Area and lies in the “A” or “V” Flood Zones as designated by FEMA. The V-Zone is limited to coastal areas adjacent to the beach (Gulf of Mexico). The A-Zones encompass the remainder of the City of Indian Rocks Beach. The largest portion of Indian Rocks Beach is in the A-10 or A-11 areas, which are reflected in the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for our area. The A-10 and A-11 designations indicate that each year there is a 1% chance that flooding may reach 10 or 11 feet above sea level, respectively. The average grade (top of soil) in our area averages 5-6 feet above sea level. To minimize flooding, all new construction must be built above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE), the height of which is dependent upon the area’s designated flood zone. Those whose homes or businesses are built below BFE should consider floodproofing, retrofits or other forms of mitigation.

MAP DETERMINATIONS: The City provides Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations to let you know in which flood zone your property is located. For more information concerning Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations, you may call the City at (727) 595-2517. You can see the Indian Rocks Beach FIRM on page two of this publication and on the City’s website at the following web address: www.indian-rocks-beach.com.

FLOOD WARNING: Indian Rocks Beach flood warnings will be broadcast by local television and radio as well as the National Weather Service NOAA Weather Radio. Tune into these media for instructions during times of possible flooding. Several media sources are listed below:

- Pinellas County Connection TV (622, Knology 18, Verizon 44)
- National Weather Service NOAA Weather Radio
- Government access channel 615 on cable
- Channel 35 on the UHF band
- NBC, ABC, CBS
- The Weather Channel
- Local radio station 100.7 WMTX-FM & Local radio station 940 WEOC-AM

Helpful Flood Information Continued-

You should keep a battery-operated weather alert radio, with plenty of back-up batteries available in case of a power outage. Sign up for emergency notification through cell phone text message by calling 1-888-689-8905 or for email emergency alerts by visiting the Pinellas County website at www.pinellascounty.org/emergency.

EVACUATION INFORMATION: The entire City of Indian Rocks Beach is located in a flood zone and in an Evacuation Level A Zone, which is the first level ordered to evacuate. Arrangements can be made through the Pinellas County Emergency Management Department to aid people who need help evacuating. Because the Tampa Bay Region could require as long as 26 hours to evacuate, be prepared ahead of time. Before evacuation, valuables and building contents should be secured at the highest levels possible. Have an evacuation essentials bag packed and ready ahead of time. Evacuation routes and shelter information can be viewed on the Pinellas County Emergency Management website at www.pineallascounty.org/emergency. The website also includes information for citizens with special needs. Evacuation and shelter information is also included in the “General Information” section of the Yellow Pages telephone directory.

FLOOD SAFETY: Being aware of what steps to take to minimize your loss prior to a flood is the first step to your safety:

1. Tune in to local radio and television station or NOAA Weather Radio for flood warnings and evacuation information.
2. Heed warnings from officials. Evacuate the flood hazard area in times of pending flood or when advised to do so by the Sheriff’s office, fire department or other governmental official.
3. Have an evacuation and shelter route planned before an evacuation order is issued.
4. Have a small bag with essentials prepared ahead of time for evacuation.
5. Turn off utility services. Turn off electrical circuits at the fuse panel or disconnect switch. If this is not possible, disconnect all electrical appliances. Shut off the water service and gas valves in your home. Only use a flashlight to inspect damage. Do not smoke or use matches, flames, lanterns, or candles unless you know the gas has been shut off and the area has been well ventilated.
6. Be cautious at night, being aware of the danger of downed power lines and electrical wires.
7. Have battery-operated flashlights and weather alert radios in working condition and have extra batteries available.
8. Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else.
9. Do not walk into flooded areas where water depth is unknown. Do not attempt to cross flowing flood waters where the water is above your knees. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you must walk through flood waters, use a pole or stick to test the depth of the water, always being aware of the danger of downed power lines and electrical wires.
10. Keep children away from flood water, ditches, culverts and storm drains. Currents can be very strong and flood waters can contain contaminants hazardous to humans.
11. Use caution walking inside a flooded structure. During and after a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris such as broken glass or nails. Mud, silt or sand can be very slippery. Animals, such as rodents, insects and snakes may be present. Use a pole or stick to poke or overturn things to scare away small animals.

Handouts are available at City Hall with more details about flood safety and evacuation procedures. Flood-related documents are also available at the Indian Rocks Beach Library, 1507 Bay Palm Boulevard.

FLOOD INSURANCE: Homeowner’s and renter’s insurance policies do NOT cover losses caused by flooding. However, because Indian Rocks Beach participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. This insurance is backed by the Federal government and, with few exceptions, is available to everyone, even properties that have been flooded. Because Indian Rocks Beach participates in the Community Rating System, you will receive a reduction in the insurance premium.

Helpful Flood Information Continued-

Just a few inches of water from a flood can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Over the past 10 years, the average flood claim has amounted to over \$33,000. Flood insurance is the best way to protect you from devastating financial loss. Flood insurance is available to homeowners, renters, condo owners/renters, and commercial owners/renters. Costs vary depending on how much insurance is purchased, what it covers, and the property's flood risk.

Some property owners have purchased flood insurance because it was required by the bank when they obtained a mortgage or home improvement loan. Usually, these policies just cover the building's structure and not the contents. Content's coverage is optional. Flood insurance can be purchased to cover flood damage to the building's structure, such as the walls, floors, insulation and other items permanently attached to the structure. You can purchase additional coverage that insures most of your personal property and belongings.

Don't wait for the next flood warning to buy flood insurance protection. **In most cases, there is a 30-day waiting period after purchase of a flood insurance policy before coverage goes into effect.** Call your insurance agent today so that you will be fully prepared for future events.

PROPERTY PROTECTION: As a homeowner in Indian Rocks Beach, you need clear information about the options that are available to reduce flood damage to your home and straightforward guidance on selecting the option that is best for you. First, you need to know what damage-reduction methods are available, how much they cost, and whether they meet your needs. All of these questions are answered by FEMA publication #312, *Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House from Flooding*, available on FEMA's website, www.fema.gov/rebuild/mat/fema312.shtm. There are other documents at the Indian Rocks Beach Library that can help you learn how to protect your property from damage by flooding. Note that some flood protection measures may need a building permit and others may not be safe for your type of building. The City can help property owners to understand the appropriate retrofitting technique for each situation, including elevating a building above flood levels, floodwalls, dry floodproofing, wet floodproofing, and sewer backup protection.

To reduce property damage caused by flooding, you may consider the following: If your lot is large enough, consider re-grading it so that water will drain away from the foundation wall, or consider building a small floodwall. The floodwall can prevent water from entering through low openings in walls, such as dryer vents and doors. You can also place watertight closures over the doorways. However, these measures only protect if flooding is not particularly deep. You may also consider elevating your home. Common ways to structurally protect commercial property include floodproofing, installing floodgates and making walls waterproof.

To reduce damage from flooding, please consider such emergency measures as moving furniture and sandbagging. During hurricane season, take measures that protect against high winds, such as installing storm shutters and reinforced garage doors.

The City can provide information about your property regarding flood elevations and the extent of past flooding in your area. The City can provide assistance on how to protect your property from flood drainage problems with on-site visits. These services are free. You can call the City at 727-595-2517.

MITIGATION OF REPETITIVE LOSS PROPERTIES: Mitigation of the flood risk to properties that flood repetitively will reduce the overall costs of flood insurance claims to the NFIP as well as to individual homeowners. Accordingly, Congress has created a variety of funding sources to help property owners reduce their exposure to flood damage. FEMA provides flood mitigation assistance funds to assist states, communities and individual residents to implement measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage. Visit FEMA's website, www.fema.gov/government/grant for information about these grant programs. One example of a FEMA grant is the Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) grant. RFC provides funds on an annual basis to reduce the risk of flood damage to individual properties insured under the NFIP that have had one or more claim payments for flood damages. The City of Indian Rocks Beach can provide additional information on financial assistance.

Helpful Flood Information Continued-

PERMITS: All development (new construction, repair/replacement work, additions, fences, etc.) in Indian Rocks Beach requires a permit from Pinellas County and/or the City. Through this process, the City ensures development is taking place according to flood regulations. Regulations include required elevations of floors, floodproofing of certain construction, limitations on placement of fill and prohibitions of certain substantial improvements, additions or reconstructions. If you observe any non-permitted work, or if you need additional information, please contact the City at (727) 595-2517.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT REQUIREMENTS: A *substantial improvement* to a structure is any construction, addition, alteration, repair, reconstruction or other improvement of a building in which the cost of the improvement equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the building before the start of construction. Substantial improvements must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. In like manner, substantially damaged structures must be brought up to the same standards as a new building.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: The City has a system of drainage outfalls and basins for stormwater management purposes. These drainage components are of vital importance since the water flowing through them drains floodwaters from our streets. Our drainage system is inspected on a regular basis by our Public Services Department. Call the Public Services Department if you experience flooding due to drainage problems.

As stormwater flows over our lawns, driveways and parking lots, it picks up fertilizers, oil, chemicals, grass clippings, litter, pet waste, and anything else in its path. The storm sewer system then transports these pollutants, now in the water, to local lakes and streams, and eventually into Tampa Bay or the Gulf of Mexico. Anything that goes into a storm drain eventually ends up in our waters. The City of Indian Rocks Beach Code of Ordinances states that no pollutants, including yard debris, automotive fluids, gravel or paint can be allowed to enter the surface waters, the drainage systems, or be disposed of in the right-of-way. Violations should be reported to the Indian Rocks Beach Public Services Department at 727-575-6889.

NATURAL & BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FLOODPLAIN: A floodplain is any land area susceptible to being inundated by water. In our City natural floodplain areas provide excellent habitat for diverse wildlife and enhance water quality, as vegetation and soils found within the floodplain serve as water filters, intercepting surface water runoff before reaching the bays and Gulf. A wetland is a transitional area between water and land which supports unique wetland vegetation. Because there are areas of wetlands in the City, there is native vegetation and wildlife, which must be protected. The undeveloped floodplain areas lessen the effects of storm and flood waters by providing natural storage areas for flood waters and by buffering the coastal areas from storm surges, thus protecting human life and property from flood damage.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For information on the flood hazard at your property, to view the elevation certificate for your property or for further information on any of the above subjects, please contact the City at 727-595-2517 or visit the City's website www.indian-rocks-beach.com. The City of Indian Rocks Beach Library, located at 1507 Bay Palm Boulevard, provides flood protection information and maintains copies of the Indian Rocks Beach Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).



Emergency Access Permit

For barrier island residents and businesses:

In an effort to prevent looting and burglary after a large-scale mandatory evacuation, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the barrier islands have joined forces to provide free Emergency Access Permits to all businesses and residents of the barrier islands. Once a mandatory evacuation order has been lifted, Emergency Access Permits will be required to re-enter an evacuated area. There are nine entry points to the barrier islands. Access will be limited based on the closest entry point to your residence.

You will be asked to hang the permit from your vehicle's rearview mirror for re-entry post-evacuation. Law enforcement officers will be posted at entry points where they will scan the barcode on your permit to verify your residency. With your help, we can keep trespassers from accessing your property.

A maximum of 2 permits are permitted per residential property address.

In order to complete the permit request, you must have a valid driver license. Owners and renters/lessees will need to submit an additional image of a tax bill, mortgage, utility bill, or current lease/rental agreement showing the address of the property for which the permit is being requested.

You can stop by City Hall or go on line to the Pinellas County Sheriffs Office at :

<https://pcsoweb.com/barrierislandpassapplication>

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

County Government

Pinellas Board of County Commissioners

Commissioner, Karen Williams Seel
kseel@pinellascounty.org 727-464-3278

State of Government

Governor Ron DeSantis
www.flgov.com 850-488-7146

State House

Nick Diceglie 727-588-7090

State Senate

Jeff Brandes, District 22 850-487-5022

Federal Government

U.S. House of Representatives

Charlie Crist, District 13
charlie.crist@mail.house.gov 727-318-6770

U.S Senate

Rick Scott 813-225-7040
Marco Rubio 813 977 6450

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS & OTHER SERVICES

IRB ACTION 2000, INC .
www.irbaction2000.com

IRB HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
www.irbhome.com

IRB ROTARY
www.indian-rocks-rotary.org

IRB WELCOME CENTER 727-595-4575
www.beachwelcomecenter.com

BEACH ART CENTER 727-596-4331
www.beachartcenter.org

IRB COMMUNITY GARDEN 973-219-4187

IRB HISTORICAL MUSEUM 727-593-3861
www.irbmuseum.com

PINELLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT & STATE OF FLORIDA

County Commission	www.pinellascounty.org/commission	727-464-3000
Property Taxes/Fishing Licenses	www.taxcollect.com	727-464-7777
Public Schools	www.pinellas.k12.fl.us	727-588-6300
Property Appraiser	www.pcpao.org	727-464-3207
Birth & Death Certificates	www.pinellashealth.com	727-824-6900
Voter Registration: Supervisor of Election	www.votepinellas.com	727-464-7000
Marriage Licenses: Clerk of Circuit /County Court	www.pinellasclerk.org	727-464-7000

Animal Services

Humane Society of Pinellas	www.humanesocietyofpinellas.org	727-797-7722
Pinellas County Animal Services		727-582-2600
SPCA	www.spcatampabay.org	727-391-6211
Seaside Seabird Sanctuary Rescue	www.seabirdsanctuary.com	727-391-6211
Clearwater Marine Aquarium	www.seewinter.ocm	727-441-1790
Florida Fish and Wildlife	www.myfwc.com	850-488-4676

State of Florida

General Information		866-693-6748
Dept of Business/Professional Regulation	www.myfloridalicnse.com	850-487-1395
Unemployment Compensation	www.fluidnow.com	800-204-2418