



Red Tide is back! Our first episode since 2018 – conditions can change daily...

Town Initiatives – Snapshot

Red Tide Conditions and Town Response. The Town’s canals and beaches started seeing fish kill related to red tide on Friday, July 9. Staff has been actively monitoring conditions, doing outreach to residents about the impacts of red tide locally, and deploying to clean beaches and canals when conditions warrant. Red tide impacts can be very frustrating to our residents and visitors. Wind conditions and tidal flushing has helped keep fish accumulations at light to moderate levels locally. Check our website (www.longboatkey.org) for information or call 941-316-1988.

COVID-19. Yes, it is really month 17 (497 days) of COVID-19. The Florida Department of Health reports that 99% of our residents are vaccinated. The number of positive cases has spiked in the past 30 days. Currently the Town has 7 active cases within the past 14 days so we urge everyone to remain vigilant and continue the safe practices which have served our community well thus far. The numbers are much higher on the mainland- don’t let your guard down. Thank you for continuing to be careful, and also taking advantage of the various ways to receive the vaccine.

Extreme Heat AND Severe Weather Events. For heat, hydrate, hydrate, hydrate! Try to schedule outdoor work, exercise, and sports during morning and late afternoon hours. Remember, the 2021 Hurricane Season climbs to its peak in August/September. Review your disaster plan, check your to-go supply kit to ensure you have everything organized *before its needed!* Identify an evacuation location – public sheltering is a last resort. If you haven’t signed up for Alert Longboat Key’s emergency notification system- please, do it now – e-mail sphillips@longboatkey.org

Noise enforcement. At the July 2, Regular Meeting, the Commission strengthened our existing Ordinance by empowering the Town’s Special Magistrate to hear appeals and impose penalties. They also passed a Resolution setting the fine amounts. Our Police Department is coordinating with the Manatee County Sheriff for marine patrol of the North end of the island to help monitor the area, respond to complaints, and enhance enforcement on the water.

Utilities Undergrounding. Work is wrapping up in Phase 1 (Country Club Shores area) with 94% single-family conversions completed and the rest anticipated in early August. Poles on seven of the ten streets in CC Shores IV and V have been stripped of equipment, with poles removed from Putting Green and Birdie Lanes. Phase 2 work on the North end continues in the Sleepy Lagoon neighborhood, and work on Phase 3 in the GMD corridor has progressed as far North as 3500 block of GMD (Dock on the Bay) and working toward the Bayport area. Fiber conduit work in Bay Isles & Harbourside area are wrapping up. The project remains on schedule and under budget.

North End 5 Groin Project continues. Groin construction continues on the North end and should wrap up by September. As the groins are completed they will be backfilled with sand. Some of the parking on North Shore Road will be limited in early mid-August while the contractor sets up for the planned work. The dredge arrives August 12 with sand placement beginning around August 14. Visit <http://olsen-associates.com/lbk2021/> for updates.

Fire Stations. Both projects are winding down this month. Grand Opening for the new South Fire Station (Station 92) is August 11 at 10:00 AM. Seating is limited. Thanks to our firefighters and public for their patience during construction. A smaller ceremony will be held later in the month for the renovated North Fire Station (Station 91).

Stage for the Town Center Green. Hoyt Architects is working on the design of a permanent stage for the outdoor venue that will be reviewed with the Commission in September. The Commission has asked the Longboat Key Foundation to assist with fundraising efforts.

Outreach to High-Rise Condominiums & Older Multi-family Structures. Following the tragic collapse of the Champlain Towers South in Surfside, the Town reached out to representatives of our high-rise condominiums, and multi-family structures, particularly those built before 1980. It is critically important to have structural engineering inspections, and to act on any deficiencies, or damage in a time-sensitive manner. Town staff can help identify professional engineering resources for those inspections, or advise on follow-up measures that may be needed.

Upcoming Public Meetings/Events

- August 9, 2021 10:00 am Special Magistrate (In-person)
- August 19, 2021 9:30 am Zoning Board of Adjustment (In-person)
- August 20, 2021 9:00 am Consolidated Retirement System Board of Trustees

Fast Fact

94,034 pounds of dead sea life collected, and hauled away during 2018 red tide event!