

SUNSHINE LINES

MAY 2026

BEAUTIFUL NEWS FROM BAY TO BEACH



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS DAY

Residents are invited to prepare for storm season at Hurricane Preparedness Day 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 30, at the North Greenwood Recreation Center, 900 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. The free event is hosted by Pinellas County Emergency Management and the city of Clearwater.

Attendees can receive free hurricane kit supplies, look up evacuation zones and register for the Special Needs Evacuation Program. Demonstrations will include emergency shelter setup and sandbag use, along with access to recovery resources, business support services and free disaster legal aid.

The event will also offer free pet services with the purchase of a county license, including exams, rabies vaccinations and microchipping. OneBlood will host a blood drive, and donors will receive a \$20 gift card.

Families can explore emergency response vehicles, visit a kids' hurricane education zone and enjoy free hot dogs and chips provided by the Salvation Army.



WATER MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

May 18 through June 6, 2026

Each year, Pinellas County's drinking water distribution system temporarily switches its water treatment method from chloramines to chlorine. Clearwater customers are affected because the city buys some of its water from Pinellas County.

People who are sensitive to chlorine may notice a stronger smell or taste during this temporary change in our water disinfecting process. Users of kidney dialysis machines and owners of aquatic life should contact their respective service providers for additional guidance.

These simple steps may minimize chlorine odor or taste:

- Run the tap for a few moments before using it.
- Fill a pitcher of water and let it sit for several hours to allow any residual chlorine to dissipate.
- Consider installing a carbon filter on kitchen/bathroom faucets or shower heads or replacing existing filters with new ones.

Your water is safe to drink and meets all federal and state drinking water standards. Call Clearwater Public Utilities at (727) 562-4960 with questions.



JOIN US FOR THE 2026 HOPE EXPO!

The 2026 HOPE Expo will take place 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 27, at the Raymond James Financial Center, 800 Carillon Parkway, Tower 2, in St. Petersburg. The event is free and open to anyone interested in buying a home. Free lunch will be provided for all attendees.

Participants can attend workshops and explore an exhibit hall featuring more than 30 exhibitors representing every stage of the homebuying process. Workshops will be offered in both English and Spanish and will cover key topics to help answer common questions about purchasing a home. Attendance is required to receive a certificate for down payment assistance programs for qualifying homebuyers. Learn more at HopeExpo.org



SIGN UP TO ADOPT A DRAIN IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NOW!

Clearwater has launched the Adopt-A-Drain Program. Now, residents can “adopt” storm drains in their neighborhood and work alongside city staff to keep the community clean and resilient. It’s a simple way to care for your neighborhood while helping reduce local flooding and protect our waterways. Small actions, taken together, create meaningful change. Volunteer supplies are provided, while supplies last.

This program is made possible by the Bay Mini Grants and the Stormwater Education & Outreach Grant. Visit MyClearwater.com/Stormwater



UNEARTH A STORY THIS SUMMER AT CLEARWATER LIBRARIES

The Clearwater Public Library System will launch its 2026 Summer Reading Program, “Unearth a Story,” June 1 through July 31. The program is open to readers of all ages, including children, teens and adults.

Participants are encouraged to explore new books, discover local history and take part in library events throughout the summer. The program features themed activities, interactive programs and incentives to keep readers engaged.

Registration opens June 1 at all Clearwater library locations and online. Participants can track their reading, earn prizes and attend special events.

Go to MyClearwaterLibrary.com to sign up, or visit your nearest Clearwater library location.



IT'S TIME TO SWITCH TO TANKLESS

If your gas water heater is aging, now may be a good time to consider switching to a tankless model. Gas tankless water heaters are compact and can reduce energy use by up to 37 percent compared with traditional tank units.

For more information about residential water heater energy rebates, call (727) 562-4980 or visit CGSEnergy.org



RECYCLING AEROSOL CANS

Aerosol cans are accepted for recycling by the city of Clearwater. To ensure safe processing, all cans must be completely empty, unpunctured and not crushed before being placed in recycling bins. For more information on recycling visit MyClearwater.com/Recycling

EVENTS

Clearwater Honor Fest

May 25, 6:30 p.m.
Crest Lake Park

Salsa & Bachata at the District

May 30 and June 27, 6 to 11 p.m.
400 Cleveland St.

Father's Day Cookout

June 10, 1 to 4 p.m.
Morningside Recreation Center

The Market Marie

June 13, 10 a.m.
Coachman Park

Juneteenth

June 19, All city offices are closed

Billy Currington

June 20, 7 p.m.
The BayCare Sound

Hope Expo

June 27 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Raymond James Financial Center

Hurricane Preparedness Expo

The event focuses on supporting the Spanish-speaking community, but all are welcome.
June 27, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
East Library @ SPC

Your Leadership Team

MAYOR	CITY MANAGER	INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY
Bruce Rector	Jennifer Poirrier	Owen Kohler
COUNCILMEMBERS		
David Allbritton	Michael Mannino	
Ryan Cotton	Lina Teixeira	

For information, call (727) 562-4682.

Sunshine Lines is produced by the city of Clearwater Public Communications Department.

MyClearwater.com