

CITY GOVERNMENT INFO BITS

January 2010

Protect your family, our water resources, and the St. Lucie River from Household Hazardous Waste

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Certain paints, cleaners, stains and varnishes, car batteries, motor oil, and pesticides ~ all things we use and dispose of, are products which contain hazardous components. The unused contents of these products are known as "household hazardous waste." These are not things that you just throw in the garbage, pour down the drain, on the ground or into storm sewers.

What are the dangers of improper disposal?

Certain types of household hazardous waste have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers if placed in the trash. Others contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down the drain or toilets. And almost all are dangerous to children and pets if left around the home.

Reduce and Recycle

One way to reduce the risks associated with household hazardous waste is to use only what's necessary to accomplish the task at hand. This can be done by reducing the amount and/or toxicity of the products you choose to use. If you use products with hazardous components, use only what you need to get the job done and follow all label directions for the use and disposal of the product. Some types of household hazardous waste can actually be recycled. This includes used automotive batteries and motor oil. Others, such as acetone, aerosol cans, household batteries, cleaners, fluorescent bulbs, furniture strippers, lubricants, polishes, pesticides, used motor oil, solvents, and weed killer can be disposed of at household hazardous waste sites. (Hazardous waste materials that cannot be accepted are gasoline, tires, pressurized gasses, and white goods/appliances.)

For Stuart residents, Martin County provides the Hazmobile, a mobile household hazardous waste collection vehicle. It is at the Public Safety Building at 800 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. on the second Wednesday of every month from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. There is no charge to use the Hazmobile to get rid of your household hazardous waste.

Martin County provides small business owners with collection events twice a year in the spring and winter. For additional information on Household Hazardous Waste visit the City's web site at www.cityofstuart.us.

You, too, can be a guardian of the river

Stormwater runoff mixes with a variety of pollutants that cause serious harm to our canals and rivers. Each of us contributes to stormwater run-off pollution and each of us can help prevent pollutants from entering the canals and rivers by following a few simple guidelines:

- **Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly;** more is not better. Overuse of these products can contribute to fish kills, and promote growth of algae and aquatic weeds in our waterways.
- **Recycle used vehicle fluids.** If poured into storm drains, these can kill aquatic life and also increase the cost of treating drinking water. One gallon of oil can contaminate one million gallons of water!
- **Keep yard waste and trash away from storm drains and waterways.** These materials can block the flow of stormwater which can cause flooding of neighborhoods.
- **Blow grass clippings back onto lawns and away from streets and storm drains.** Grass clippings carry nutrients that may promote the growth of algae and aquatic weeds.
- **Pick up after your pet.** Pet waste contains harmful bacteria that can be carried through the storm drain system and into our waterways and may even contribute to beach closings.

If you see soil being tracked onto roadways or muddy water running into storm drains from construction sites, contact the City's Stormwater Specialist at 600-1264. The amount of pollution that you stop may seem small but together it all adds up to a cleaner, healthier environment for everyone.

A final note: Intentionally dumping pollutants into storm drains and waterways is not only harmful, it is illegal and violators can be fined. To report a pollution source or illegal dumping, call the Stormwater Pollution Hotline available 24 hours a day at 600-1260.



From: Griffin, William
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 11:12 AM
To: Corey, Nickolos
Subject: RE: January InfoBits

Thank you Nick

From: Corey, Nickolos
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 11:08 AM
To: Griffin, William
Subject: Re: January InfoBits

Just over 5100 bills were sent out in January.

Thanks.

Nick.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 16, 2010, at 11:04 AM, "Griffin, William" <wgriffin@ci.stuart.fl.us> wrote:

Nick,

How many InfoBit flyers were sent out with the January 2010 utility bills?

Thanks,

Bill Griffin

CITY GOVERNMENT INFO BITS

July 2011

Free Summer Movie Series is Back!

The City of Stuart CRA is once again sponsoring the 3rd Annual Free Summer Movie Series at the Lyric Theatre. The movies are free of charge and will show on the weekends throughout the month of August. Come enjoy the following classical favorites:

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|---------------------------|--|--|
| • Guys and Dolls | Sat., August 13 th - 3 p.m. | Sun., August 14 th - 5 p.m. |
| • The Outsiders | Sat., August 13 th - 7 p.m. | Sun., August 14 th - 2 p.m. |
| • Meet Me in St. Louis | Sat., August 20 th - 4 p.m. | Sun., August 21 st - 5 p.m. |
| • The Old Man and the Sea | Sat., August 20 th - 7 p.m. | Sun., August 21 st - 2 p.m. |
| • Gone with the Wind | Sat., August 27 th - 2 p.m. | Sun., August 28 th - 2 p.m. |



Tickets are available at the Lyric Theatre Box Office only and limited to four per person, subject to availability. For additional information, call the Lyric Theatre at 286-7827. Enjoy!

Pet Waste and Stormwater Pollution

Not only can pet waste be a nuisance, but if left abandoned on the ground, it can also be harmful to our environment. Pet owners are encouraged to pick up after their pets. Proper disposal of pet waste is to collect it in a biodegradable bag, seal it securely and dispose of the bag in a trash can or a can reserved for pet waste. The City of Stuart has "Doggie Pots" in many locations throughout the City that provide biodegradable plastic bags for your convenience to collect your pet's waste.



Pet waste pollution facts:

- Rainwater can collect and deposit pet waste from every street, parking lot, sidewalk, drive-way, yard or garden into a storm drain or catch basin that drains to the nearest body of water.
- Pet waste contains nutrients that can promote the growth of algae in the St. Lucie River.
- Pet waste contains bacteria and disease-causing parasites that can make nearby waterways unsafe for fishing, wading, and swimming after storms and can infect other pets or humans who come in contact with it.
- In areas with very porous soils, pet waste can also reach groundwater that is used for drinking water. (Never hose pet waste into the ground or use it as fertilizer. It can find its way into ground water sources.)

National River Cleanup a Success!

On June 4th, Mayor Jeffery Krauskopf, along with several City employees and residents volunteered for the National River Cleanup and successfully removed 1,220 lbs. of trash from the St. Lucie River and area creeks. This annual event continues to represent the City and its resident's dedication to protecting our local waterways. Visit www.cityofstuart.us for event photos!