In The News



June 2021

Patricia Jackson, City Manager patricia.jackson@mypolkcity.org

Mayor Joe LaCascia joe.lacascia@mypolkcity.org
Commissioner Michael T. Blethen michael.blethen@mypolkcity.org
Commissioner Randy Carroll randy.carroll@mypolkcity.org

Vice Mayor Don Kimsey <u>don.kimsey@mypolkcity.org</u> Commissioner Wayne Harper<u>wayne.harper@mypolkcity.org</u>

For an appointment with any City Commissioner or the City Manager, please call 863-984-1375 x 238 City Commission Meetings are the **3rd Monday** each month at 7:00 pm

Recap of May 17, 2021 City Commission Meeting

- 1. Citrus Hill Drive Water Main Project Purchase of Materials Approved
- 2. Redistricting Follow-up with Supervisor of Elections Office

Planning Commission Vacancy

Polk City's Planning Commission has two (2) Alternate vacancies. The Planning Commission has jurisdiction over those matters set forth in Chapter 8.03.00 of Polk City's Unified Land Development Code (Planning, Land Use and Zoning) and makes recommendations of those matters to the City Commission. If interested, please complete a volunteer application and review the full qualifications on Polk City's website – www.mypolkcity.org. Applications are being accepted until the positions are filled. The application can be submitted to Kathy Delp–Kathy.delp@mypolkcity.org or Sheandolen Dunn–sheandolen.dunn@mypolkcity.org at City Hall or via email.

Changes to Yard Waste Day

POLK CITY RESIDENTS: YOUR YARD WASTE SERVICE DAY IS CHANGING

Dear Valued Customer,

In order to more effectively provide service in your area, we will be changing your yard waste service day. Beginning the week of JUNE 7, 2021,, your YARD WASTE service day is changing to:

Tuesday

Your recycling, trash and bulk waste collection days will not change.

For customer service, please call Republic Services® at **863.665.1489**.

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We'll handle it from here."

Protecting Cur Stormwater

WHAT IS AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE?

An illicit discharge is "any discharge into a municipal storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of Stormwater". Some pollutants that fall into this broad category are:

- Car wash wastewater
- ► Gas and motor oil
- Grass clippings
- ▶ Household cleaners and solvents
- ▶ Pet waste
- Pesticides and weed killers

FIVE EASY WAYS THAT YOU CAN KEEP ILLICIT DISCHARGES OUT OF POLK CITY'S LAKES:

- 1. Recycle used oil, antifreeze and batteries. Clean up spills immediately. Kitty litter or sawdust will absorb the spill but be sure to sweep these up as well.
- 2. Wash your car on the grass so that the water, detergent, and dirt will be filtered by the soil. This will also help conserve water, as it will be serving multiple purposes.
- 3. Empty bottles of household cleaners, pesticides, and weed killer should be disposed of according to label directions.
- 4. Grass clippings in the street should be swept up after each mowing to prevent them from being washed down into the storm sewers.
- 5. Many household products, including paints, paint thinners, and solvents can be taken to the Polk County Landfill. Paint brushes used with water-based paint can be rinsed out in the sink. If you have a little paint left over in the can, stuff it loosely with newspaper for the paint to dry out completely, and put the can in the trash.

Polk Fire Rescue Ussues Burn Ban

Bartow, Fla. (May 27, 2021) — Due to lack of rain, Polk County has experienced dry weather conditions for an extensive period of time, therefore Polk County Fire Rescue has issued a burn ban. The increase in risk of brush fires and uncontrolled fires are a threat to the public health, safety and general welfare of Polk County. There are also no signs of abatement of these dangerous fire conditions anytime soon.

The burn ban includes, but is not limited to: Campfires, Bonfires, Unpermitted controlled burns, burning of yard and household trash, burning of construction debris, burning of organic debris, Igniting of fireworks, non-commercial burning of material other than for religious or ceremonial purposes which is not contained in a barbecue grill or barbecue pit and the total fuel area does not exceed 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.

"We have held off as long as we possibly can on issuing this burn ban," said Fire Chief Rob Weech. "But conditions are favorable for the rapid development and spread of brush fires and we need to take every step necessary to ensure the safety of everyone. We also don't want anyone to lose property or investments due to fire."

Currently the average on the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) for Polk County is at 508 with a minimum of 420 and a maximum of 597. The KBDI index is used as an indicator to determine the likelihood and severity of brush fires. While high KBDI values are an indication that conditions are favorable for the occurrence and spread of wildfires, drought is not by itself a prerequisite for such fires. Other weather factors, such as wind, temperature, relative humidity and atmospheric stability, play a major role in determining the actual fire danger. The burn ban applies to all unincorporated Polk and all municipalities except Lake Wales.

Anyone who refuses to comply or violates this burn ban shall be in violation of County Ordinance 08-015 and can be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500 or by imprisonment by a term not to exceed 60 days in the county jail or both.

Vpcoming fvents in Polk City

FEEDING POLK CITY

Date/Time: Monthly, every 2nd & 4th Saturday, 10:00 a.m. (Saturday, June 12 and 26, 2021)

Venue: Donald Bronson Community Center, 124 Bronson Trail, Polk City, FL 33868

In collaboration with Feeding Tampa Bay and The City of Polk City, Central Florida Health Care is providing a week's worth of food to local families in the Polk County community. **Available on a first come, first serve basis, while supplies last.**

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Date/Time: Saturday, June 19, 2021; 3 pm – 8 pm **Venue:** Freedom Park, Berkley Road, Polk City, Florida

A Day of Recognition Restoration Celebration. Come join us for this free event to celebrate African Americans freedom. This is a time for historical reflection, uplifting musical performances, poetic spoken word, enjoy food fun and more!

Congratulations

On behalf of the Polk City Commission and Staff, congratulations to the 2021 graduates. We wish you the very best in the next chapter of your life's journey.

