

Kaleidoscope

Don't be on the fence when it comes to permits

It's time for spring cleaning and if part of your chores include maintenance, repair or replacement of your existing fence, then the following information will help you take the proper actions before you start work.



If you're looking to replace wooden or vinyl slats, chain link or horizontal cross braces of an existing fence, you do not need a permit. The elevation of the new slats or fence sections shall not exceed the height of the pre-existing fence. In areas where the fence abuts an existing right of way, the city would prefer that the smooth side of the fence face the right of way.

Removing and/or replacing support poles of an existing fence requires a permit from the Altamonte Springs Building/Fire Safety Division. To obtain a fence permit you will need a current copy of your lot survey, written permission from your Homeowners Association, where applicable, and an estimated cost of the repairs. The permit cost for fence replacement is based on the estimated cost needed to complete repairs.

Permits can be obtained from the Altamonte Springs Building/Fire Safety Division, located in the Annex Building between the Police Department and City Hall at 225 Newburyport Avenue. For further information please contact us at 407-571-8433.

Who Has the Best Tasting Water in Central Florida? Altamonte Springs!

The City of Altamonte Springs competed with five central Florida utilities—Orlando Utilities Commission, Seminole County, Orange County, Winter Park, and the City of Palm Bay—in the annual **Best Tasting Water in Central Florida Competition**. The event was held February 23, 2005, and was sponsored by the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association Region III. Water samples were judged for clarity, color, smell and taste.

We are extremely proud and pleased to announce that the City of Altamonte Springs' water was deemed to be the highest quality and was awarded first place for the **Best Tasting Drinking Water in Central Florida**.

Michelle Meredith, WESH-TV, Channel 2 news reporter and one of the competition judges, proclaimed Altamonte Springs water "as smooth as butter" during an evening newscast.



The City of Altamonte Springs has advanced to the State's Best Tasting Drinking Water competition, to be held later this year in Tallahassee.

Did You Know?

Before cutting a tree, an arbor permit is required. For more information, call the Building/Fire & Safety Division at 407-571-8433.

An Occupational License is required to conduct business in the City of Altamonte Springs. License applications are available on the city's web site, www.altamonte.org. Under "City Departments" click on "City Clerk." Once at the City Clerk's page, click on the hyperlink "Occupational Licenses." Questions? Please call 407-571-8118.

Persons wishing to go door-to-door in the city's residential areas soliciting sales, services, surveys, etc., must secure a solicitors permit from the City Clerk's office. Call 407-571-8118 for more details.

Citizens of Altamonte Springs can participate in shaping the future of our community by serving on a city board. Applications are available on the city's web site, www.altamonte.org. Go to "City Departments" and click on "City Clerk," then click on the "City Boards" hyperlink. If you need additional information, please call 407-571-8121.



BOATING SAFETY

Summer is just around the corner and so might be an outing on your favorite lake. Before you pack the cooler for a picnic on the water, take a few minutes to brush up on your boating safety.



Boats are defined, by City ordinance, as “rafts, skiffs, kayaks, dredges, canoes, dinghies, dugouts, sailboats, motorboats and every other device used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.” In other words, if it floats and can carry a person, it’s regulated. A motorboat is defined as “any boat that is propelled or powered by any mechanical device.”

TIPS FOR SAFE OUTINGS

- ☛ Every boat must carry at least one United States Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board.
- ☛ The flotation device must be serviceable, readily accessible and the appropriate size for the intended wearer.
- ☛ If your boat is over 16 feet in length, it must carry one type IV throwable PFD in addition to each PFD you have for each person on board or being towed.
- ☛ All boats must have an approved audible warning device and all motorboats must carry a fire extinguisher rated at least to B-1.
- ☛ Boats under 14 feet must carry an alternate source of propulsion whether manual (at least one paddle) or electrical.
- ☛ Internal combustion engines must be effectively muffled to reduce noise to a reasonable level.

COMMON NAVIGATIONAL RULES

Boats operating at greater than idle speeds must remain no less than 75 feet from any dock or shoreline. Obey NO WAKE and SLOW SPEED zones.

All boats engaged in skiing, cruising or general use must operate in a counter clockwise direction.

A power-driven boat under way shall give way to a boat not under way, a boat restricted in ability (canoe, rowboat, kayak, etc.), a boat engaged in fishing and sailboats. In other words, non-powered boats, or those fishing, generally have the right-of-way.

If fishing, stay as far as reasonable from the normal path of traffic, channels, ramps and swimming.

Boats under way at night must display lights as required in marine navigation and those stationary must display a white light visible 360 degrees.

It is unlawful for any operator or passenger to have in their possession any alcoholic beverage when occupying any boat within the city limits.



The city boat ramp at Lake Orienta is open from sunrise to sunset. When launching your boat, be considerate of others waiting. Be loaded and ready to go when you launch. Park your vehicle and trailer in the designated parking area. Remember, other boaters will need room to park, too!

Wise Watering Practices

Water is a valuable resource and should not be squandered. When watering most lawns, 1/2" to 1" of water twice a week is more than sufficient to keep grass healthy and green. The length of time an average irrigation system needs to operate to achieve 1" of coverage is approximately 30 to 45 minutes per zone. To obtain a more accurate measure of how much water your irrigation system dispenses, place several empty cans around your yard and turn on your system.

Monitor the time required to achieve an average of 1" of water in each can. This will be the time required for each irrigation period, per zone.

Watering more than is necessary—and twice a week should be sufficient—can actually harm your lawn and plants and promote weed growth.

When do you water?

Residential and commercial watering is allowed only two days a week, but **NOT** between 10AM and 4PM. Odd-numbered addresses may water Wednesday and Saturday. Even-numbered or areas with no addresses may water Thursday and Sunday. New landscaping may be watered on any day for the first 30 days after planting, but not between 10AM and 4PM and only after receiving an exemption.

To apply for an exemption, please contact the Public Works Department at 407-571-8340.

For a complete list of water restrictions, please visit the city's website at www.altamonte.org.

