

HELENE/MILTON UPDATE 11/22

(Please see previous updates for additional important information)

All updates available on townofnrb.com

From Randy Spears

Safebuilt, the Building Department for North Redington Beach understands the aftermath of two recent hurricanes has created a challenging situation in your community. Please know that Safebuilt is working diligently to help residents and businesses recover as quickly as possible.

Since the storm, Safebuilt has received 180 permit requests, accounting to 900% more than a typical month. Despite the surge of incoming permits, our team is dedicated to processing the requests daily. We are also utilizing remote staff to help streamline operations. To expedite this process we have added two additional permit techs, are in the process of adding one more resulting in a total of 5 permit techs available to handle the increased volume. We have also hired an additional electrical inspector who will be coming aboard shortly.

Additionally, we are gradually receiving Substantial Damage Determination data twice a week from the county. As soon as the data is reviewed, letters will be sent out. The first batch was sent out 11/15/24. A total of 21 letters have been received and delivered to residents. No new data has been received from the inspectors this week, however we are constantly checking for new calculations to be downloaded. Of the 21 letters issued, only 3 have submitted for permits. Two demolition permits have also been issued, which did not require a substantial damage letter.

To help us serve you better, we encourage you to use our online portal at CommnityCore.com. This platform allows you to easily apply for permits and track their status from start to finish.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we navigate this challenging time together. Our staff is here to support you and is doing

everything possible to get permits approved and work underway quickly. Thank you for your continued patience. Questions? Call 727-202-6825 or email Redington@safebuilt.com

Thank You,
Randy Spears
Building Official
North Redington Beach FL

Substantial Damage Clarification from Pinellas County

As there has been much confusion and misinformation around the substantial damage process, we would like to pass along information received from the county today. Many people are contacting the county believing they are involved in the processing of substantial damage letters. They have requested we clarify the process. The county is not involved in the process for municipalities, except for working with the state to provide the damage inspectors. Once the inspections are completed, they are entered by the contracted inspectors and the calculations are uploaded to the city/town building official. The local building official then issues the letters. If you have questions regarding the letters or if your letter says your property is substantially damaged, those questions need to be directed to Safebuilt.

Final Storm Clean Up

I have been working this week with the State to engage a company that will come in and do a final cleaning of the town now that our final debris run is complete. They will remove the sand piles along Gulf Blvd, travel our back streets and remove residual debris left from large debris piles then sweep our streets and curbs. We hope to see them start within the next couple of days and they estimate it will be 2-3 weeks for completion. I know we are all looking forward to seeing the last bit of Helene debris removed.

Mobile Hibachi Dinner

The meals provided by Fluffy's Mobile Hibachi (www.floridahibachi.com)

yesterday evening were excellent. Many people enjoyed the dinners and was very appreciative to everyone involved. They will be back to provide another round of free meals in the town hall parking lot on Wednesday, December 11th from 4:00 til 8:00 pm. Much thanks to the anonymous sponsor of these meals.

Pinellas County Utilities Storm Related Update

We have received several calls from residents asking about a reduction on their water bill when refilling their pools. They were advised to call us after contacting Pinellas County Utilities, however, this was incorrect. All water charges are controlled by the county as they own the system. We contacted the utility department for clarification and they informed us that at this time they are not crediting for pool refills. However, they have other processes in place that can help following the storms. Below is the letter they provided outlining those processes:

We understand that many of our customers have been impacted by Hurricane Helene and are currently preparing for Hurricane Milton. Pinellas County Utilities is taking the following steps to assist you with your utility bill:

Impacted Utility Customer Registry

We have created a registry documenting hurricane-related impacts affecting account holders to easily track repairs on their water, sewer, or reclaimed water systems. The Account Owner must call Pinellas County Utilities to request being added to the registry.

Financial Hardship Assistance

We are also offering flexible payment options to help you pay your utility bill. Please call Customer Service at (727) 464-4000 or email us at custsrv@pinellas.gov to learn more. You can also visit pinellas.gov/utilities or log in to your utilities Customer Portal.

Late Fees and Account Turn-Offs Due to Delinquent Accounts Suspended

- *All late fees and delinquent account deactivations are suspended through January 1, 2025.*
- *We will waive the reconnection fee(s) for both potable water and reclaimed water services (if applicable).*

Plumbing Leaks & Pool Fill Adjustments

- *Plumbing Leaks: If you experienced a leak at your property due to hurricane damage and have had it repaired, we are offering an Administrative Adjustment to help lower costs.*
- *Swimming Pool Fill: If you need to drain and refill your swimming pool due to saltwater intrusion or damage, we will credit the sewer and conservation fees associated with refilling.*

Thank you for being a valued customer.

Sincerely,

Pinellas County Utilities

Household Chemical Collection Reminder

Pinellas County Solid Waste will host the final household chemical collection events on the barrier islands this Saturday.

- Saturday, November 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Belleair Causeway Boat Ramp: [3900 West Bay Drive, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770](#)

• A government-issued ID will be required and scanned to verify Pinellas County residency. For a list of accepted materials and quantity limits, visit [Pinellas.gov/hhw](#).

Where can I find additional information?

For updated important information, please visit Pinellas County's Emergency Management website for a full list of resources at:

<https://pinellas.gov/emergency-information/>

Please see previous updates at townofnrb.com for additional town specific information