

Ocean Ridge Tidings

A monthly e-newsletter for the residents of Ocean Ridge, Florida



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMISSIONER DE HASETH

MAGICAL!

On July 18th, 69 early hatchlings were spotted at McCormick Mile Beach Club.

REMINDER

Trim your coconut trees by August 15!

Town Ordinance 2019-11 passed on July 1, please see page 13 for ordinance details.



General Information

6450 N. Ocean Blvd.,
Ocean Ridge, FL 33435
www.oceanridgeflorida.com

@OceanRidgeFL - Twitter
OceanRidgeFL—Facebook

Town Hall

561-732-2635 (main) ♦ 561-737-8359 (fax)
561-732-ORFL (Citizen Information Line)
General Email: info@oceanridgeflorida.com
Town Hall Hours: 8:30am-3:00pm

Police

Non-emergency: 561-732-8331
Emergency: 9-1-1
Public Records Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Town Administrative Officials

Acting Town Manager

Tracey Stevens
tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Clerk

Tracey Stevens
tstevens@oceanridgeflorida.com

Police Chief

Hal Hutchins
hhutchins@oceanridgeflorida.com

Building Official

Wayne Cameron
wcameron@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Commission

Mayor

Steve Coz
scoz@oceanridgeflorida.com

Vice Mayor

Don MaGruder
dmagruder@oceanridgeflorida.com

Commissioners

Phil Besler
pbesler@oceanridgeflorida.com

Kristine de Haseth
kdehaseth@oceanridgeflorida.com

Susan Hurlburt
shurlburt@oceanridgeflorida.com

Numbers to Know

EMERGENCY

Police, Fire, Ambulance 911

NON-EMERGENCY

Ocean Ridge Police Dept. 561-732-8331
Boynton Beach Fire Dept. 561-742-6600

TOWN HALL

Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Mgr. 561-732-2635
Fax 561-737-8359

OTHERS

Abuse Hotline 800-962-2873
Animal Control 561-233-1200
Army Corp of Engineers 561-683-1577
Beach Conditions 561-966-6600
Boynton Beach City Hall 561-742-6000
Boynton Beach Water Dept. 561-742-6300
Clarke Environmental Services 800-203-6485
Comcast 800-266-2278
Declare Domicile 561-355-2962
Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 561-245-2118
DEP—Christian Lambert 561-313-9007
Dept. of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 561-681-6333
Elder Affairs 866-882-2991
FEMA 800-621-3362
FL Dept. of Transportation (DOT) 866-374-3368
FL Dept. of Transportation Traffic Line 511
Florida Fish & Wildlife Comm. 888-404-FWCC
Florida Power & Light (FPL) 561-697-8000
Florida Power & Light (report outage) 800-4-OUTAGE
Marriage Licenses & Ceremonies 561-355-2986
Oceanfront Park Beach Conditions 561-742-6775
Oceanfront Park Events/Weddings 561-742-6240
Palm Beach County Building Dept. 561-233-5100
Palm Beach County EOC 561-712-6400
Palm Beach County Health Dept 561-840-4500
Palm Beach County Inspector General 877-283-7068
Palm Beach County Mosquito Control 561-642-8775
Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation 561-966-6600
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser 561-355-3230
Palm Beach County Tax Collector 561-355-2266
Palm Beach County White Fly 561-276-1260
Republic Services (trash collection) 561-478-9590
So. FL Water Management 561-686-8800
Solid Waste Authority 561-640-4000
Supervisor of Elections 561-656-6200
Tides 561-742-6776

CLIP AND SAVE!

Calendar of Events

August

- 3: Sand Sifters Beach clean-up begins at 10AM in Oceanfront Park.
- 5: Budget Workshop meeting begins at 2PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 5: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 6: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 8: Septic to Sewer Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting at 9AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 12: Planning & Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8:00AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 31: Sea Angels Beach cleanup from 8AM–10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park.

September

- 2: Labor Day - Town Hall Closed, No Contractor Work, No Inspections
- 3: Code Enforcement Hearing begins at 10AM in the Commission Chambers. (tentative)
- 7: Sand Sifters Beach clean-up begins at 10AM in Oceanfront Park.
- 9: Planning & Zoning Commission meeting begins at 8:00AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 9: Regular Town Commission meeting begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 9: First Public Hearing on the FY20 Budget begins at 6PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 18: Septic to Sewer Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting at 8:30AM in the Commission Chambers.
- 23: Special Town Commission Meeting - Final Public Hearing on the FY20 Budget begins at 5PM in the Commission Chambers.
- 28: Sea Angels Beach cleanup from 8AM–10:30AM at Ocean Inlet Park.

*Agendas, minutes, and updates to the calendar
are available on the town's website and will be posted as they become available.*

Meeting Information

Regular Town Commission meetings are generally held on the first Monday of every month at 6:00pm. Code Enforcement Special Magistrate holds hearing on demand on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. Board of Adjustment meets on demand on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30am and the Planning & Zoning Commission meets on demand on the second Monday of the month at 8:00am. Any special meetings added to the calendar, date and time changes, as well as agendas and minutes will be updated on the Town's website at www.oceanridgeflorida.com and on Twitter @OceanRidgeFL as they occur.

Privacy Policy

The following is the Town's privacy policy that is noted in Town email signatures and a variation is on the Town's website.

"Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from the Town of Ocean Ridge officials and employees regarding public business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may be subject to public disclosure. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. The views expressed in this message may not necessarily reflect those of the Town of Ocean Ridge. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to this message, and please delete it from your computer. Thank you."

Town Manager's Report—August Commission Meeting

Mayor & Commissioners:

The first Septic to Sewer Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting was held on July 15th and it was very well attended by the public. The Town is extremely fortunate to have the caliber of committee members that it does, and I'm confident that the recommendations they will make to the Commission will be made only after thorough investigation and thought. The next committee meeting will be held on August 8th at 9:00 a.m.

A couple of coconut trees were removed on Old Ocean in the right of way near Colonial Ridge due to lethal yellowing/bronzing. Public Works is working with our contractor to hopefully save some of our other trees from lethal yellowing, but some trees may be already too far gone and in need of removal. We will let you know more as soon as the assessment is completed.

The Town recently held an informational session and ice cream social introducing our new Civic Ready citizen alert system. Staff has been working with several residents over the past couple of weeks to make sure they are able to sign up properly. Any resident who is having trouble registering is encouraged to notify us at Town Hall so we can help you through the process.

Respectfully,



Tracey L. Stevens, MMC
Acting Town Manager/Finance Director/Town Clerk

Regular Town Commission Meeting Summary

The following is a list of actions taken at the August 5, 2019 Regular Town Commission Meeting. We hope this helps keep our residents informed in a timely fashion regarding Town Commission and Staff activities.

1. Announcements:

-The next Planning & Zoning Commission meeting will be held on August 12th at 8:00 AM at Town Hall. The next Regular Town Commission meeting will be held on September 9th at 6:00 PM at Town Hall and will include the first public hearing on the budget for FY20. The next Septic to Sewer Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on August 8th at 9:00 AM at Town Hall.

-Town Hall will be closed on Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day.

-The Town has launched a new alert system through Civic Plus. Residents who wish to sign up to receive Town notifications should sign up on the Town's website or call Town Hall for assistance.

2. Adopted the Minutes of the Special Town Commission Meeting of July 1, 2019.

3. Adopted the Minutes of the Regular Town Commission Meeting of July 1, 2019.

4. Adopted the Minutes of the Special Town Commission Meeting of July 15, 2019.

5. Adopted the Third Amendment to the Legal Services Contract.

6. Adopted the Second amendment to the Engineering Contract.

7. Adopted the First Amendment to the Urban Design Kilday Studios Contract.

8. Adopted Resolution No. 2019-11: Adopting Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.

9. Directed the Town Attorney to Negotiate a Town Manager Contract with the Acting Town Manager.

10. Adopted the Updated Job Descriptions of the Town Clerk & Deputy Treasurer and Treasurer & Human Resources Administrator.

11. Authorized the Acting Town Manager to proceed with beautification of the Harbour Drive Island at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.

12. Appointed Commissioner de Haseth as a Member and Commissioner Besler as an Alternate Member to the Issues Forum of the Palm Beach County Intergovernmental Coordination Program.

13. Reduced the Work Without Permit Penalty for Raider Rooter from \$1,200 to \$600.

Community News

Turtle Season—March 1 through October 31 in PBC



Turtle season runs from March 1 through October 31 in Palm Beach County. Throughout the season, Ocean Ridge Tidings may provide you with interesting and informative turtle updates from Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management when available. In addition, there are flyers and small table top signs available at town hall for residents, condo and homeowner associations to display. Supplies are limited.

There are three sea turtle species that nest in Palm Beach County and they are the endangered green and leatherback, and the threatened loggerhead. Artificial lighting may deter females from nesting and can prevent hatchlings from reaching the water. Please adjust or extinguish all beach lighting to protect the turtles laying eggs and nesting on the beaches. Beach furniture and other obstacles on the beach may block access to suitable nesting locations so please remove them as well.

Phone Numbers To Know

- * Report beachfront lighting problems and lighting inquiries to Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (561) 233-2400.
- * Report injured or dead sea turtles to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922).
- * Report violations, harassment or poaching to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Law Enforcement at 1-888-404-FWCC (3922).

You can help the sea turtles by following these tips:

- ♦ Turn off non-essential beachfront lighting.
- ♦ Replace incandescent & fluorescent bulbs with red or amber LED bulbs.
- ♦ Reduce lighting visible from the beach by lowering, shielding, recessing, and/or redirecting fixtures.
- ♦ Use draperies or blinds to reduce interior lighting.

Community



To report Lost & Found
Pets: Call & Email Photo
with Additional Information

Call 561-732-8331
dispatch@oceanridgeflorida.com

Town Commission

Goal Setting & Budget Meeting Schedule

Thurs, Apr 18: Goal Setting Workshop @ 2pm

Thurs, May 30: Budget Workshop: Presentation of 1st Budget Draft & Commissioner Discussion on Budget @ 2pm

Mon, Jul 1: Budget Workshop: Commissioner Discussion @ 2pm

Mon., Jul 1: Regular Town Commission Meeting @ 6pm

Mon, July 15,: Special Meeting: Set Maximum Millage Rate @ 5pm

Mon, Aug 5: Budget Workshop: Commissions to Vote on Finalized Budget for Presentation to the Public @ 2pm

Mon, Aug 5: Regular Town Commission Meeting @ 6pm

Mon, Sep 9: Regular Meeting & 1st Budget Public Hearing Combined @ 6pm

Mon, Sep 23: Special Meeting—Final Public Hearing & Adoption of Budget @ 5pm

Note: The vote to set maximum millage rate needs to occur within 35 days of the certification of values by the

Property Appraiser, which is usually July 1st.

Please alert Acting Town Manager Tracey Stevens before the March 4 meeting if there are any potential conflicts with your personal schedule.

****All Meetings to be Held in the Commission Chambers at Town Hall****

Community News

From the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser:

Filing for homestead exemption just got easier.

Now, the day you close on a home in Palm Beach County, you can **E file** for a homestead exemptions on the Palm Beach County Appraiser Public Access website, ***without the deed.***

When qualifying for a homestead exemption, you will need the following documents for all property owners applying:

- Florida Driver's Licenses or Florida ID (if you don't drive)
- Florida car registration
- Florida Voter's ID (if you vote)
- Immigration documents if not a U.S. citizen

To apply, please visit: www.pbcgov.com/papa - Home Exemption tab > E file



How to Prepare Your Yard for Hurricane Season

(Tips from: Solid Waste Authority– SWA)

Hurricane Season starts June 1, Please see following tips from SWA:

- Cut back all trees and weak branches that could come in contact with buildings before hurricane season
- Have foliage thinned so wind can flow freely through branches, decreasing the chance that trees or plants will be uprooted.
- Containerize small pieces of vegetation, such as pine needles, leaves, twigs, etc. in bags or cans that weigh less than 50 lbs. when full and place at the curb on your scheduled day.
- Clean your yard of any items that could pose a danger to you or your neighbors in hurricane -force winds, such as old lumber, broken lawn furniture, etc., and place them curbside on your bulk waste collection.
- Place vegetative material from routine maintenance at the curb on your regularly scheduled collection day.
- Follow the 6/50 rule: each piece of vegetation cannot exceed 6 ft. in length or 50 lbs. in weight.

For more information, visit: <http://swa.org/151/Hurricane-Information>

EMPLOYEE

Spotlight

Officer Parkerson came to the Ocean Ridge Police Dept. in 2018 as a Police Officer. He has more than 20 years' experience working in Law Enforcement at the State and Federal Level.

He recently moved back to Florida after several years living in Nevada. He enjoys the outdoors, traveling, boating and spending time with family. He enjoys serving the small community of Ocean Ridge and looks forward to getting to know the residents here.

Officer Parkerson enjoys helping the citizens of Ocean Ridge. He works the night and weekend shift so be sure to say hello when you see him around Town!



FROM FPL: Line clearing helps prevent outages

FPL is committed to delivering safe, reliable electric service to our customers. Trees, especially palm trees, can interfere with power lines and are one of the most common causes of power outages and flickers.

FPL's preventative maintenance program annually clears tree limbs and branches that can potentially cause safety issues and power outages from 15,000 miles of power lines. FPL uses "directional pruning" to protect the health of your trees while helping them grow away from power lines. Directional pruning is a professional technique of pruning trees away from power lines by removing entire branches and limbs down to the main trunk of the tree where trees normally shed them. This method directs future tree growth away from the power lines and reduces re-growth.

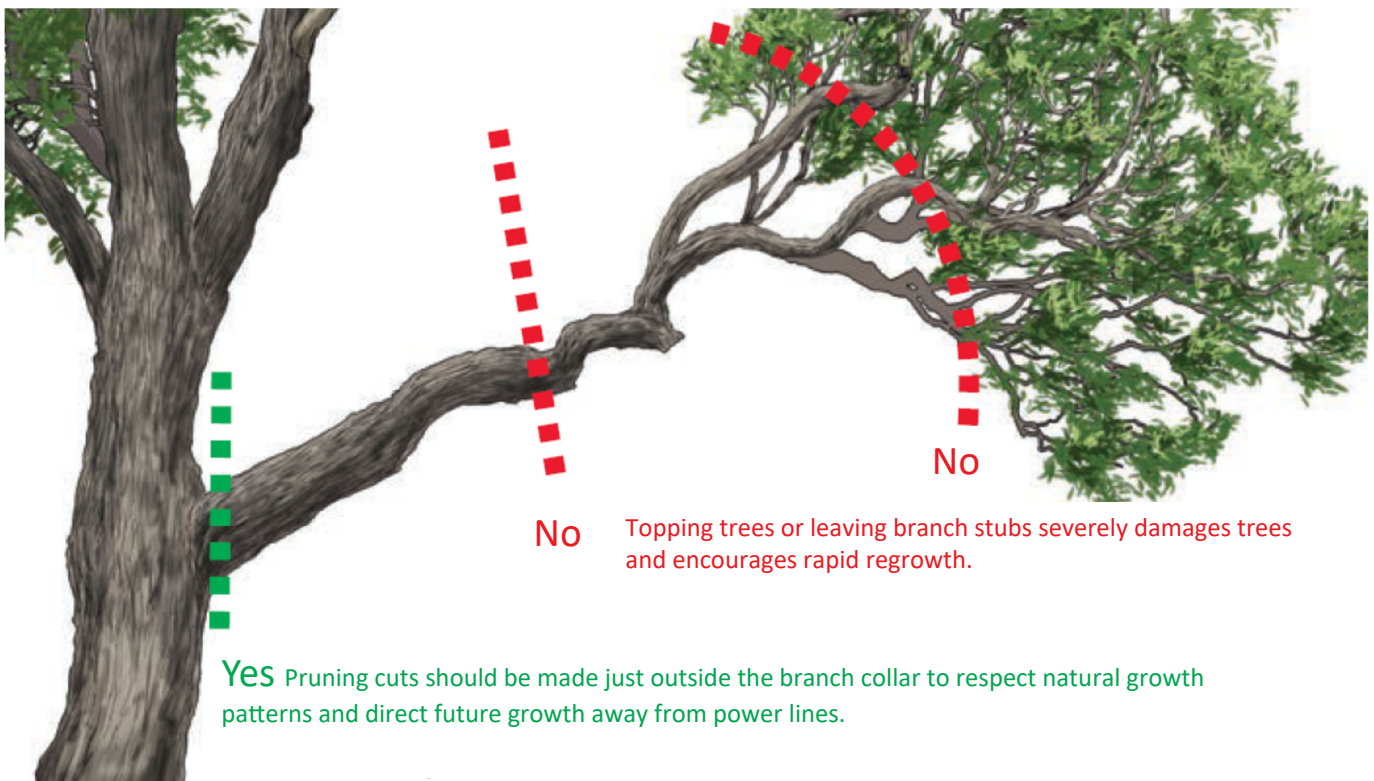
Side-Trim Directional Pruning



Side-Trim Directional Pruning



Proper pruning for tree health



Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place

By selecting the right tree and planting it in the right place, you can help reduce power outages and flickers for you and your neighbors.

Trees come in all shapes and sizes, and often change dramatically over their lifetimes. **Before selecting a tree, make sure you know how tall, wide and deep it will be at maturity.** For a list of recommended trees for your area, please visit FPL.com/trees.

Where you plant your tree is just as important as what type of tree you plant. Blocking an unsightly view or creating some shade may be a priority, but you must also think about your tree's impact on existing utility lines as it grows taller and wider. At maturity, will its canopy reach the overhead lines? Keep in mind that the larger the power pole or structure, the farther back you should plant your tree. Planting trees that will interfere with power lines can jeopardize the reliability of your electric service. Taking the time to consider location now can prevent avoidable power disturbances for years to come.

It's never too late! To correct landscaping missteps of the past, try relocating or removing small trees to prevent future service issues. **No amount of trimming can substitute for smart landscaping and responsible maintenance by property owners.**

Trees in your neighborhood

When landscaping your home or business, remember to:

- » Plant only small trees and shrubs in areas adjacent to power lines.
- » Keep medium and large trees, including palms, at a safe distance from power lines.
- » Keep transformers clear of vegetation at all times.



Ocean Ridge Police Department News

By Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police



THANK YOU!



On behalf of the Palm Beach County Guardian Ad-Litem Program, myself, Officer Boyle and the entire police department, thank you for all of the support in our effort to make sure many less privileged children had school supplies on the first day of school.

The amount of supplies brought to us for delivery to the Guardian Ad-Litem Program filled a full size SUV, with little room left for the driver. This amounted to as many as 150 students receiving a backpack and school supplies for the start of the new school year, which they normally would not have.

Your generosity never ceases to awe us!

Hurricane Season Continues

As we enter the middle of August, we wish to remind everyone that we are approaching the peak of Hurricane Season. Now is not the time to let your guard down.

Your police department and other Town employees are currently reassessing the town for hazards that may affect the safety and wellbeing of our residents should we be faced with a tropical system this year.

As part of our assessment we will again be looking at overgrowth and trees that are in or may affect the utility lines within the town. As such, I must remind you that trees and vegetation emanating from your property are your responsibility to maintain and are expressly prohibited from being in utility lines. (Town Code 66-151)

Sec. 66-151. - Tree permits

b) *Tree removal, replacement, conditions and exemptions*

- (7) *Tree trimming and maintenance.* Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in [chapter 66](#), article IV, all trees shall be trimmed and maintained so as not to come in contact or otherwise obstruct or interfere with power or other utility lines or facilities. Property owners shall be responsible for complying with this subsection with respect to all trees located on their property, on privately granted utility easements for which their property exists as the servient estate and on any adjacent rights of way upon which the property owner has sought permission or a license from the town to plant or maintain landscaping including trees. No permit will be required from the Town for such trimming or maintenance provided, however, that such trimming or maintenance shall comply with the provisions of subsection (6) above.

In addition we will begin placing notices and making personal contact at properties that have yet to comply with **the new coconut trimming ordinance**. If you see that your neighbor has not trimmed, please help us and pass the information to them about this new ordinance.

As always we are working with other Town departments and the utility companies on a regular and continuous basis to address these issues.

In addition, we will continue to monitor the many construction sites throughout the Town for compliance with appearance and maintenance standards, so as not to have loose debris and material being blown about and disrupting the safe travel of our residents.



SCHOOL IS OPEN

School is now in full swing. Please remember to allow extra time in your travels to compensate for the extra traffic and school busses on the roadway.

We remind you that it is required for all traffic, in both directions, to stop for school busses picking up or discharging children when the red lights on the bus are displayed.

Though we have a limited number of children who receive bus service in our community, the cargo that is picked up and transported by school busses is the most important cargo ever transported! Please be mindful of the children awaiting pickup when driving in the area as they may be out very early and may not be easily seen.

REMEMBER: Your Police Department is OPEN 24 HOURS EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR/ RAIN OR SHINE! We are here to assist you! We will always try to help. If we do not have the answer to your question, we will try to assist you in locating the person or agency that does. Feel free to call upon us anytime.

And finally; As Always,

Please report any suspicious person or activity as soon as possible.

REMEMBER

Ocean Ridge Police Department News

Hal C. Hutchins, Chief of Police

Criminal Activity

Here is a listing of significant crime/code enforcement/suspicious activity reported to ORPD in July 2019 for Ocean Ridge:

<u>Type of Incident</u>	<u>Report Date</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Theft	7/3/2019	7/3/2019 @ 12:30 pm	Tropical Drive.	Unattended skateboard reported stolen.
Drug Overdose	7/13/2019	7/13/2019 @ 8:06 pm	Tropical Drive	Accidental drug overdose subject revived by Officers and transported to hospital.
Domestic Dispute	7/24/2019	7/24/2019 @ 11:23 am	Hudson Ave at N. Ocean Blvd.	Verbal dispute on road-side. Parties separated and removed from area.
Fraud	7/24/2019	7/2/2019	5800 Blk N. Ocean Blvd.	Check passed determined to have been altered for fraud.

In addition to the above activity, officers conducted normal traffic, security and code enforcement activities. Traffic stops resulted in discovery and arrest for drugs as well as obstruction by driver.

Please note: The above listed activity is just a snapshot and not a total accounting of the activity officers of your police department engage in on a monthly basis. This snapshot is to help raise awareness and prevent crime thorough information sharing and proactive involvement with security, such as locking vehicle doors, closing garage doors and using alarms.

Volunteer Opportunities

Sand Sifters Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sand Sifters for beach cleanup!

When: First Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **August 3**

Where: Oceanfront Park, 6415 N. Ocean Blvd. On A1A, just north of the Ocean Ave. bridge in Ocean Ridge. Meet at the pavilion in the lower parking lot.

Time: 8-10:30AM

Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages.

What's provided: Free parking, bags, gloves, and refreshments available to participants only. School and community service volunteer credit forms available.

What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

Contact: Jeff at JeffLev02@gmail.com / **Social Media:** facebook.com/SWATJIL

Sea Angels Beach Cleanup

What: Join the Sea Angels for beach cleanup!

When: Last Saturday of every month. Next cleanup: **August 31**

Where: Ocean Inlet Park, 6990 N. Ocean Blvd. Check in is at the picnic tables next to the snack bar.

Time: 8-10:30AM

Who: Individuals, schools, churches, clubs, businesses, organizations, and families are all encouraged to participate. All ages. Volunteer hours awarded for students.

What to bring: Please bring water, sunscreen and a hat.

Contact: info@seaangels.org / **Website:** seaangels.org

Closed POD Program Committee

What: Should Ocean Ridge be exposed to an aerosolized airborne anthrax event, Ocean Ridge and FL Dept. of Health will provide needed antibiotics at no cost as part of a program under the auspices of the CDC. Residents are encouraged to become dispensing volunteers.

When: Attend two hours of meetings per year.

Where/Time: TBD.

Who: Ocean Ridge Residents—no experience necessary

Contact: Terry Vinas at vinasfam@aol.com / [Volunteer Form](#)

Town Hall Library

What: Shelve and organize books in the Town Library.

When: Ongoing

Where: 6450 N. Ocean Blvd. at Town Hall.

Time: Any time between 8:30AM—3PM, Monday—Friday.

Who: Residents of all ages welcome. Those with library experience are encouraged to volunteer.

What's provided: School and community service volunteer credit available.

Contact: Town Hall 561-732-2635