

Broadwater and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Southwest District
Submitted by Phil Creter, Co-Block Captain, 42nd Ave. S

To date in 2017, there has been only one visible, seriously flooded intersection (at the 42nd Ave S/37th St S intersection), with no sanitary sewer overflows compared with 2016, when Broadwater suffered both significant sanitary *and* storm water floods at three intersections (**see More Flood link***). This remarkable improvement was made possible due to a beneficial collaboration between a progressive St. Pete Public Works Administration and experts from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). To find out more about the direct and indirect role of the FDEP, Gerry Moore (Broadwater Board of Directors) and Phil Creter (Broadwater Block Captain) went to the FDEP's all-day Open House in Tampa on September 27, 2017.

We were greeted by Michelle Holton (Environmental Specialist) who has direct experience with FDEP reports affecting Broadwater. She introduced us to Mary Yeargan (Director of FDEP, Southwest District), who provided an excellent overview. Michelle then escorted us to a busy exhibit hall containing literature tables staffed by other experts demonstrating to the approximately 100 other open house attendees how the FDEP safeguards Florida's natural resources and enhances its ecosystems. All FDEP departments were represented: Hazardous Waste, Tanks, Wetlands, Beaches, Docks/Piers, State Lands, Domestic Wastewater, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Storm Water, Industrial Wastewater, Solid Waste, Environmental Assessment and Restoration, Water Restoration Assistance, Phosphate, Drinking Water, Underground Injection Control, and Air. An easy-to-use contact guide for assistance via email or phone in permits or compliance is provided at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/southwest/contacts/> (**see More FDEP Contacts: link***).



Gerry Moore, Mary Yeargan, Phil Creter (photo courtesy Steve Thompson)

Mike Lynch (Environmental Manager), contact for Docks/Piers compliance, had a variety of interesting comments. Referring to dock permits, he states the owner is ultimately responsible to ensure that all necessary permitting is obtained, either directly or by their hired contractor. He recommends that the owner work out those details with their contractor prior to entering into an agreement (**see More Docks/Piers link***). Michelle also introduced us to Cathy Rodriguez (Operations Analyst), on hand for one-on-one guidance on using OCULUS, the FDEP Document Management System providing public access to various FDEP reports using search criteria. Use the FDEP Information portal at <http://webapps.dep.state.fl.us/DepNexus/public/search-portal> (**see More OCULUS link***).



Phil Creter, John Palenchar, Gerry Moore (photo courtesy Mary Yeargan)

John Palenchar (St. Pete Interim Water Resources Director) was also on hand to update us on wastewater progress. He discussed a photo-methodology of estimating the overflow volume of sanitary manholes; improvements in Standard Operating Procedures; an emergency plan using remote monitoring and a trailer generator to backup Broadwater's Lift Station #59 (located at 41st Street near the 38th Ave. intersection) to prevent overflow in case of power failure; a review of improvements at our local Southwest Water Reclamation Facility (SWWRF) and increased reclaim capacity added by its new injection well (recently tested and accepted by FDEP) (**see [More Wastewater Progress link*](#)**). Gerry and I were both pleased how well prepared John is on all topics and even provided more info on Broadwater canal water quality sampling. Tom Ando adds a note: Go to www.broadwaterfl.org and click on the Useful Links Tab, then click on "Canal Water Quality." Click to check "Water Health" to view a map with water sampling sites from three Broadwater canals: North, Central and South. Clicking separately on each quality icon provides more detail as to the actual Enterococci bacteria measurements.



In-progress 42nd Ave. S/41st St. S drain

Since June, there have been many 42nd Ave. S sightings of key Public Works staff (Claude Tankersley, John Norris, Carlos Frey, Sam Sturgill, Rick Eads, and Anthony Lee). A new 36" storm water drain has been completed on 42nd Ave S at 39th St. (see photo). In October, work started on a second 30" storm water drain on 42nd Ave. S near 41st St. (see photo).



Connecting 36" drain to seawall at 42nd Ave. S/39th St. S (photo courtesy Gerry Moore)



Interim connection to 42nd Ave. S allowed functional draining of storm water during Hurricane Irma

In early September, John Norris and his storm water crew (led by Rick Eads) were racing against the clock to finish the last section of the 42nd Ave. S (at 39th St. S) storm water drain pipe before Hurricane Irma. They hit a snag with delays from utility inspectors; they knew they would not be able to finish before the storm but wanted to provide safe drainage relief before the storm hit. He and his team came up with a creative and relatively quick fix. The photo of the interim connection to the street may not look like much to the average resident, but it was a very resourceful and functional approach performed in a short time providing reassurance to nervous residents. The crew restored the ditch from the road to pipe and lined it with geotechnical fabric and riprap (loose stone) and, although not shown in my photo, added bike rack barricades weighted with sand bags for extra resident safety in time for the arrival of Irma. After the hurricane, the final connection was completed; see photo with 3 happy abutting neighbors.



New residents Michael Coleman and Shane Kappler along with neighbor Gerry Moore, are pleased with their new culvert boxes featuring top gratings along with the more common front drains

Article Contributors: Gerry Moore, Tom Ando; FDEP: Michelle Holton, Mary Yeargan, Cathy Rodriguez, Mike Lynch, Shannon Herbon, Steve Thompson; St. Pete Public Works: John Palenchar, Carlos Frey, John Norris, Claude Tankersley (and special thanks to my proofreader and editor, Edie Creter).

Note: **More** and **links*** refer you to the full article online at www.broadwaterfl.org under the appropriate "Useful Links" tab.

MORE - Flood

2016 Broadwater

8-8-16 Heavy rain – Broadwater had flooded areas at 42nd Ave/37th St., 42nd Ave/38th St., 42nd Ave/ 39th St. and 42nd Ave at 41st St.



Flooded 42nd Ave./37th St. S. Intersection Backup



Subsequent Flood Water Lines at 3701 42nd Ave S

8-31-16 Tropical Storm Hermine - A Broadwater overflowing sanitary sewer at 42nd Ave/41st St (photo) and subsequent flooding at same intersection (photo), further flooding along 41st St/41st Circle and subsequent 1 month long road closure due to softened/wet road bed, and flooding again at 42nd Ave/37th St.



Overflowing Sanitary Sewer at 42nd Ave./ 41st St. S



Subsequent flooding at 42nd Ave./41st St. S.

2017 Broadwater
6-12-17 Flooded 42nd Ave. /37th St. S



Flood Water Lines at 42nd Ave./37th St. S



Flood Water Lines at Adjacent House on 42nd Ave. S.

2017 Broadwater
7-12-17 Flooded 42nd Ave. /37th St. S
 (Second Time in One Month)



Flood Water Lines at 42nd Ave./37th St. S (same house 1 month later)



Next door on 37th St. S, Flooded Park water still receding

MORE - FDEP contacts

FDEP Southwest District, 13051 N. Telecom Parkway, Temple Terrace, FL. 33637		
Compliance Contacts (Phone: 813-470-5700)		
Hazardous Waste, Tanks	Shannon Kennedy	Shannon.Kennedy@dep.state.fl.us
Wetlands, Beaches, Docks/Piers, State Lands	Mike Lynch	Michael.Lynch@dep.state.fl.us
Domestic Wastewater, Underground Injection Control (UIC)	Erica Peck	Erica.Peck@dep.state.fl.us
NPDES Storm water, Industrial Wastewater	Ramandeep Kaur	Ramandeep.Kaur@dep.state.fl.us
Solid Waste	Steve Tafuni	Steve.Tafuni@dep.state.fl.us
Drinking Water	Jayne Brock	James.Brock@dep.state.fl.us
Air	Max Grondahl	Max.Grondahl@dep.state.fl.us

Permitting Contacts (Phone: 813-470-5700)		
Air, Solid Waste	Steve Morgan	Steve.Morgan@dep.state.fl.us
Wetlands, Beaches, Domestic Wastewater, Docks/Piers, State Lands, UIC	JJ Loesch	Gerald.Loesch@dep.state.fl.us
NPDES Storm water, Industrial Wastewater, Drinking Water	Cindy Zhang-Torres	Cindy.Zhang-Torres@dep.state.fl.us
Domestic Wastewater	Jacki Champion	Jacquelyn.Champion@dep.state.fl.us

MORE - Docks/Piers (Mike Lynch - FDEP)

If an existing dock is replaced by a larger dock, is there a need for a new permit?

This is considered an exempt activity. You do not need written consent from the Department per 62-330.051(5), F.A.C., although you can apply for an exemption online at the following link: <http://www.fldepportal.com/go/> (Please note the cost is \$100.00) if you are interested in reading 62-330.051, F.A.C please see the following link: [62-330.051](#)

What are the guidelines for repair that do not require a new permit?

You will not need a permit if you are repairing the docking structure in the same size and configuration.

What if a large boat extends way beyond the dock?

Depends on a few things. Is this docking structure on state lands? If so, how much space will it preempt and how much shoreline does the applicant have? In addition, the structure and vessel should not impede the flow of water or create a navigational hazard.

What if a boat when it is docked extends more than 50 percent into the canal?

The structure and vessel should not impede the flow of water or create a navigational hazard. For structures and vessels on sovereign submerged lands, 18-21.004 (4) (d), F.A.C. states that these activities *shall not extend more than 25 percent of the width of the waterbody*. Please see the following link to that rule reference: [18-21](#)

Are there available additional reference for permits and compliance for docks/piers?

Please see the following link to our ERP Statewide Rulemaking website:
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/swerp/index.htm>

In addition, please see our SWD ERP website: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/southwest/erp/>

MORE - Docks/Piers (Carlos Frey – St. Pete)

"Permits for dock repair and construction are also required by Pinellas County Water and Navigation. For information regarding the County's dock requirements, please contact the Water and Navigation unit at (727) 453-3385."

Additionally, the city works with the county on the docks. Here is the response from our Deputy Zoning Official:

"Pinellas County Water and Navigation office handles issuance of dock permits. You submit their application to the City's Development Review Services for review of the City's dock regulations, and then take it to the County for issuance of a permit.

Their contact info:

Pinellas County Water and Navigation

http://www.pinellascounty.org/environment/watershed/water_navigation.htm

Link to our land development regulations for docks: 16.50.130 - DOCKS:

www.municode.com/library/fl/st._petersburg/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIISTPECO_CH16LAD_ERE_S16.50.130DO

Regulations for gates on docks on water lots 16.40.040 - FENCES, WALLS & HEDGES :

www.municode.com/library/fl/st._petersburg/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIISTPECO_CH16LAD_ERE_S16.40.040FEWAHERE_16.40.040.1CO

Section 16.40.040.3.5.C.12. Gates and fencing for docks on non-contiguous water lots, and docks on contiguous upland property that are located across a right of way or City owned easement from the principal use, shall be open and consist of decorative materials such as wrought iron, aluminum or other decorative metals suitable for the construction of fences, masonry, concrete, stone, and vinyl or composite manufactured specifically as fencing materials. Any fencing projecting beyond the width of the dock as measured at the seawall (the walkway) shall be limited to 5 feet in height and 3 feet in width on each side of the walkway. Replacement of a dock or the existing gate or fencing, the replacement of a majority of the pilings, any expansion of the deck area or the addition of a boat lift(s) shall require gates and fences to be brought into compliance. This shall not apply to commercial marinas or properties in the IC/CRD land use category.

Our Divisions contact for dock related information is Alex Hancock, 727-892-5226."

MORE - OCULUS (Cathy Rodriguez)

Please note that many but not all our documents are in OCULUS. If you require documents that are not yet in OCULUS, or if you'd like to inquire whether there are documents for a Facility not yet in OCULUS, please email:

Swd publicrecords@dep.state.fl.us

The link to the Department's OCULUS data base is:

<https://depedms.dep.state.fl.us/Oculus>

Click on PUBLIC OCULUS LOGIN to login.

On the left, select which Catalog (program) the site is in (i.e., Wastewater)

Under Search By select Property

Under Property, select Facility-Site ID: (i.e., FLA128848 for our local Southwest Reclaim Facility and click search (twice)

Profile: Discovery – Compliance

Document Date From and To: Best to restrict span of dates. For example, using a search of the Southwest Reclaim Facility from 01-01-2016 to 12-31-2016 provides over 1500 reports while 2017 YTD provides 125 documents

Searches work best with minimal information

Tutorial: http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/SDRO/Waste/PublicOculusSearchGuide_rcdFinal.pdf

MORE - Wastewater Progress (John Palenchar)



If a resident sees an overflowing manhole, Call Dispatch at 727-893-7261