



# SUNSHINE AUG 2025 LINES

BEAUTIFUL NEWS FROM BAY TO BEACH

## DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION IS BOOMING

Construction will begin soon on several downtown projects that will redevelop key parcels, add much-needed parking, and transform Osceola Avenue. A 10-story hotel with retail space and a parking garage will be built on the former Harborview site just south of the Clearwater Main Library. A 28-story apartment building will rise on the site of the former City Hall, and a nearly 400-space parking garage will be built across Osceola Avenue, which will also receive a major makeover. These projects will bring new amenities to downtown Clearwater, which has already seen a surge in visitors and events following the \$84 million redevelopment of Coachman Park. Since reopening in 2023, The BayCare Sound has hosted more than 100 concerts and welcomed more than 336,500 attendees. These projects will beautify the area, repair underground infrastructure, and add hotel rooms, apartments, parking, and retail. We appreciate your patience during the construction.

For detailed project info, visit [MyClearwater.com/DowntownConstruction](http://MyClearwater.com/DowntownConstruction) and sign up for the downtown construction e-newsletter to stay updated on project milestones, parking, and road closures.

Thank you for your continued support as we build a stronger downtown Clearwater.



## SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION TEMPORARILY HOUSES RECYCLABLES

The city of Clearwater's recycling holding facility at the Clearwater Solid Waste and Recycling Center has been damaged and deemed unsafe, due to structural problems after a truck hit a concrete block support beam. The open-canopy structure is not safe for employees to use, and recycling crews are instead using a portion of the solid waste transfer station, which has been cleaned to allow for this temporary solution. The facility has two pits; one is being used for recycling and the other is holding solid waste.

Residents will not experience any changes to their normal scheduled pickup dates due to the temporary changes.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has approved this temporary measure, which will remain in place until the Clearwater Solid Waste recycling facility can be repaired.

## WATER MAINTENANCE PROGRAM NEARS

Sept. 22 through Oct. 11, 2025

Twice a year, the city of Clearwater and Pinellas County temporarily switches its water treatment method from chloramines to chlorine. This is done to assure that water pipes stay clean, and maintain the system's integrity.

People who are sensitive to chlorine may notice a stronger smell or taste during this temporary change in our water disinfecting process. Users of kidney dialysis machines and owners of aquatic life should contact their respective service providers for additional guidance.

**These simple steps may minimize chlorine odor or taste.**

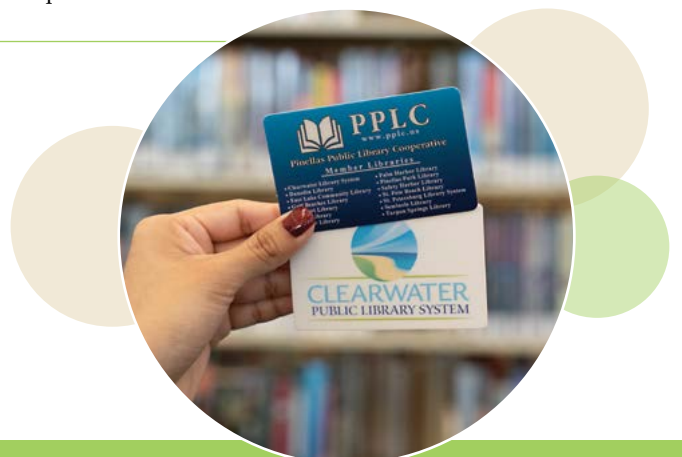
- Run the tap for a few minutes before using.
- Fill a pitcher of water and let it sit for several hours to allow any residual chlorine to dissipate.
- Consider installing a carbon filter on kitchen/bathroom faucets or shower heads or replacing existing filters with new ones.

Your water is safe to drink and meets all federal and state drinking water standards. Call Clearwater Public Utilities at (727) 562-4960 with questions.

## SIGN UP FOR A LIBRARY CARD IN SEPTEMBER

'One Card, Endless Possibilities'

It may be small, but a library card packs a mighty punch. Borrow museum passes, board games, Wi-Fi hot spots, and even tools from your library's collection. Take part in engaging programs like book clubs, movie nights, crafting classes, and lectures. Access technology, Wi-Fi, and career resources to support your goals, whether you're a student, job seeker, entrepreneur, or lifelong learner. It's one card with endless possibilities! Visit any Clearwater library to sign up for your free library card today. To learn more, go to [MyClearwaterLibrary.com](http://MyClearwaterLibrary.com)





ITS BACK TO SCHOOL TIME

With the new school year in full swing in Clearwater, it’s time for a reminder about back-to-school safety. Drivers need to be on the lookout for Clearwater Police Department crossing guards helping children make it safely to and from school. And pay attention to the yellow flashing lights that signify school zones. It’s also important to watch out for school buses that are stopped to pick up or let off students.

Crossing guards are present every morning and afternoon near elementary and middle schools in Clearwater. Be alert for the crossing guards and follow their instructions. Be patient, as many students and parents are learning new routines.

TIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND SUCCESSFUL BACK-TO-SCHOOL SEASON

School Supplies

- Only buy what you need; check home first before shopping.
- Choose supplies made from recycled or sustainably sourced materials.
- Donate extra supplies or volunteer at local giveaway events.

Reduce / Reuse / Recycle

- Donate gently used clothing.
- Shop at second-hand stores or organize a clothing swap.
- Avoid clothing and backpacks made with synthetic fibers.
- Bring reusable shopping bags.

Lunch

- Use reusable lunch containers, bottles, and sandwich wraps.
- Choose sustainable, healthy food options.
- Buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste.

Transportation

- Take the bus, walk or bike if possible; plan a safe route.
- Carpool with others if driving is necessary.



CITY OFFICES CLOSED ON LABOR DAY

City of Clearwater offices, libraries and some recreation facilities will be closed Monday, Sept. 1, in observance of Labor Day.

The city’s Solid Waste Department will be working, and there will be no changes to the collection schedule. For police or fire emergencies, dial 911.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Clearwater Offshore Nationals

- Sept. 26 to 28
- Get ready for high-speed thrills as the XINSURANCE Clearwater Offshore Nationals return to Clearwater Beach for 2025.

Watch top powerboat racers from around the world compete on the Gulf, with action-packed races and a festive beach-side atmosphere.

Find out more at [ClearwaterNationals.com](http://ClearwaterNationals.com)

**The BayCare Sound Concerts**

- Sept. 10 **Dream Theater**
- Sept. 11 **Lee Brice**
- Sept. 15 **Leon Bridge, with Charley Crockett**

- Sept. 17 **97X Next Big Thing, featuring Cage the Elephant**
- Sept. 19 **Michael Franti & Spearhead**
- Sept. 25 **Weird Al Yankovic**
- Sept. 27 **Alison Krauss & Union Station**

CALLING ALL CLEARWATER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Applications are now open for the city’s high school exchange trip to Nagano, Japan! Nagano and Clearwater have been sister cities since 1959 and annually four high school students are selected for a travel scholarship. This unforgettable opportunity allows Clearwater resident students to experience Japanese culture firsthand, stay with host families, and represent our city abroad.

Interested students should review the requirements and eligibility details. Application deadline is Dec. 15. Details and application can be found at [MyClearwater.com/SisterCities](http://MyClearwater.com/SisterCities)

Don’t miss your chance to be a part of this incredible international experience!



BEES, BUGS AND BUTTERFLIES

The city of Clearwater has signed the National Wildlife Federation’s Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, officially committing to take meaningful actions to help save the declining monarch butterfly. We invite everyone to protect and celebrate pollinators, nature’s invisible heroes.

These essential creatures help ensure the pollination of plants, assist with local flora growth and contribute to the overall balance of our ecosystem. Want to help? Plant pollinator-friendly plants in your yard to create safe habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

Did you know that we distribute free seeds at Countryside and East Community libraries? Stop by and take up to three seed packs to plant in your yard.



**Your Leadership Team**

<b>MAYOR</b> Bruce Rector	<b>CITY MANAGER</b> Jennifer Poirrier	<b>CITY ATTORNEY</b> David Margolis
<b>COUNCILMEMBERS</b>		
David Allbritton	Michael Mannino	
Ryan Cotton	Lina Teixeira	

For information in English, call (727) 562-4682.

Sunshine Lines is produced by the city of Clearwater Public Communications Department.

[MyClearwater.com](http://MyClearwater.com)