

Bonita Springs
Quarterly
Spring 2022



City News

Small town Charm. Big Bright Future.



Please join us for a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 30, 2022 at 9am
Riverside Park 10450 Reynolds Street

Pictured below: City of Bonita Springs Aisle of Flags, installed each year for the Memorial Day Service.





Memorial Day Service

Downtown Bonita Springs
Riverside Park
10450 Reynolds St, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Monday May 30th, 2022
at 9:00 am

Guest Speaker:
David Grossi
Vietnam Veteran
Sergeant-US Air Force

Join us as we honor those who have given their lives in service to their country.
For questions, please call 239-949-6262

Did you know? At one time, Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day services were offered by the American Legion and the services were held at the old cemetery in Bonita Springs. There were twenty Veteran’s Burial Flags for deceased Veterans that had been donated by families to the Legion and were part of these ceremonies. When the new park was built in downtown Bonita Springs, the City offered to host the ceremonies there. At that time, the Aisle of Flags was increased to one hundred flags, with additional flags donated by family members of Veterans. The flags are stored at the American Legion and brought out each Memorial and Veterans Day for display. If a flag becomes unserviceable or a family member asks for their flag back, an opening is created and another flag can be added.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS 2022

Date	Event	Venue	Time
5/13 and 5/14/22	Fiesta Bonita Event Concert events	Riverside Park	5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
5/30/22	Memorial Day Service	Riverside Park	9:00 am
7/4/22	Bonita Springs Firefighter’s Parade	Old 41 Rd.	9:00 am
7/4/22	Star Spangled Bonita Event	Riverside Park	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm



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STAR SPANGLED BONITA

Laser & Fireworks Display

4th of July Celebration

MONDAY, JULY 4TH 2022



FEATURING THE BEN ALLEN BAND!



**LIVE MUSIC, FOOD TRUCKS,
LASER LIGHTS & FIREWORKS,
AND MORE!**



**LOCATION: RIVERSIDE PARK
10450 REYNOLDS ST, BONITA SPRINGS,
FL 34135**

TIMES: 6PM TO 9PM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
239-949-6262**



About Bonita Springs Water Conservation Ordinance 21- 07

The City of Bonita Springs supplements the provisions of Chapter 40E-24, Florida Administrative Code, as follows: Landscape irrigation shall be prohibited daily between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Watering Options, Landscape Irrigation

Users may irrigate only two days as specified.

When can I water the lawn in Bonita Springs?

- **Odd-numbered** street address may water lawns and landscapes on **Wednesdays and Saturdays only, midnight until 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. until midnight.**
- **Even-numbered** street address **no street address** or those that irrigate both even and odd addresses within the same zones, which may include multi-family units and homeowners associations, may water lawns and landscapes on **Thursdays and Sundays only, midnight until 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. until midnight.**

When can I water my newly planted landscaping and sod?

On the day of installation without regard to the listed day or time. Irrigation of the sod immediately prior to installation without regard to the listed day or time.

1 to 30 days: On any day of the week except Friday.

31 to 90 days: On any day of the week except Tuesday, Friday or Sunday.

Irrigation of new landscaping is limited to areas only containing the new landscaping.

An entire zone of an irrigation system shall only be utilized for landscape irrigation under this Subsection if the zone contains at least 50% new landscaping.

If a zone contains less than 50% new landscaping, or if the new landscaping is in an area that will not typically be irrigated by an irrigation system, only the individual new plantings are eligible for additional irrigation.

Targeted watering may be accomplished by low volume hand watering or any appropriate method which isolates and waters only the new landscaping.

These rules permit new landscape watering only. Homeowners should keep documentation on any new landscaping, such as a dated receipt of purchase, in case they are required to provide proof of the installation date.



The City of Bonita Springs hosted students from Oak Creek Charter School, Bonita Springs Charter School and Bonita Springs Middle School this year. Members of City Council, Mayor Steinmeyer and staff showed the students around city hall and assisted students with participating in a mock city council meeting. Students were treated to a pizza luncheon after their lessons!

ABOVE: Councilwoman Amy Quaremba greets student from Bonita Springs Charter School at Government Day at City Hall.



RIGHT: Students from Bonita Springs Charter School participate in a mock City Council Meeting on April 8, 2022.



The objective of Government Day is to introduce middle school students to the responsibilities of the City of Bonita Springs government officials.

Students learn the mayor is elected at large, while the six city council members are elected from their respective home districts. Mayor and city council members have equal voting authority, and as a body, they are responsible for setting the city's long-term plans and resolving strategic issues.

ABOVE: Councilman Purdon explains process and procedure to Oak Creek Charter School student during mock council meeting.

The daily operation of the city is handled by the city manager and city staff.

KARATE



**\$45 /8
Classes**

Tues & Thurs * 5:30- 7 pm

April 28 -May24

Instructor Vincent Cannarsa Learned the Art of Karate on the Island of Okinawa, and has over 35 years of teaching experience.

Parents are welcome to register and take class with their children.

The City of Bonita Springs Recreation Center is located at 26740 Pine Avenue off of West Terry Street. Our facility includes a full-sized gymnasium and a cardiovascular/fitness room. Lots of activities and classes are scheduled throughout the year. The Recreation Center offers an annual membership fee or daily fee for all of these activities and more! Please visit our Membership Page for more information by [clicking here](#). For more information about hours of operation or other upcoming classes [click here](#).



STRETCH AND TONE

**Mon, Wed & Fri
8:00-9am am**

**Included with membership.
\$6 for non members**

Come join instructor Carmen Holt in Stretch and Tone class to have fun while challenging your body to improve and maintain muscle strength, cardio endurance, improved flexibility and balance .



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



**YMCA OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
MAKING MEMORIES
THAT LAST A LIFETIME
2022 SUMMER DAY CAMP**



BONITA SPRINGS
27200 Kent Rd., Bonita Springs, FL 34135
239-221-7560
www.YMCASWFL.org
FOR A BETTER US.®



Community Spotlight



Residents pitch in as part of the City Wide Clean Up on Saturday, February 19th.



At the March 16th, 2022 meeting, Councilmember Purdon presented a proclamation to PACE Center for Girls recognizing March 2022 as “Believing in Girls” month.



City staff, Mayor Steinmeyer and Councilmembers acknowledged and thanked administrative staff at their April 20th council meeting. Posing below for a photo on April 27th, Administrative Professional’s Day, are City of Bonita Springs professionals Michelle Arizmendi, Connie DiBruno, Jane Swanson, Chuck Tomlinson, Linda Lowell, Debbie Vallante and Teresa Cannon. Missing from photo are Debbie Filipek, Cheryl Cook and Brenda Reetz.

Reminder about pre-Hurricane Yard Maintenance - perform anytime during March, April, May

- Cut back any trees or branches that contact your house, pool cage, shed or other buildings
- Thin foliage so wind can blow freely through branches, decreasing chances the plant will become uprooted during a storm.
- Place trimmings at the curb on your regular collection day.



COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: **TREE ADVISORY BOARD**

Did you know that Bonita Springs is designated as a *Tree City* by the Arbor Day Foundation?

Less than [one-in-five cities](#) across the U.S. share this honor. The City realizes the importance of trees to our community, our world, and our lives. The City's Tree Advisory Board works to keep the City of Bonita Springs a Tree City USA.

The board also:

- **Protects local heritage trees** such as live oak, banyan trees, and slash pines not only for history and longevity, but for how they positively impact ecosystems.
- **Reviews land development and zoning sites** prior to redevelopment to ensure heritage trees are protected and preserved.
- Works to **inform the public** about native plants that are healthy for our community and invasive exotics that should be avoided, as well as good pruning practices.
- **Sponsors a Poster contest** where local students from kindergarten through 8th grade participate in honoring trees. This year's theme was "Trees are Terrific!"
- Recommends **municipal code updates** to ensure that Trees are planted and preserved in a thoughtful and efficient manner.

Holds a **Tree of the Season award** program to recognize citizens with a spectacular tree. **Information about this contest can be found on the next page. It is an ongoing program so all submissions welcome!**

The Tree Advisory Board meetings are open to the public and typically held the 2nd Monday of each month at 4 pm at City Hall. Please plan to join a meeting. Visit the [City's website](#) for updates.

Pictured below: Flags fly proudly in front of swaying trees at Riverside Park





‘Tree of the Season’ award

If you are as proud of our beautiful trees as we are and have a great idea for a specific tree in Bonita Springs to be recognized, please send in your nomination.

Bonita Springs is recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City.



The City of Bonita Springs encourages you to nominate

- ◆ your tree
- ◆ your neighbor’s tree
- ◆ a local business’ tree
- ◆ or any beautiful tree for that matter



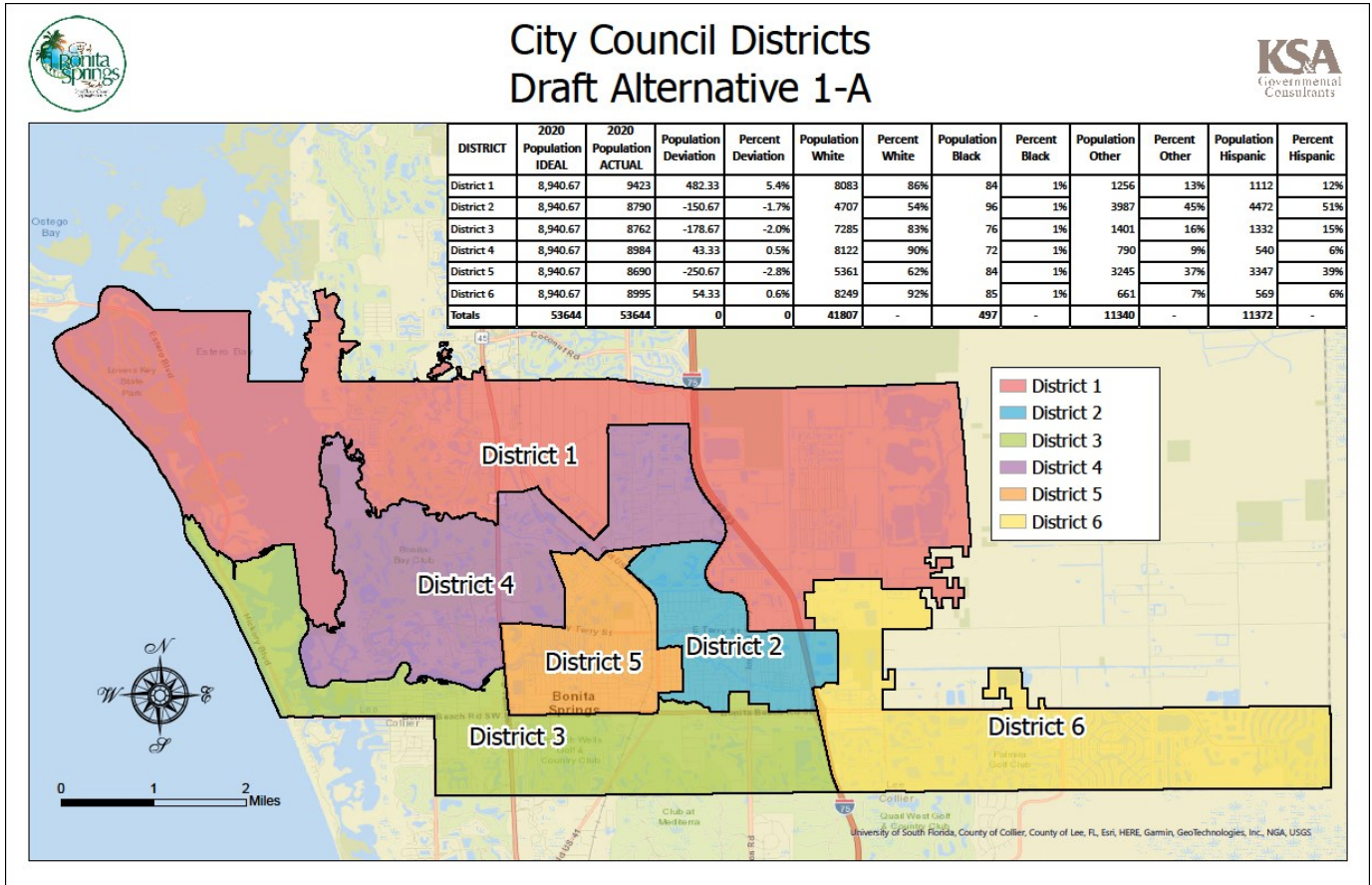
Please email a photo

The tree, it’s address, and your contact info to:

jackdbrown@gmail.com



City of Bonita Springs Redistricting Process



The City’s charter provides that, following each decennial census, the City Council may redivide the City into six City Council districts with as roughly equal in population as practical according to population estimates. Following the 2020 U.S. Census, the City engaged professional consultant Kurt Spitzer of Kurt Spitzer & Associates to assist the City in its redistricting process by analyzing census data and creating alternative district maps based upon enumerated criteria in accordance with state and federal laws. The public was invited to take part in the process. On April 6, 2022, the City Council adopted the above map depicting the adjusted City Council districts.





SMALL TOWN
BIG PARADE

HOSTED BY - Bonita Springs Firefighters - LOCAL 3444

WWW.BONITASPRINGSPARADE.COM
(259) 298-4706
bhornberger@bonitafire.org




Council on the Move



Above: Councilwoman Amy Quaremba participates in City Wide Clean Up on February 19, 2022.



Above: Fort Myers Mayor Kevin Anderson, Estero District 1 Councilmember Joanne Ribble and Councilman Fred Forbes attend a Lee County Community Leaders Meeting on February 18th.



Above left: Councilwoman Lora Carr and Lynda Waterhouse attend the seventh annual Bonita Springs Short Film Festival April 14 at Prado Stadium 12.

Above right: Deputy Mayor Mike Gibson talks with Denny Berens at the Bonita Springs Short Film Festival.



Above: Deputy Mayor Mike Gibson talks with Goodwin Street Pedestrian and Drainage Improvement Workshop attendee on April 13, 2022.

Did You Know.....

City Council Approved an Interlocal Agreement with Lee Tran — At the April 20th, 2022, meeting the City of Bonita Springs City Council received a presentation updating them about the Lee Tran ULTRA curb-to-curb bus service in Bonita Springs. At this meeting, City Council also approved an additional contribution to the project to assist Lee Tran with offsetting expenses. This contribution will also be used to provide a third bus for the peak hours of service for the program.

City Staff was Presented with a Certificate of Achievement for Financial Reporting- The Bonita Springs' Finance Department was presented with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). This certificate was in response to the City of Bonita Springs' annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2020. March 14-18, 2022 was recognized as Florida Government Financial Professional Week in the City of Bonita Springs through proclamation.

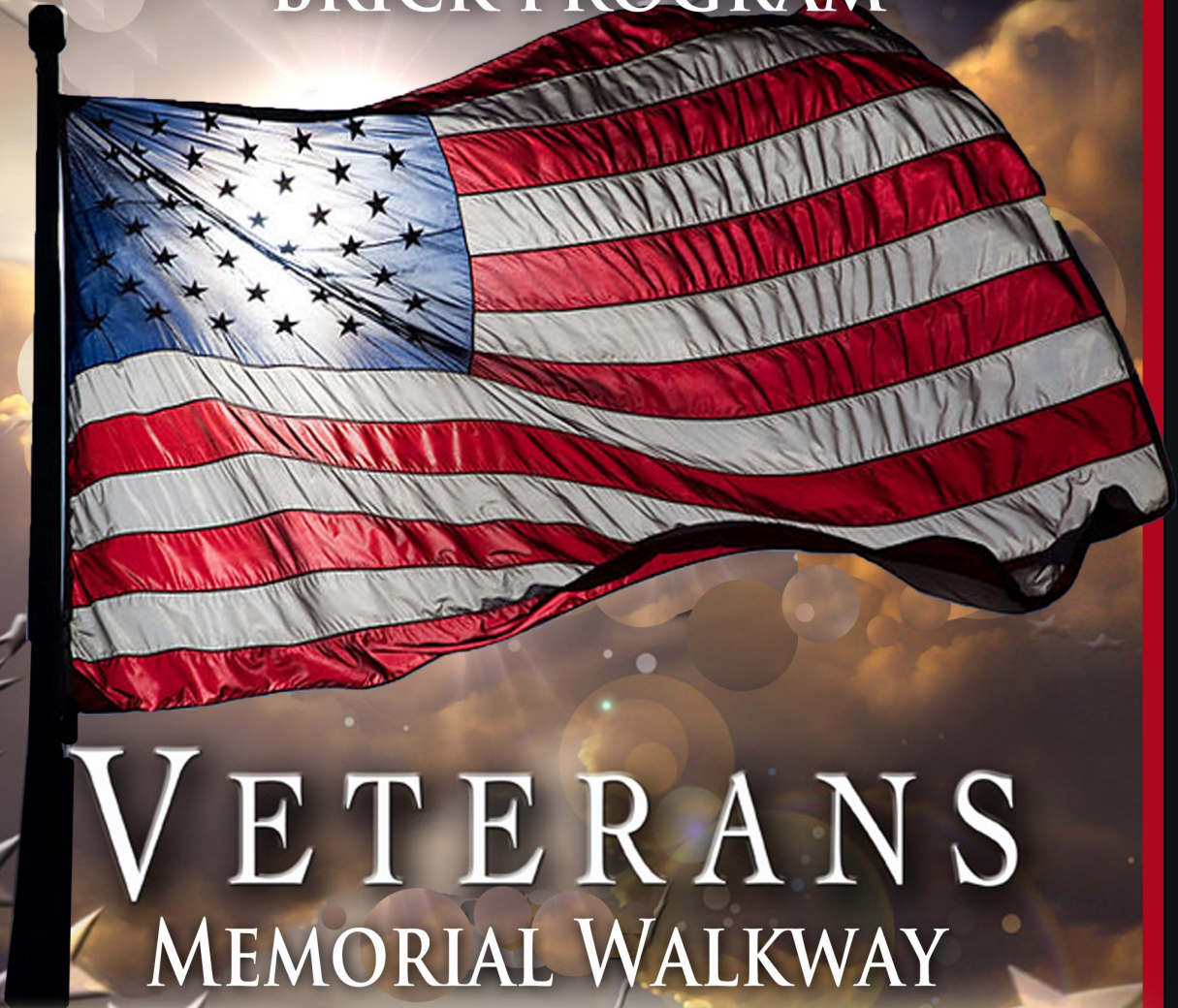
City Council Approves Sub-Recipient Agreement with Lee County for CDBG-CV Entitlement Funds - Bonita Springs City Council approved Sub-Recipient agreement with Lee County for Community Development Block Grant – COVID (CDBG-CV) entitlement funds. Per Council's direction, the city will partner with local food banks to provide funding for food insecurity assistance. Once the agreement has been executed, city staff will advertise for local non-profit food pantries serving Bonita Springs to apply for funding.

What a wonderful job the **Bonita Springs Veteran's Advisory Board** does to honor and remember our Veterans! They plan and coordinate both a Memorial Day (Monday, May 30th) and Veteran's Day Service (Friday, November 11th), each year. The committee also assists Veterans in need however they are able. This past year, the Board worked to dedicate the bridge located in downtown Bonita Springs on Old 41 Rd. as the "Veterans Memorial Bridge". Two road signs were installed, placed at the north and south end of the bridge for pedestrian's to view. They also install the bricks and maintain the Veteran's Memorial Walkway at Riverside Park, a path surrounding the park that features memorial bricks honoring our Veterans.

Click on this [video](#) to see more information about the program. If you are interested in having a brick installed, [this link](#) will address questions about the Brick Program and provide the form to order a brick. You can also see the following page or call 239-949-6262 for more information about ordering a brick.



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED BRICK PROGRAM



VETERANS MEMORIAL WALKWAY



There is currently an opportunity to honor soldiers of the past and present by dedicating bricks with personalized inscriptions recognizing their service and sacrifice. Bricks will be incorporated into the Bonita Springs Veterans Memorial Walkway that surrounds Riverside Park in downtown Bonita. A perfect way to honor someone and give lasting tribute.

How to dedicate a brick: Pick up forms at Bonita Springs City Hall, 9101 Bonita Beach Road. Bricks cost \$80, half of which benefits the City's Veterans Advisory Committee.

Call (239) 949-6262 for more information.

