



The City of Treasure Island, Florida

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NEWS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Important flood proofing program June 17th at TI City Hall

As we head into the rainy and hurricane season, Treasure Island Building Official Neal Schwartz is urging all Treasure Island residents to attend a flood mitigation program to further protect lives, homes and businesses from flooding. The community meeting, presented by the Florida Division of Emergency Management, takes place Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 1pm at Treasure Island City Hall, 120 108th Avenue.

Flood mitigation refers to any sustained action to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from floods.

"Sitting at an average height of seven feet above sea level, all Treasure Island properties are at risk of major flooding," said Schwartz. He explained that structures built before floodplain management regulations took effect strain the National Flood Insurance fund. "Pinellas County and the municipalities along the coast have thousands of such properties," said Schwartz. "The good news is there are several financial assistance programs available to communities and property owners to acquire, retrofit, or fund flood proofing projects."

The program will answer questions such as:

- What types of projects can be done to prevent flooding?
- What funding is in place?
- How do these programs work for public or private property?
- Who is eligible to apply?
- How does the National Flood Insurance Program apply to these projects?
- How can we get started, and what are the timeframes?

There will be a question and answer period, presentations and hand-outs provided by the National Flood Insurance Program. Contact Treasure Island Building Official Neal Schwartz at 727-547-4575 ext. 230 or at nschwartz@mytreasureisland.org

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