

## Changes In Hillsborough County Services

When the new fiscal year started in October for Hillsborough County, several changes took affect due to required budget cuts. This information also is listed at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/changeofhours.cfm/](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/changeofhours.cfm/). Here are the highlights of these changes for the public:

### Furlough Days

Hillsborough County offices will CLOSE during the furlough days that have been scheduled throughout the next fiscal year:

- Friday, Jan. 15, 2010
- Friday, April 2, 2010
- Friday, June 18, 2010
- Thursday, Sept. 9, 2010

Emergency services, wastewater plants and some children's services will not be affected by these furlough closures. However, they will affect all other Hillsborough County services, including Head Start centers, libraries, parks and recreation centers, neighborhood service centers, and senior centers. In addition, book drop-off stations at libraries will not be in service.

### Animal Services

Hours of operation have changed for the following services:

Pet registration tag purchases, adoptions (closes 30 minutes prior to shelter closing), citations, lost pet search

- Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Pets turned in by owners at the shelter's side gate

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 1 – 5 p.m.

Strays accepted at the shelter's side gate

- Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Dispatch operators and field officers will remain on duty when the shelter is closed Mondays and Sundays.

Annual pet registration tag fees will increase \$10 to \$20 for dogs and cats. Both dogs and cats require rabies

vaccinations and registration tags, which may be purchased through veterinarians or at the shelter. Registration fees for pets owned by seniors (age 62 and up) will not increase and remain at \$5 if their animal is spayed or neutered.

In addition, Animal Services will no longer handle calls or activities involving nuisance animal issues, such as barking dog complaints or trapping of stray cats.

Call (813) 744-5660 or visit the County's website at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/animalservices](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/animalservices).

### Parks, Recreation & Conservation Services

PRC will not reduce its hours of operation for sites open to the public (except for furlough days). However, PRC has adopted a new fee schedule, which includes \$48 per week for a child to participate in the after-school program (discounts available based on income-eligibility), and camping fees will increase to \$24.

New fees will take place in regional parks beginning Nov. 1, including an entry fee of \$2 per car (up to 8 people) and a \$5 boat launch fee. However, annual passes for regional park entry and boat launch fees will be available for purchase. Those who enter parks on foot or bicycle will be admitted free.

For the entire fee schedule, contact (813) 635-3500 or visit [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/parks/](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/parks/).

### Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library

Libraries have adopted new hours for the public.

Residents will be able to access regional libraries—John F. Germany, Bloomingdale, Brandon, Jan K. Platt, Jimmie B. Keel, New Tampa, SouthShore, Town 'N Country, Upper Tampa Bay—any day of the week:

- Monday – Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- Thursday, noon – 8 p.m.
- Friday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Sunday, 12:30 – 5 p.m.

Branch libraries close one or two days each week:

- Austin Davis: Monday, noon – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (closed Sunday)
- Charles J. Fendig: Monday, noon – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday

& Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Friday & Sunday)

- College Hill: Monday, Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Tuesday, noon – 8 p.m.; (closed Sunday)
- Lutz: Monday, noon – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Sundays)
- North Tampa: Monday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, noon – 8 p.m.; Thursday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Sunday)
- Port Tampa City: Tuesday, Thursday – Sat, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, noon – 8 p.m.; (closed Monday & Sunday)
- Riverview: Monday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Sunday)
- Robert W. Saunders, Sr.: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (closed Saturday & Sunday)
- Ruskin: Tuesday & Thursday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, noon – 8 p.m.; (closed Monday & Sunday)
- Seffner-Mango: Monday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, noon, – 8 p.m.; Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Sunday)
- Seminole Heights: Mondays, noon – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Friday & Sunday)
- 78th Street: Monday, noon – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (closed Friday & Sunday)
- Thonotosassa: Tuesday, Thursday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, noon – 8 p.m.; (closed Monday & Sunday)
- West Tampa: Monday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; (closed Saturday & Sunday)

Partnership Libraries - Egypt Lake and MOSI Science Library - also will have different schedules.

Call (813) 273-3652 or visit [www.hcplc.org](http://www.hcplc.org) for info.

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## Construction Zone Safety

Ever been tempted to drive around a road barricade, especially when it doesn't appear there's any reason the road should be closed?

Don't do it.

Work crews, including those for Water Resource Services, place barricades to prevent further damage to the roadbed and infrastructure, and to keep motorists from damaging their vehicles and injuring themselves. While it might appear you can safely navigate near or over the repair area, looks can be deceiving.

WRS line maintenance workers have seen it all, from motorists who have moved barricades, to those who drove around them and caused an already-weakened roadbed to collapse. Other drivers have lost control and unintentionally landed in the work area. Not only can that damage the vehicle, but such actions can threaten the safety and lives of the driver and workers, as well as damage equipment and significantly delay repairs.

So the next time you see a barricaded road - drive safely, and follow the detour.



## County Service Changes

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### Veterans Affairs

The County's Veterans Affairs office at 1101 E. 139th Ave., Tampa, will close and the following out-reach locations will open. Call the locations for their hours of service:

- Office of Veterans Affairs (Main Office in Brandon area), 10119 Windhorst Road, Tampa 33619, Phone: (813) 975-2181 or (813) 274-6600
- University Community Resource Center (Annex Location in James Haley Area), 13605 N. 22nd St., Tampa 33613, Phone: (813) 975-2181
- Homeless Recovery (Annex Location in Downtown Area), Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program (HVRP), 2410 N. Tampa St., Tampa 33602, Phone: (813) 276-2976 or (813) 307-4717
- West Tampa (Annex Location), 2103 N. Rome Ave., Tampa 33602, Phone: (813) 272-5074
- Lee Davis (Annex Location), 3402 N. 22nd St., Tampa 33605, Phone: (813) 272-5220
- Ruskin (Annex Location in South Shore Area), 201 14th Ave. S.E., Ruskin 33570, Phone: (813) 246-3170

Call (813) 975-2181 or visit the County's website at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/veteransaffairs/](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/veteransaffairs/) for more information.

## HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY COMMUNICATOR

Published every month by the Communications Department to inform residents about the programs, services and activities of their County government.

For more information, call the Hillsborough Information Line at (813) 272-5900, or visit the County's Web site at: [www.hillsboroughcounty.org](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org)

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# COMMUNICATOR

Keeping You Informed About County Government  
November 2009

## Water Restrictions Extended Through End of Year

The Southwest Florida Water Management District's Governing Board has voted to extend all Phase II and Phase III water restrictions through Dec. 31, 2009. Hillsborough County is in Modified Phase III, due to its extreme water shortage.

Despite some instances of short-term heavy rainfall this summer that caused temporary, localized flooding, all counties within the District still have rainfall deficits and water levels are already declining.

Under the revised Phase III order, lawn watering remains limited to the same once-per-week schedule and is limited to the hours of before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Special exceptions are in place for new or replacement lawns and landscaping, and other considerations.

Tampa Bay Water has been able to store 13.1 billion gallons of water in the 15-billion-gallon C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir. However, District staff cautioned that the wellfields and other water resources



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## Water Restrictions

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have not recovered from the drought.

Earlier this year, the regional wellfields were heavily used because the reservoir ran dry. As a result, Tampa Bay Water needs to continue reducing groundwater withdrawals for at least two more months to make up for the pumping.

For more information about Hillsborough County's water restrictions, visit [www.hillsboroughcounty.org/water/restrictions/](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/water/restrictions/) or call (813) 275-7094.