

August 2016

Dear Friend,

August is National Back to School Safety Month. I urge all drivers to put their cell phones down and watch for children walking and riding bikes or scooters. School zone times may be different than last year due to new hours at many of local middle schools. And please be cautious around high schools where inexperienced teenage drivers are maneuvering the roadways.

Check Your Mailbox

This month, the Property Appraiser mails your Notice of Proposed Property Taxes. It's not a bill. It explains any proposed changes in the millage rate (tax rate) of each taxing authority and lists your property's assessed value.

Do you have a new mailing address? Verify your address and report any errors to the Property Appraiser's Office at (561) 355-2866. We use the information they have on file to mail your 2016 property tax bill in November.

On the Move

Summer is the perfect time to move to a new home in Palm Beach County. Whether you're new to Florida or just moving across town, there are several transactions you'll complete with our agency – updating your driver license, paying property taxes, registering or titling cars and boats and more. Our New Neighbor Kit will guide you through the process. Download our kit at www.pbctax.com/NewNeighbor. If you would like printed copies for your community, email ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com.

Peak Season

South Florida faces its greatest risk of a hurricane landfall from August through October. Don't wait until a storm approaches to trim trees. Debris can damage your property or your neighbor's and prevent emergency vehicles from passing after a storm. Want to make sure your community, faith or civic group is prepared? Email ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com for copies of our pocket-sized Hurricane Guide. It's packed with local information, including key phone numbers, supply kit essentials and shelter locations.

New License Icons

Did you know your Florida driver license or ID card can do triple duty as a lifetime hunting or fishing license, as well as a veteran's discount card? It costs \$1 to add each designation symbol when you update your driver license. These symbols make life easier and they also minimize the risk of identity theft. No need to carry your old military ID with your social security number. Save time with your next driver license visit by making an appointment online at https://www.pbctax.com/locations-hours/appointments.

Free Fish

Most people need to buy a license to hunt or fish in Florida. There are exceptions, though. Children under the age of 16 and Florida seniors ages 65 and older are not required to buy most recreational licenses. Seniors must carry proof of age and residency, such as a Florida driver license or ID card. Nonresident seniors are required to purchase Florida hunting or recreational fishing licenses or permits.

Any Florida resident on Medicaid or who receives temporary cash assistance can go saltwater fishing without a license. This only applies to saltwater fishing from the shore or a structure attached to the shore, like a pier or dock.

Lobster Dinner, Anyone?

Florida lobster is now a smash hit on the menu at several Palm Beach fine dining establishments. Why not try your luck on the open water? Lobster season begins August 6 and runs through March 31, 2016. Lobster permits cost just \$5 per year and are available at https://www.pbctax.com/hunting-fishing. You can print your license and use it immediately.

August Elections

We are all looking forward to the November presidential election. Don't miss Florida's primary election on August 30. It includes several important local, state and federal contests. The Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections recently mailed all registered voters a new voter registration card. Please double check your card to make sure the information is accurate.

Make your voice heard!

Best regards,

Anne M. Gannon