

**March 2022**



## **New Malabar Newsletter Format**

The Town of Malabar has moved its monthly Newsletter to an online format. Once a month, a new newsletter will be uploaded to the Town website, [Townofmalabar.org](http://Townofmalabar.org). A new feature to help residents is the new subscription option on our website. Residents can subscribe to receive an e-mail notification whenever a new newsletter is uploaded. Please help us spread the word by telling your neighbors!

## **Return of Malabar Building Records**

The Town of Malabar is planning to digitize our physical public records in the near future. In doing this, Town Staff will be sorting through and removing records that have reached the State of Florida records retention schedule. According to the State of Florida's General Records Schedule, or GS1-SL, Building Permits have a retention period of 10 years. If you are a homeowner in Malabar and would like the original plans and drawings for your home, now is your chance! You now have the opportunity to email the Town Clerk at [TownClerk@TownofMalabar.org](mailto:TownClerk@TownofMalabar.org) or call at (321)-727-7764 and request that your property file be returned to you. Please have all requests in to the Clerks office by May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022. Town Staff plans on beginning this process in June of 2022, and expects the project to take about 18–24 months to complete. Due to various reasons, not all properties in Town will have records available, but once you have placed your request,

any documents of your property found by Town Staff that have exceeded their public retention period will be returned to you free of charge.

## **Free Well Plugging Offered**

A free flowing artesian well can waste over a million gallons of water from the Florida Aquifer every day. Even artesian well that are deteriorating or poorly built can have a negative impact on the quality and quantity of water available. The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) is dedicated to the continued availability and high quality of our areas drinking water. A program developed to further these goals is the abandoned artesian well plugging program. An abandoned artesian well is designated as one that does not have a properly functioning valve or flow control; has no present or future use; does not meet current well construction standards; or is discharging salt water into a drinking aquifer. In addition to wasting water resources, old free-flowing wells typically are in a deeper portion of the aquifer that may be susceptible to an increase in salinity at some locations. As a well ages, deterioration of the well casing occurs, which can allow poor quality water to move upward into fresher zones used for drinking water supplies. Proper plugging of these wells helps to prevent contamination of our groundwater supply. Plugging a well involves a site visit and well inventory, correspondence with the landowner and governments to formalize participation, geophysical logging of the well and permanent well plugging by a licensed well contractor. Abandoned wells are plugged by pumping cement (grout) through a PVC pipe or drill rod, which is lowered to the bottom of a well. The cement is pumped into the well until it flows back to the land's surface. Costs to plug a well can vary depending on the size and depth of the well and the plugging method required, but it generally costs (districtwide) several thousand dollars to properly plug each well. With more than 7 million acres of publicly and privately owned land within the District's boundaries, finding abandoned wells is the biggest challenge. Most free-flowing wells are on private property. The District relies on private property owners to identify wells and to work cooperatively with the District to permanently halt the waste of water. To notify the District of a free-flowing well, please call **386-329-4319**. This project will help maintain and improve the quality of the Indian River Lagoon. A few other tips that can help the lagoon are to ensure that only rain enters the storm drains, not over fertilizing lawns, and removing pet waste from yards. Together, we can make a difference in our community!

## **February 2022 Public Works Report**

### **Equipment Update**

- Replace blades on Road Grader
- Replace blades on Box Blade
- Weld hitch to new Truck
- Drop off Sterling Dump Truck for repair (Transmission)
- Drop off Road Grader at Caterpillar

- Pick up Sterling Dump Truck

**See attached pages for all Mowing, Road Grading and Slope Mowing accomplishments for the month.**

### **Streets & Roads Jobs**

- Repaired potholes on Weber Rd
- Removed tree stumps from McCain Ln Ditch
- Clean ditch on Billie Ln
  - 30 pieces of sod
- Remove trees from Corey Road Ditch
  - 16 Trees

### **Parks and Recreation**

- Clean up Brush from Malabar Community Park
- Repair sprinkler system in Malabar Community Park
- Repair bathrooms at Malabar Community Park
- Replace Basketball Nets at Malabar Community Park
- Repair fence at Malabar Community Park
- Add stall handles at Sandhill Trailhead

### **General Duties**

- Repair gutter on P/W Building
- Remove Snipe Signs
- Repair Exit signs at Town Hall
- Install 4 new doors at Town Hall
- Clean up Marie Street Storage Yard

For information on the Mowing, Road Grading and Slope Mowing work completed for the month, please contact Malabar Town Hall at (321)-727-7764.