

Web Policy

The information in this website is provided and maintained by City of Punta Gorda staff and management as general information for Punta Gorda citizens, businesses, organizations, visitors, and governmental agencies. The website may contain information collected from and references to other sources, but such references should not be considered as an endorsement of or recommendation by the City of Punta Gorda or by any other person or entity identified in or by the website.

The City of Punta Gorda makes no warranties, guarantees or representations as to the accuracy of information contained in this website, and assumes no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions in its content. Independent verification of all information on this website is strongly recommended.

Under no circumstances will the City of Punta Gorda be held liable to any party who relies on information and/or data contained in this website, and anyone relying on this information and/or data does so at his/her own risk.

Unauthorized attempts to upload information or change information on this service are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.

Privacy Policy

It is the policy of the State of Florida that all records of the state or political subdivisions of the state are open for public inspection and copying, subject to certain exemptions. This policy is embodied in the Florida Constitution, together with the right of an individual to be free from unauthorized governmental intrusion into their private life, as provided in Article 1, Section 23, of the Florida Constitution. In recognition of these policies, the City has established this Internet Privacy Policy. When you use our Site, you are acknowledging that any personal information you provide is subject to Florida's Public Records Policy as stated in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and Article I, Section 24, of the Florida Constitution.

You do not have to give us personal information to visit our website, download our publications, or use our e-mail communications, or any other feature. We collect no personal information about you when you visit our website unless you choose to provide this information to us or unless required by a specific City agency in order to transact business with that agency. We may use information you voluntarily provide to us to conduct statistical analyses of user activities in order to measure user interest in the information we provide and how we provide it.

Web Server Activity Logs

Like most Web servers on the Internet, our servers collect and store all of the information that your Web browser sends when it requests a Web page, including:

- the name, domain, and numerical internet address of the "host" computer (typically a computer belonging to your Internet Service Provider and not your personal computer) from which you access the Internet.
- the date and time you accessed our site;
- the Internet address of the Web page that you came from
- the page you requested from our site and the number of characters sent to your computer; and
- the information your Web browser software sends as its so-called "User Agent," which typically identifies the browser software and may also indicate the operating system and type of CPU used in your personal computer.

It is impossible to determine the actual identity of an individual user from this information.

The logs are periodically summarized and analyzed in order to study site usage over time and to perform other studies to help us improve the site's organization, performance, and usefulness.

Electronic Mail

When you send us personal identifying information via e-mail (that is, in a message containing a question or comment, or by filling out a form that e-mails us this information), we use it to respond to your requests. We may forward your e-mail to other City employees who are better able to answer your questions. We do not retain or distribute lists of e-mail addresses to any parties outside of the City of Punta Gorda.

SB 80- Effective July 1, 2006

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead contact this office by phone or in writing.

File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

City of Punta Gorda sites using the file transfer protocol may also store your e-mail address if your Web browser is configured to provide it. By default most Web browser software does not send your e-mail address; this option is configured through your browser preferences. In Netscape Navigator, for example, this option must be set by you through the 'Advanced' preferences category by the item labeled, "Send e-mail address as anonymous FTP password."

Online Surveys

When you voluntarily provide us with personal information as part of an online survey, we use it to perform various quantitative and qualitative analyses to improve customer service and satisfaction. We may forward the information collected to other City employees to perform the actual analysis. You are under no obligation to participate in such surveys. Non-participation will not inhibit your use of our website in any way. If you provided the information to us in error, you may request its removal at any time.

Collection and Release of Gathered Information

We will not attempt to obtain personal identifying information about you when you visit our website, unless you choose to provide such information to us. Except in the course of officially authorized law enforcement investigations, or in the event of a suspected attempt to deliberately circumvent our system's security with the intent to gain unauthorized access or to do physical damage (for example, an attack by hackers), we do not attempt to identify individual users or share any information we receive with any parties outside of the City of Punta Gorda. In the latter case, collected information associated with a suspected intruder might be shared with an incident response service.

Retention of Collected Information

Cookies - Some applications may save a "cookie" on your browser to provide a temporary history of actions taken. We do not retain any record of "cookies" beyond what is necessary for running the application.

E-mail - Information collected via e-mail will be retained at our discretion in a directly readable form for as long as necessary to complete our response. The e-mail may be retained in an archival form as required by Federal laws and regulations governing the retention of historical records of government agencies. For more information, please refer to the National Archives and Records Administration's Records Management Program.

Online surveys - Information collected via online surveys may be maintained at our discretion for an indefinite period of time.

Links

The City of Punta Gorda website provides links to websites that are not controlled, maintained, or regulated by us and the City is not responsible for their content. These links are provided for your reference and convenience only. Use of information from those websites by the user is voluntary. Users should rely on the information from non-City agency sites only after undertaking an independent review of its accuracy. References at those websites to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply endorsement, association, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Punta Gorda. When you link to a non-City agency site you are subject to the privacy policy of the new site and the information collected or used on those non-City agency sites.

The City of Punta Gorda as a general rule provides links to the following types of organizations:

- Links to Other Governmental Units and Educational Institutions -- the City of Punta Gorda provides links to other federal, state, and local governmental units that provide additional services and information users of the City of Punta Gorda's Official Site may find of interest. Links may also be provided to educational institutions that include Grades K through 12, school districts, intermediate school districts, community colleges, and universities.

- Links to Private Organizations and Commercial Sites -- The City of Punta Gorda does not provide links to private organizations or commercial sites unless the sites offer services or educational information that compliments the information or services offered by the City of Punta Gorda. The City of Punta Gorda will not link to any site that contains any nudity, profane or obscene language. The determination of whether to establish a link to a private organization's website is made by the City of Punta Gorda on a case-by-case basis.
- Links to Non-Profit Organizations -- The City of Punta Gorda provides links to non-profit organizations that users of the City of Punta Gorda Site may find of interest. The determination of whether to establish a link to a non-profit organization's website shall be made by the City of Punta Gorda on a case-by-case basis.

The City of Punta Gorda encourages and permits links to content of the City of Punta Gorda's Official Site. However, under no circumstance should the linking suggest that the City of Punta Gorda promotes or endorses any third party's causes, ideas, websites, products or services. Use of the City of Punta Gorda's website content for inappropriate and/or commercial purposes is strictly prohibited.

Contact Us

The City of Punta Gorda makes every effort to provide current and accurate information. If you encounter inaccuracies or out-of-date material, please contact us. Should you have any questions, suggestions or comments about the information presented here, or any complaints, or would like to notify us of any copyrighted or patented materials relating to this website and/or anyone linking to this website, please forward them to us at: webmaster@ci.punta-gorda.fl.us.

If you have other questions about the City of Punta Gorda website privacy policy, or have suggestions on how this policy can be improved, please correspond via e-mail to webmaster@ci.punta-gorda.fl.us.