

# ISLAND VIBES

*the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island*

## Travel Rally Day



Are you interested in what South Padre Island has to offer but don't know where to start? Well our recent event, Travel Rally Day, was a great opportunity to start your bucket list with all the travel and tourism information that was given out! Starting with home base the Art Incubator, Convention Center and Visitor Bureau team, and the Island Metro team were available to talk about what can be found on the Island and how you can travel between your destinations. Also present, with some very beautiful companions, was Gladys Porter Zoo

and South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary. Horchata the snake from Gladys Porter Zoo and Chicken the small Alligator from South Padre Island Birding, Nature Center & Alligator Sanctuary were ready for anyone who was excited to meet them. The Texas Travel Information Center, Port Isabel Museum and Lighthouse team, South Texas Ecotourism Center, and Visit Harlingen team were also in attendance to assist people with finding fun locations throughout Texas.

### Pets of the Week

Friends of Animal Rescue is caring for over 15 small kittens that will be available for adoption over the next 4-5 weeks. Staff and volunteers have bottle fed and cared for them around the clock in order to increase their chances of survival. The small kittens also have their own fundraiser called the Cat's Meow. This fundraiser will be held on May 18th at 6 pm at Laguna Bob.

Meet all the adoptable animals at Friends of Animal Rescue, 4908 Padre Blvd, between 10-4.

Ready to adopt? Complete our online application [here](#).



Friends of Animal Rescue

### Informal Hearing

The Cameron County Appraisal District will hold an informal hearing for residents who are concerned over their property taxes. This hearing will be held on May 15th and 16th from

9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The hearing will be located on the 2nd floor of the Multi-Modal at 321 Padre Blvd. It will be on a first come first serve basis.



### Short Term Rental Update

Anyone who owns, operators, or advertises a short term rental (STR) will need to obtain a short term rental license. The annual license fee will be \$125 per rental unit. All old and new short term rentals will need to be registered at [www.myspi.org/hottax](http://www.myspi.org/hottax) where each unit will receive a new license number. These fees will provide funding towards the new STR program and enforcement.

If you have any questions regarding the Short Term Rental License email us at [hottax@myspi.org](mailto:hottax@myspi.org) or call (956) 761 - 8382. View the press release [here](#).



#### JOIN TEAM SPI

The City of South Padre Island is hiring! To view open positions or submit an application, [click here](#).

## City of South Padre Island Bulletin Board

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Tuesday • May 16th

9:00 AM · Economic Development Corporation  
2:00 PM · Special Events Committee

#### Wednesday • May 17th

9:00 AM · Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful  
5:30 PM · City Council

#### Thursday • May 18th

3:00 PM · Planning and Zoning Committee

View upcoming meetings, live stream meetings in session, & watch archived meetings [here](#).

There's no shortage of events happening on South Padre Island [Click here](#) to join the fun and see what's happening this week.

#### Shallow Sport Owners Fishing Tournament

Date: May 12th - 13th  
Time: 7:00 AM  
Where: South Padre Island Convention Center  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### Saturday Recycling

Date: Every Saturday  
Time: 8 AM to 11 AM  
Where: 4501 Padre Blvd  
[Click here](#) for event details.

### Events

#### Sea Turtle Inc. 5k Kemp's Krawl

Date: May 13th  
Time: 8:00 AM  
Where: Holiday  
[Click here](#) for event details.

#### Run the Jailbreak

Date: May 20th  
Time: 8:00 AM  
Where: Clayton's Beach Bar & Grill  
[Click here](#) for event details.

## Hurricane Season Tips

### Be Prepared

The City of South Padre Island would like to remind you to be prepared during this hurricane season. Don't wait until a warning is issued and the stores are empty and/or closed. Here is an example prep kit list you can use.

- Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Food for at least 3 days
- Emergency kit - Sanitation needs, First aid kits, flashlight, extra batteries, and a whistle.
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio.

Evacuation routes: View the Texas Department of Transportation or Office of Emergency Management website to find routes near you, by visiting [here](#).

Emergency shelter location: To find a shelter near you, check the FEMA mobile app: [here](#).

Never use a generator, gasoline powered equipment and tools, grill, camp stove or charcoal burning device inside or in any partially enclosed area. Keep these devices outside and at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vents.

### Stay Informed

The City of South Padre Island utilizes RAVE to notify citizens, businesses, and visitors of emergency situations. Click [here](#) to sign up.

Many use social media in the event of a disaster to let relatives and friends know they are safe. It is a great way to stay current with the City, state and national social media resources and warnings. Here are a few to make sure you are following:

- City of South Padre Island Website [here](#)
- City of South Padre Island Facebook [here](#)
- Red Cross Website [here](#)
- Cameron County Emergency Management [here](#)

Prepare an emergency plan and an evacuation plan. Also, make sure every member of your family knows what to do if they are not home when an emergency is declared.

- Become familiar with your evacuation zone.
- Gather needed supplies for at least three days (including medication).
- Keep important documents in a safe place or create password-protected digital copies.
- Keep a list of emergency contacts readily available.

### After the Storm

Air out - open all doors and windows whenever you are present.

Move out - removal any contaminated material. (Ex, porous materials that may have visible fungal growths).

Tear out - flooring, paneling, drywall, insulation, and electrical outlets saturated by floodwater.

Clean out - disinfect any remaining debris and mud.

Dry out - the building and any remaining contents.

### Pets

Include basic survival items and items to keep your pet happy and comfortable.

- Food - at least 3 days in an airtight and waterproof container.
- Water - at least 3 days worth.
- Medicines and medical records.
- Collar or harness with ID tag, rabies tag, a leash, and create/pet carrier.
- Familiar items - treats, toys, and bedding to help reduce stress for your pets.