



Community Calendar

- Oakland Historical Homes & Buildings exhibition
Fridays from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Arts and Heritage Center
- Coffee with the Town Manager
July 8 at 9 a.m. / Virtual
- Town Commission
July 13 at 7 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall/ Virtual
- West Hull Avenue Septic to Sewer Groundbreaking
July 16 at 1:30 p.m.
Pollard Park
- Planning & Zoning Board
July 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall
- Town Commission
July 27 at 7 p.m.
Oakland Meeting Hall/ Virtual
- 4th Fridays on the Porch with Giselle and Erik, HAPCO Live
July 23, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Arts and Heritage Center



TOWN RECEIVES \$500,000 FOR VITAL WASTEWATER PROJECT

The Town of Oakland is proud to announce that \$500,000 has been earmarked in the 2021-22 State of Florida budget for the Oakland South Lake Apopka Initiative. The state funding will help pay for the design and construction of the Jefferson Street Wastewater Extension portion of the project. This critical north-south connection will help protect Lake Apopka for future generations by providing sanitary sewer access to existing housing and future residential development.

“The Town Commission has demonstrated its commitment to protecting the environment by eliminating septic systems in an ongoing effort to protect our precious environment,” said Mayor Kathy Stark. “I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to Sen. Randolph Bracy and Rep. Geraldine Thompson for their valued support of this important project.”

The wastewater system project will eventually serve the entire town by greatly enhancing business opportunities along the State Road 50 corridor and leading to the creation of an estimated 5,000 jobs. Over the past nine years, the Town of Oakland has made significant progress in providing an alternative wastewater disposal method to the long-standing dependence on septic tank systems.

NEW ART EXHIBIT FEATURES HISTORIC OAKLAND BUILDINGS



The Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center is featuring breathtaking digital paintings by Craig K. Brown and sketches from Rod Reeves as part of a new exhibition called “Oakland Historical Homes & Buildings.” Plus, wood art pieces by photographer Scott Lineberger, a local Oakland artist with a longtime career in video productions, will be on display.

“Oakland Historical Homes & Buildings” will allow visitors to learn about the historical buildings and homes located in the Oakland area, all while catching a glimpse of well-known local art pieces featuring these gorgeous locations. Visitors will also see historical 1924 deeds from two of the homes and registry books from the Oakland Hotel. Visitors can see the exhibition on display from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Fridays starting Friday, July 2 and running until the end of August.

Brown is a West Orange County resident and professional photographer who photographs landmarks and digitally manipulates them. Reeves is an accomplished artist and draftsman who documented much of the West Orange County region and collected an assortment of drawings throughout his life.

TOWN AWARDED \$25,000 FOR HISTORIC AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY

The Town of Oakland has been awarded Florida’s Historic Preservation Grant in the amount of \$25,000 to kick off its preservation and management plan for the Historic African American Cemetery. The Small Matching Grant funds from the Department of State’s Division of Historical Resources will become available July 1. The Town’s was the top-ranking project of the 58 recommended proposals statewide.

The cemetery, located at 16798 W. Colonial Drive, was established in 1882 with burials continuing through the 1940s. Oakland founder James Gamble Speer gave the original deed to three Black trustees in 1917. The property was later deeded to the Town of Oakland in 2014.

The cemetery is the resting place of emancipated persons and families who migrated to West Orange County. It contains archaeologically significant African American seashell and folk grave markers. The site was saved from development in the area thanks to combined efforts by the Town and a group of descendants who rallied to raise awareness, clear underbrush, and conduct archaeological work. Research surrounding the residents buried in the cemetery, including family genealogy, migration to Florida, participation in the citrus industry, and economic, spiritual and social life, are of great interest not only to Oakland’s residents, but also to the West Orange and regional Central Florida communities.



COMMISSION APPROVES ALTERNATIVE WATER

The Town has been working for 15 years to get a portion of its irrigation demands removed from reliance on high quality drinking water, to a lower quality water such as reclaimed water, or stormwater.

Reclaimed water that has been reprocessed to standards acceptable for use as irrigation, is not a feasible option because it's too far away and therefore cost prohibitive, or the treatment providers require it for their own use.

Stormwater re-use is the only reasonable choice. Increased guidance from the state to reduce the use of drinking water for irrigation resulted in the installation of a separate irrigation system piping in all new construction in Oakland.

The alternative water initiative started to gain traction with the 2016 approval of Oakland Trails. With 305 homes and an irrigation network with only one connection, the possibility of alternative water had become a probability.

Staff worked diligently to secure a suitable location for the treatment facility and formed a plan that is expandable. The raw water supply has been locked down with the acquisition of a stormwater canal near Hull Island Drive, and the electrical service required to operate the treatment has been secured with the construction of Lift Station #3. With its immediate proximity to the Hull Island, they will be the first neighborhood connected.

The alternative water initiative was discussed during the October 2018 adoption of the 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan, and during the Potable Water Utility Master Plan Update in July 2020. The 2021 estimated cost is \$3.2 million and a combination of funding sources will be needed. Water Impact Fees were recently doubled in anticipation of this. Additional Legislative appropriations and various environmental grants will be sought.

The need has been proven; the land and water have been secured, the Town has developed preliminary engineering; updated Impact Fees to support it; and now is the time to move on to the next step.

RECYCLING COLLECTION TO SHIFT TO WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST



To provide more efficient collection services, the Oakland Town Commission approved a request to shift recycling pick-ups from Friday to Wednesday. The change, requested by hauler Waste Management, which recently acquired the Town's contractor Advanced Disposal, intends to provide increased resources, more efficient route completion, and address concerns of the comingling of materials.

The start date for the change to Wednesday recycling will be Aug. 4. Collection days for garbage and yard waste will not change. Residents will be receiving a postcard from Waste Management with additional information in the coming weeks.

To "Recycle Right," be sure to follow these guidelines when placing materials in your Town-issued recycle bins.

- Newspapers, pasteboard, paper bags, magazines and junk mail should be placed in recycle bin. Flattened cardboard may be placed next to the bin and should be no larger than 3 feet by 3 feet.
- Recycle aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, drink boxes and milk/juice cartons, empty aerosol cans, plastic containers marked with a #1 or #2, and plastic bottles marked with a #3 or #7
- Put excess recyclables into brown paper bags or cardboard boxes no larger than the size of your recycling bin. Excess newspapers and magazines may be stacked and tied with string.
- Do not use plastic bags for recycling.
- Do not mix recycling with yard waste.

COFFEE WITH THE TOWN MANAGER TO BE HELD ON JULY 8

BYOC (bring your own coffee) to Coffee with the Town Manager on Thursday, July 8 at 9 a.m. via Zoom.

Oakland Town Manager Steve Koontz invites you to join him for coffee and conversation to learn more about Town news, services and programs, including proposed and new development, a future roundabout and the Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland.

Residents who attend will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts and ideas about various topics affecting the Town. The event also offers residents and business owners an opportunity to network with each other virtually.

Registration is required by visiting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86872616885>.

Coffee with the Town Manager will not be held in August and will resume in September.

2020 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Oakland is pleased to announce that its drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

Copies of the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be picked up at Town Hall or if you would like a paper copy mailed to your home, call 407-656-1117 x2304.

To view your 2020 Annual Drinking Quality Report, visit <https://oaklandfl.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4427/Consumer-Confidence-Report-2020>.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTNERS WITH GROW CF



The Oakland Police Department is proud to partner with GROW Central Florida, a non-profit that works to promote environments that support increased opportunities for physical activity and healthy living for Central Florida children.

The organization recently donated 50 balls to our department, which our patrol officers handed out to local children - but not before playing a little kickball together!

To learn more, visit: <https://growcentralflorida.smartsimple.com>.