

Information for Pinellas County 2016 Sea Oat Orders

Information Summary:

- **May 27** – order submittal deadline to County
- **June 23 or 24** – proposed delivery date for pick up of plants
- Mid June – delivery date, time, and place specifics provided by County
- Early July – begin planting sea oats at onset of rainy season

Dear Beach Community Partner:

Each year, Pinellas County Coastal Management provides sea oats to coastal municipalities on the Gulf barrier islands with authorized federal shore protection projects. Sea oats aid in building dunes which can help to protect infrastructure and our beaches. Beach communities on the islands of Long Key (St. Pete Beach), Treasure Island, and Sand Key communities may request sea oats.

New this Year

- 1 Gal sea oats will be providing sparingly for use along the perimeter to delineate the planting area. Sea oat seedlings will be provided for the body of the planting area.
- Before sea oats are provided the viability of the area to be planted will be investigated and determined by the County.
- We are requesting that a staggered plant spacing be used to allow for increased dune development at the landward edge of the planting area. See the updated attached planting guide for further details

Things to remember:

- Sea oat planting should be west of any sea walls, structures, the coastal construction control line, and should comply with all DEP permit conditions.
- Each request for sea oats must include a map depicting the address, location, and size of the area being planted. An example map is included as a guide. This will allow the County to determine the number of sea oats needed and to track dune growth. Each municipality will be responsible for organizing a volunteer planting effort and for obtaining **permits from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)** for the planting project.
- For information on what types of signage and fencing is allowed please contact **Charles Grisafi (FDEP Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, 813-470-5875, Charles.Grisafi@dep.state.fl.us)**

Please provide a copy of this information sheet to volunteer group leaders.

Please e-mail your orders to:

John Bishop (jbishop@pinellascounty.org), 727-464-8766), with an email copy to asquires@pinellascounty.org by Friday, May 27.

Include the following information with your order:

- the number of sea oats requested for your July planting project,
- a contact person at the municipality for the order with their e-mail address and phone number,
- the beach location (city & nearest street address) or locations (range of street addresses) where the sea oats will be planted, and
- the contact information (name, e-mail, phone#) for the person organizing the plantings at each location.
- A map similar to the example map showing the location of the planting.
- A copy of the FDEP Permit allowing the planting of sea oats.

Your order may need to be revised depending upon cost and plant availability. Delivery specifics will be provided to the contact person at the municipality for the order by mid June. I will do my best to keep you informed.

Your stewardship of our dune systems is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully,

John Bishop, Ph.D.

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