



SMOKE SIGNALS

VILLAGE OF
TEQUESTA
NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2022

TEQUESTA'S FIRST ANNUAL RESIDENT'S ACADEMY IS IN FULL SWING

The 8-week Resident's Academy started on February 9, 2022 and runs through March 23, 2022. Twenty Tequesta residents registered to participate in the Inaugural Academy. Each session will focus on a different part of local government and give an overview of what each department does for the residents of Tequesta. Following the completion of the program, residents will have a better understanding about the systems, operations, structures, and happenings within their local government.

Upon completion of the academy, each participant will be given a certification of completion that indicates the resident has gone through the full course. Every individual who goes through the course will walk away with valuable and beneficial knowledge of local government operations.



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HIGHLIGHT



**Council Member
Laurie Brandon**

What a year 2022 is going to be!

If there was ever a year to speak up as a local - this is the year!

We are seeing excessive change take place in neighboring communities and hear the locals speak about not having a voice. But here in Tequesta, we have a special Village where our locals have the ability to be heard and take part in the Village's future planning process. We have a population of just over 6,000 residents - all of whom can participate in this process!

In the near future, the Village will begin planning design and use for Remembrance Park and sprucing up other green space areas. Draft plans will be shared for your feedback once they are drafted. Budgets for these spaces will be discussed and strategically created so we can move forward simultaneously with the road, sidewalk, and water improvement projects.

Ever say to yourself, "who approved that?" or "how can they just keep building bigger?" Each municipality has a set of building codes, zoning districts, and a Comprehensive Plan that each new development or redevelopment project has to meet in order to obtain approval.

Council recognizes that the Village is nearly built out and redevelopment is on the horizon. This year, the Village will host a charrette process to address the future appearance and character of the US1 Corridor and Cypress Drive Commercial areas. Council encourages you

to become involved with how future growth will affect your family, your children, and future generations. Please get involved and attend the Charrette meetings. You will learn about the Village's codes, land use regulations, and what is currently allowed for development and redevelopment projects.

Your feedback and participation during these charrette meetings will help the Village create a Master Plan for the Village's present and future growth. There will be a variety of days and times to accommodate everyone's ability to participate. The team will also offer individual meetings with team leaders, allowing one-on-one conversations to gather resident and business owner input.

On another topic, we are excited that the new Recreation Center will open this year! Classes and programs will continue to grow as staff works through the schedule during the first few months. Registration has opened for the Summer Camp program which will take place at the new Recreation Center. You can register at:

www.SportsTymeCamps.com.

Don't miss out on important dates and reminders. To receive text alerts and emails on important dates, events, environmental tips, and emergency alerts, visit www.Tequesta.org and click on the red circle icon "Emergency Alerts" to register.

As we start 2022, let us take a moment to remember this wonderful Village, we all call home, was not here before the 1950's. In order to maintain a healthy quality of life for future generations, we need to preserve our land and waterways, and restore and sustain what our slice of paradise has to offer. Live consciously for today, tomorrow, and the future.

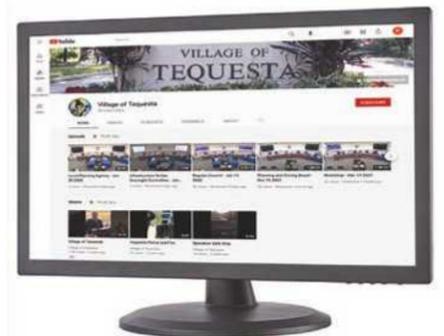
Let's have a great and productive 2022!

Laurie Brandon

COUNCIL MEETING LIVE STREAM AND RECAPS

Interested in what is taking place in the Village with your elected council members? Want to know what projects staff and management are putting forth? You can watch the Village's Workshop and Council Meetings via Youtube (<https://www.tequesta.org/1418/Youtube-Stream>) live stream from the comfort of your own home.

Perhaps you aren't able to watch the meeting, but you want to know what action was taken. We post a meeting recap on social media and on our website the day after a Regular Council meeting - <https://www.tequesta.org/1500/Council-Meeting-Recap>.



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PERMIT # 2073

Village of Tequesta
Village Manager's Office
345 Tequesta Drive
Tequesta, FL 33469-0273

Around the Village



PUBLIC WORKS

The fiscal year 2022 road and sidewalk projects started on January 10, 2022.

Sidewalk Improvements



The sidewalk will be replaced on the south side of Tequesta Drive from Seabrook Rd to Venus Avenue.

Road Improvements



The following roads are scheduled for milling and paving: Franklin, Church, Beacon, Ridgewood, Pine Tree, Hickory Hill (partial), Dogwood, Hemlock, and Willow (partial).

The projects will run through mid-February. Please use caution when in the areas under construction.

Projects Affecting Residents Webpage

Be sure to take a look at the Village's webpage, "Projects Affecting Residents":

(<https://www.tequesta.org/1465/Projects-Affecting-Residents>)

and stay up-to-date on road closures, sidewalk improvements, Brightline updates, US 1 Bridge updates, utility improvements, and more!



FIRE RESCUE

In December, Tequesta Fire Rescue participated in "Live Fire" Training at Palm Beach State College, alongside several other departments from the Palm Beaches. This training focused on search and rescue techniques. Each crew was given a scenario, and with a predetermined plan, entered a building with little visibility. The objective was to find anyone that may be unresponsive. After the exercise, they came together to share tactics and advice to ensure they did the best job possible. In a job where saving lives is the top priority, you can never train too much!



Tequesta Fire Rescue Crew at PBSC for "Live Fire" Training

Tequesta Fire Rescue hosted the 10th Annual Chili Cook-off



In November 2021, Tequesta Fire Rescue hosted the 10th Annual Chili Cook-off, raising \$110,000; by far the most successful year in Cook-off history! The money was proudly donated to Honor Flight, The Renewal Coalition, Operation 300, Wounded Veterans Relief Fund, and Tequesta Friends of Public Safety. These organizations work to enrich the lives of veterans, front-line emergency service providers, and their families.

Fire Chief James Trube, and Lieutenant David McGovern presenting donations to Charity.

New Year, New Fire Safety Plan!

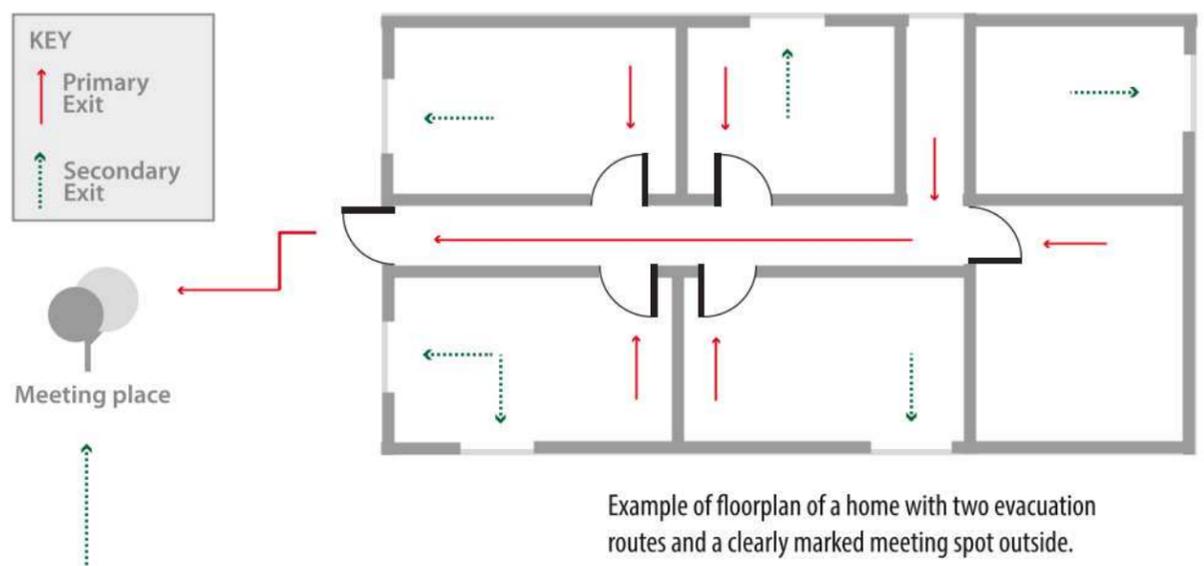
To Ensure that everyone in your home knows how to evacuate in case of an emergency. Make a plan and practice it at least once a year!

- **Plan for everyone!** Take into account the needs of everyone in your home and make sure that your plan is workable for those who may not be as mobile, i.e., children, elderly, and/or disabled. Make sure that everyone knows what the fire alarm sounds like and that when they hear it, they need to evacuate the house.
- **Check smoke alarms regularly.** The National Fire Protection Association recommends installing a smoke alarm in every sleeping room, outside of each sleeping room, and on every level of the home.
- **Find two ways out.** Visit each room in your home and find two ways out, this includes doors and windows. Make sure that all exits open easily. Choose a spot outside the home, such as the mailbox, or end of the driveway, that is visible to emergency service providers.

Agree that no one should go back into the house for any reason until it has been deemed safe to re-enter.

- **Involve children in the planning.** Draw a map of the home and have children mark two exit routes from the house. Once the plan is created, make a game out of it. Set a starting point in the house and race to see who can get out of the house and to the meeting spot outside the fastest!
- **Have a backup plan.** If your planned exit routes become inaccessible, and you are unable to leave the house, you should close all doors between you and the fire. Place a towel under the door and go to an exterior facing window and call the Fire Department for help.
- **Visibility.** If Emergency Services need to come to your home, it is imperative that they be able to locate you easily. Make sure that your house numbers can be seen clearly from the street.

Fire Evacuation Plan



Example of floorplan of a home with two evacuation routes and a clearly marked meeting spot outside.

The Village engaged the services of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council to obtain public input, conduct a public design charrette, analyze potential redevelopment strategies, and provide recommendations for maintaining the desired community scale and character of the Village of Tequesta.



The geographic study area for the project is roughly bounded by the Palm Beach County-Martin County Line to the north, US-1 to the east, the Village limits to the south, the Old Dixie-FEC corridor to the west, and will focus primarily on the commercial areas of the Village. The Scope of Services will include the following:

- Undertake due diligence research to assess land use, planning, and physical conditions throughout the Village;
- Conduct a structured series of public input activities, including stakeholder interviews, meetings with property owners, and presentations to the Village Council;
- Conduct a four-day, on-site public design charrette to solicit input from the public on a range of topics including the appropriate scale and aesthetic of future redevelopment, the Dixie Highway and US-1 Corridors and any other areas of improvement; and
- Develop a Master Plan document that illustrates design concepts and redevelopment strategies discussed with the community as well as steps for implementing the desired vision for the Village of Tequesta. Stay tuned to the Village's website and social media for the charrette date. Please visit our website for up-to-date information (<https://www.tequesta.org/1520/Community-Vision-and-Master-Plan>). Your input is vital to ensuring Tequesta is on the right track as we move forward into the future.

211 is a community helpline and crisis hotline that offers many services to those in need of help. 211 provides services such as suicide prevention, crisis intervention, information, and can refer residents to several community services. All services are confidential and free of charge 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The 211 center handles 400-500 calls a day and is dedicated to helping those in need. Some of their services include:



- Health Care Advocacy Program – The program is designed to help assist people navigate the somewhat confusing and complicated healthcare system. The advocates help navigate this system and ensure the caller gets the help they need.
- Elder Crisis Outreach Program – Enables emergency elder care. The program helps elders struggling with issues. The advocates will go out to the home and help with whatever problem the elder is having.
- Sunshine Daily Reassurance Program – This program allows the volunteers to check up on individuals by calling them and making sure they are doing okay.
- Special Needs Helpline – This program is for families of individuals with special needs kids aging from 0-22. The program is anonymous and allows anyone to call in with any questions they may have.

If you have questions about resources, need help, or just want to talk to someone, 211 is the number to dial.

Individuals and families living in Indian River County, Martin County, Okeechobee County, Palm Beach County, and St. Lucie County can call 2-1-1. If you are out of the area, call (561) 383-1112 or 1(866) 882-2991 to speak with a highly trained resource specialist. Calls to 211 Helpline are free, confidential, and are accepted 24/7!

For more information, log on to www.211palmbeach.org.

New Recreation Center . . . Coming Soon!

Your Parks & Recreation staff are working on creating exciting new recreation programs. Many of these programs are still in the works. Here is a list of what you might see in your new Recreation Center:



- Tai Chi
- Zumba
- Pilates Mat
- Yoga
- Stretch and Fitness



- Parent & Tot youth gymnastics classes
- Preschool gymnastics
- Rec Co-ed gymnastics
- Ninja Gymnastics
- Adult Table Games



Once the new Recreation Center opens, several rooms will be available for rent to residents, local groups and HOAs. These rooms include:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Gymnasium | \$ 200/hr - Full Court | • Activity Room | \$60/hr - AV Equip |
| • Gymnasium | \$ 100/hr - 1/2 Court | • Activity Room 1 & 2 | \$108/hr |
| • Game Room | \$ 78/hr | • Staff Charge | \$45/hr - After Hours |
| • Activity Room 1 | \$ 48/hr | | |

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT



Silver Edge Financial Group – Wealth Creation Through Capital Preservation
The future of wealth management is here, and Silver Edge

We provide unique and innovative investment strategies to help preserve and grow your invested capital through multiple market cycles. This doesn't mean we merely cobble together plug and play portfolios of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and ETFs. We are crafty, savvy, and opportunistic. We look under the covers and perform our own due diligence to uncover opportunities that most never see or understand. We look to deliver out-of-the box strategies that are unique to your specific needs.

Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through NewEdge Advisors, LLC, a registered investment adviser. NewEdge Advisors, LLC and Silver Edge Financial Group are separate entities from LPL Financial. NewEdge Advisors, LLC ("NewEdge Advisors") is a registered investment advisor. Advisory services are only offered to clients or prospective clients where NewEdge Advisors and its representatives are properly licensed or exempt from licensure. This website is solely for information purposes. Past Performance is no guarantee of future returns. Investing involves risk and possible loss of principal capital. No advice may be rendered by NewEdge Advisors unless a client service agreement is in place.

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 Social Media: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/howardsilver/>

Tequesta Police Department's Pill Drop

The Palm Beach County Substance Awareness Coalition ("PBCSAC") was created to give the community an opportunity to safely dispose of unused or unwanted prescription drugs. Since 2002, PBCSAC has worked closely with local educators, substance abuse professionals, and law enforcement administrators. To date, PBCSAC's biggest accomplishment has been their drug drop box, "Pill Drop". Bringing your unused or unwanted prescriptions to the pill drop is a safe and secure way to destroy them. Remember, properly disposing of these drugs not only keeps them out of our water supply but prevents the risk of another person potentially taking the medication.

The drop box is located in the lobby of the Tequesta Public Safety Building. It's available 24/7 for your convenience. Contact the Tequesta Police Department for more information.



Help us identify our STAR employees

Help us identify our STAR employees via our Service Recognition program. A Service Star is any employee who "raises the bar above and beyond the Village's customary, high performance standards!" Do you know an employee who fits the STAR description?

- Service with a smile (courtesy)
- Teamwork (cooperative spirit)
- Amazing (can-do attitude)
- Responsiveness (commitment to communicate)



To make a nomination, complete and submit the S.T.A.R. Employees nominated by residents receive special recognition by the Village Manager and staff. Nomination form:

<https://www.tequesta.org/FormCenter/STAR-7/STAR-Nomination-50>

Captain Dan Tilles Retires



Chief James Trube, and Captain Dan Tilles at Tequesta Fire Rescue

Tequesta Fire Rescues, Captain Dan "The Man" Tilles worked his last shift in December 2021. As an original member of Tequesta Fire Rescue, Captain Dan Tilles soared through the ranks over his 28-year career. He served in the department as Logistics Officer and EMS Coordinator. We congratulate Captain Tilles on this new chapter of his life and sincerely thank him for his years of hard work and dedication. He will be greatly missed!

SHOP VOT

Thank you to all who participated in Shop VOT! Sixteen lucky local shoppers took home fabulous prizes provided by our local Tequesta business sponsors. Be sure to continue to shop, dine and think local all year long!

NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 19

Shop VOT Sponsors

SERVICES

Star Award Winners

VILLAGE OF TEQUESTA EMPLOYEES

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Max Cooper | John Kostyo |
| Janet McCorkle | Daniel Tilles |
| Joe O'Connor | Dennis Rick |
| Jose Rodriguez | Gary Harris |
| Kathy Hannon | Zach Wichert |
| Eleanora Milin | Adam Evans |
| Lee Ferguson | Nate Litteral |
| Jose Rodriguez & Group | Joseph O'Conner |
| Doug Chambers & Group | Stephen Mesagno |
| Chief Medina & Group | Jesse Jenkins |
| Emir Yildiz | Bo Chesnes |
| Ariel Ramirez | Lori McWilliams |



New Employees

- Carmen Bratu - Administrative, Water Administration
- Kayla Atkinson - Firefighter/Paramedic
- Latoya Thompson - P/T Code Compliance Officer

Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Debra Telfrin | 15 years |
| Thomas Jarrell | 5 years |
| Christopher Scaduto | 5 years |
| John Rouse | 5 years |
| John Kostyo | 15 years |
| Lori McWilliams | 15 years |
| Raymond Giblin | 20 years |
| Greg Corbitt | 20 years |

Retirements

- Fire Captain Daniel Tilles



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Solid Waste Authority

Recycling Right Means Revenue for Palm Beach County Cities, Towns and Villages.

Through its Municipal Revenue Share Program, the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) shares recycling revenues with the municipalities it serves. In Fiscal Year 2021 (Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021), more than \$251,700 was shared with municipalities from Tequesta to Boca Raton. Since the SWA started the program in 2010, local municipalities have shared about \$10 million.

The Municipal Revenue Share Program rewards the SWA's municipal partners for the role they play in making Palm Beach County's dual stream recycling program successful. Each municipality's recyclables are transported to the SWA, and once the SWA has sorted, baled and sold those commodities, the revenue is shared back with the municipal partners after covering processing costs.

In the last fiscal year, county residents placed more than 100,000 tons of recyclables in their blue and yellow recycle bins. That's more than 200 million pounds of recyclable waste that would have otherwise been trashed.

Ultimately, more than 83,500 tons of recyclables were sold to mills and factories that could use them in making materials for new products. The top recycled items by weight were:

- **Mixed paper – more than 33,500 tons**
- **Glass – more than 21,000 tons**
- **Cardboard – more than 18,700 tons**
- **Plastic – more than 4,100 tons**
- **Aluminum – more than 1,000 tons**



The revenue received from marketing these recyclables varies due to market conditions and international policy. Since 2018, China's National Sword policy has had the biggest impact on the reduction in recycling revenues.

The net Municipal Revenue Share for each municipality consists of the total recovered residential materials revenue received by the SWA for each quarter less the processing cost for that quarter. That amount is divided by the total tons received to determine an average price per ton and multiplied by the adopted annual Municipal Revenue Share percentage (50% in FY 21) to set the program price for the quarter. The revenue received from recovered materials varies depending on market prices and availability.

Self-haul municipalities receive their Municipal Revenue Share based on the actual weight of acceptable loads delivered to an approved SWA facility. The other municipalities, who share a common hauler, share the balance of those revenues in proportion with their total equivalent residential unit (ERU), which is calculated with single family and mobile homes as 1 ERU each and multifamily homes as 0.75 ERU per unit.



In addition, more than 4.9 million pounds of home chemicals were collected to be safely disposed of or recycled. The most dropped off home chemicals at one of the SWA's seven Home Chemical and Recycling Centers were:

- **Latex paint – more than 2,425,000 pounds**
- **Electronics – more than 900,000 pounds**
- **Used motor oil – more than 550,000 pounds**
- **Cylinders/propane tanks – more than 230,000 pounds**
- **Used cooking oil – more than 49,000 pounds**
- **Pesticides – more than 47,000 pounds**
- **Cleaning products solution – more than 45,500 pounds**

Though this effort is not a part of the traditional Municipal Revenue Share program, it does demonstrate that our county's residents do take an active role to dispose of items the right way.

Learn what goes in the blue and yellow recycling bins at SWA.org/RecycleRight [swa.org] and help us continue to recycle in the Village of Tequesta.

Below you will find our breakdown for the Village of Tequesta as well as sister communities:

Juno Beach

FY21 Total Revenue – \$1,102.34
 Total Tons Recycled since 2010 – 4,555.28
 Total Revenue Share received since 2010 – \$75,309.51

Jupiter

FY21 Total Revenue – \$11,235.46
 Total Tons Recycled since 2010 – 45,829.54
 Total Revenue Share received since 2010 – \$761,249.42

Jupiter Inlet Colony

FY21 Total Revenue – \$105.98
 Total Tons Recycled since 2010 – 440.60
 Total Revenue Share received since 2010 – \$7,421.02

Tequesta

FY21 Total Revenue – \$1,208.32
 Total Tons Recycled since 2010 – 5,201.77
 Total Revenue Share received since 2010 – \$88,576.51

Additional information for FY 2021 Municipal Revenue Share breakdown by municipality can be found for the rest of the municipalities on the SWA.org/RecycleRight [swa.org].

Each municipality spends their portion of the Municipal Revenue Share as they see fit.

Excess Fertilizer = Pollution

Fertilizers make things grow! And that's a good thing if it's your yard. But when excess fertilizer is picked up by rainfall runoff, it is carried to our waterways, where it can cause many water quality problems (like algal blooms)!

But YOU can help!

- If your community has a fertilizer application ordinance, get a copy and understand the rules.
- Always sweep up fertilizer that has accidentally been applied to hard surfaces.
- Don't apply fertilizer when heavy rainfall is forecast (2" or more).
- Keep a 10-foot wide buffer zone that is fertilizer free next to waterbodies.
- Save yourself time and money by converting your landscaping to native South Florida plants that don't require fertilization.

Keep Pollution Out of our Waters!
 www.StormwaterAndMe.org

FLOOD INFORMATION: KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD, & PURCHASE FLOOD INSURANCE



Do I need flood insurance in Florida?

It is important to have flood insurance coverage in Florida because flooding is often caused by heavy rainfall that occurs in short periods of time, as is common during thunderstorms. However, the greatest flood threats come from the excessive amounts of rainfall that accompany coastal storms, tropical storms, and hurricanes. Floods are the most common natural disaster in the U.S., yet most homeowners' insurance does not cover flood damage. You can protect your building and/or its contents by purchasing a flood insurance policy. Don't wait until a flood is imminent because it takes 30 days after purchase for a policy to take effect.

What is a flood map?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides flood insurance rate maps. Flood maps show a community's risk of flooding. Flood maps are intended to incorporate the latest and most accurate information into the maps so that they better reflect the risk that communities face. Flood maps show the extent to which areas are at risk for flooding, and are used to help determine flood insurance requirements and policy costs.

Where can I view the flood map for my property?

Residents and property owners of the Village of Tequesta may review flood maps for their properties by clicking on the following URL: <https://maps.co.palm-beach.fl.us/cwgis/?app=floodzones>



Is flood insurance available to me?

Yes, flood insurance is available in any community that participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which is managed by FEMA. The NFIP provides flood insurance to property owners, renters and businesses. Homes and businesses in high-risk flood areas with mortgages from government-backed lenders are required to have flood insurance.

How do I purchase flood insurance?

To purchase flood insurance, call your insurance company or insurance agent, the same person who sells your home or auto insurance. If you need help finding a provider, you can go to [FloodSmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider](https://www.floodsmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider) or call the NFIP at 877-336-2627. Flood insurance is a Federal Program and so all rates are the same regardless of which insurance agent you use to secure your flood policy.

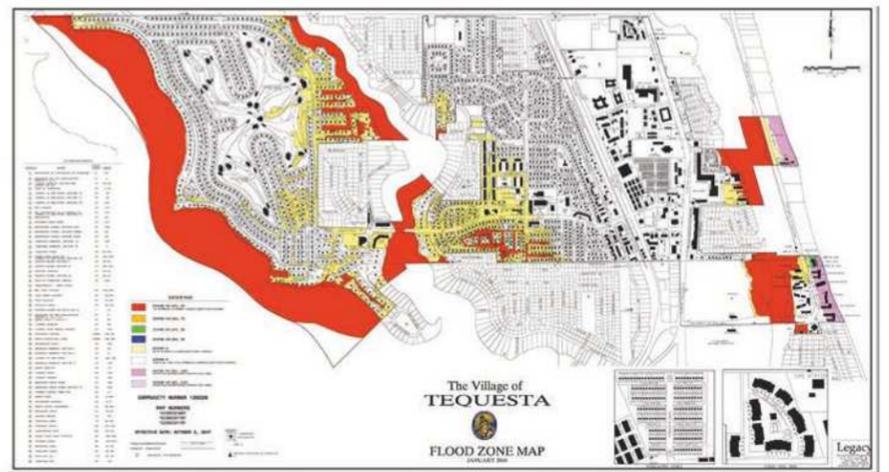
What does my flood zone mean?

Each flood zone describes the flood risk for a particular area, and those flood zones are used to determine insurance requirements and costs. In the Village of Tequesta, most structures fall into two major designations corresponding to low and high risks of flooding:

Zone X – A low risk flood zone, defined as having only a 0.2 percent chance of flooding in any given year. Low risk is a relative term that should not be thought of as no risk. Low risk should be conservatively thought of as just lower risk.

Zone AE – A high risk flood zone, also called a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). High risk zones have at least a 1 percent risk of flooding in any given year.

The difference of insurance costs between homes in Zone X and Zone AE can be very significant. Homes in AE zones are required to have flood insurance if they have a mortgage through a federally regulated or insured lender. Homes in Zone X are encouraged to have flood insurance. Please keep in mind that flooding inside of a home of just 1-2 inches can easily cause several tens-of-thousands of dollars worth of damage to floors, walls, fixtures, furniture, equipment, and appliances.



Can I challenge my flood zone determination?

There is a process for homeowners to challenge the change of designation from low risk (Zone X) to a high risk Special Flood Hazard Area (Zones AE and VE). The detailed process is described in various FEMA publications; for more information visit [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov). You can submit an application for a Letter of Map Change (LOMC), which triggers a formal determination of the home's elevation relative to the Base Flood Elevation. FEMA will examine the map change request and will issue to you a Determination Document to either deny or approve the map change that you requested.

What is the Community Rating System?

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the NFIP. The CRS provides an incentive for communities to initiate new flood risk reduction activities. Each community participating in the NFIP can qualify for a discount based upon the number of points achieved. For instance, the Village of Tequesta currently has a score of "7" with a 15% discount on flood insurance premiums and has been informed by FEMA that, due largely to our public information outreach efforts, we will qualify for a score of "6" with a corresponding 20% discount on flood insurance effective April 2022.

How do I build responsibly?

Any development in the floodplain requires a building permit. Always check with the Village Building Department before you alter, re-grade, or bring fill onto your property to ensure that projects do not cause drainage problems for you or your neighbors.

Where can I find more information?

If you need help finding an insurance provider, you can go to [FloodSmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider](https://www.floodsmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider) or call the NFIP at 877-336-2627. For year-round hurricane planning, please view the official Palm Beach County Hurricane Planning Guide at the following URL: <https://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/PDF/Hurricane-Guide.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact the Village of Tequesta Building Department at (561) 768-0450.