

DEERFIELD BEACH

<http://www.deerfield-beach.com/>

LOCATION

City of Deerfield Beach
150 NE 2nd Avenue
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
954-480-4200

HISTORY

A passenger train slowly rocks to a stop in the heat of a lazy Florida afternoon. The train takes on water for its passengers, who have stepped down into a nearby field to stretch and gather pineapples growing beside the tracks. As the passengers refresh themselves, it is impossible to ignore the hum of life teeming around them. The air has the fragrant scent of sea mist and flowers. A short while later, the bell sounds on the train alerting passengers to their impending departure. Reluctantly, the travelers return to the train, glancing back at the peaceful and bountiful terrain. This scene was undoubtedly repeated many times in the early 1900's as trains passed through the burgeoning settlement later to be named the City of Deerfield Beach.

The City's history begins in 1877, when the first non-native glimpsed at the swamps, dense vines, saw palmetto, wild fig trees, cabbage palms, and pine groves along Hillsboro River which empties into the Atlantic. To the south, Key West and Miami were flourishing villages. To the north, Palm Beach was gaining renown as a fashionable winter resort. By 1890, a few houses appeared along the meandering Hillsboro River, which was named after the Earl of Hillsborough who was granted this land by King George III of England in the late eighteenth century. By the spring of 1896, Henry M. Flagler had extended his Florida East Coast Railroad down the coastline into Miami. The railroad opened up the tropical wilderness, pressing parallel against the Atlantic shore, which until then had been inhabited primarily by local fauna and Seminole Indians who lived inland.

On June 22, 1898 a post office was established at Deerfield, Florida to serve a population of 20 settlers. It is said this name was chosen because of the numerous deer that grazed along the Hillsboro River. This river formed the northern boundary of Deerfield. A narrow wooden bridge crossed the stream west of the railroad, leading to another blossoming settlement: Boca Raton.

The intersection of today's Hillsboro Boulevard and Dixie Highway was the focus of Deerfield's businesses in 1910. Dixie Highway was only a nine-foot wide dirt trail. The community was home to four or five stores, a lodge, the post office and the Australian and the Pioneer Hotels. But the key to the village's economy lay at the produce shed adjacent to the railway depot. The farmers brought their vegetables and fruits there for shipment north. Deerfield tomatoes were ranked among the finest harvested in the state. The depot doubled as a site for civic activities. In 1911, the Hillsboro River was dredged and became the Hillsboro Canal, linking Deerfield to Lake Okeechobee 45 miles to the northwest.

The Town of Deerfield incorporated on June 11, 1925. George Emory Butler, Jr. was elected as the first mayor. 1925 also saw the opening of the first public library, which was serving a population that had climbed to 1,300 residents. In 1939, the name of the town was changed to Deerfield Beach and the population numbered about 1,800.

Although primarily an agricultural community until the late 1940's, after WWII tourists

began to discover Deerfield's scenic oceanfront. The burgeoning tourism industry was evidenced by the new proliferation of hotels and motels along the shoreline.

1947 marked the formation of one of Deerfield's most influential civic organizations, the Lions Club. Its first project was establishing Pioneer Park along the banks of the Hillsboro Canal. The Lions cleared the scrub growth and fashioned a picnic area and a baseball diamond complete with stands and barbecue pits. The park has been expanded since to include recreational buildings, boat ramps and lighted tennis courts. To raise funds, the club held several chicken and rib barbecues. The fund-raiser became so popular that it became an annual celebration, now known as Founders' Day. In 1951 the town name was changed to the City of Deerfield Beach. The economy gradually continued to evolve away from agriculture toward tourism. Now the economy is heavily diversified and includes distribution, manufacturing, and office industries in addition to tourism. The sustained year-round population of over 50,000 evidences the strength of the local economy. The City is host to the Women's Professional Volleyball Association Tour and Superboat Power Race and features great recreational programs and green space. The City of Deerfield Beach provides customer-oriented services, which create a quality of life that, encourage residents and employers to enjoy South Florida and prosper in an ever-growing international economy.

POPULATION

Population: 77,039 (as of 2004)

EVENTS

Parks & Recreation
428 NE 5th Avenue
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
Phone: 954-480-4433
Fax: 954-480-4405
Email: web.parks@deerfield-beach.com

The Department sponsors a wide variety of special events throughout the year including:

- Mango Festival
- Founder's Day
- Beach Blowout
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Women's Professional Volleyball
- Super Boat Grand Prix
- Moonlight Melodies Summer Beach Concerts.

ATTRACTIONS

TENNIS

Deerfield Beach Tennis Center

Located just north of City Hall in Pioneer Park, Deerfield Beach Tennis Center offers the residents of Deerfield Beach a full service tennis facility at reasonable prices. Our facility offers a full service Pro Shop & six hard courts with lights.

GOLF

Hillsboro Pines Golf Course

18 holes over 3,699 yards with a par of 68 (Public)
2410 Century Blvd
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442-3378
(954) 421-1188

Deerfield Country Club
18 holes over 4,037 yards with a par of 63 (Private Equity)
50 Fairway Dr
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441-1854
(954) 427-4400

Deer Creek Golf Club
18 holes over 7,050 yards with a par of 72 (Public)
2801 Deer Creek Country Club Blvd
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442-7999
(954) 429-0006

BEACHES

71 SE 21st Ave. (Ocean Way)
954.480.4412

The mile-long beachfront is 50 feet wide and clean. Restaurants and concessions are along the street and nearby, and a beach concession stand has umbrellas, chairs, rafts and more for rent. A private concession rents watercraft near the south end of the beach. Most facilities are just north and south of Hillsboro Boulevard. The beach runs from Southeast 10th Street to the Palm Beach County line. Recorded beach hotline: 954-480-4413. Pier information: 954-426-9206.

Facilities: Picnic tables, benches, shaded sitting areas, outdoor showers, restrooms, changing rooms and drink vending machines. The 920-foot fishing pier near the north end is open 24 hours a day all year for fishing and viewing. Four sand volleyball courts are on the north side of the pier, along with recreational areas. There are three areas available for wedding rentals, with a \$10 permit. Surf chairs for the handicapped available from lifeguards.

Lifeguards: On duty at nine towers from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Rules: Surfing is permitted on the north side of the pier; no alcohol or dogs.

MARINAS

Marina One
580 N Federal Hwy
954.421.2500

Pennel's Marine
418 N River Dr
954.426.2628

The Cove
Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet Club
2701 NE 42 St
954.942.7244

MUSEUMS

South Florida Railway Museum
1300 W Hillsboro Blvd
954.698.6620

Deerfield Beach Historical Society-Butler House
380 E Hillsboro Blvd
954.429.0378

SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Bright Horizon
3901 NE 1st Terr
(754) 321-6400

Deerfield Beach
650 NE 1 St
(954) 481-5757

Deerfield Park
650 SW 3 Ave
(954) 481-5777

Quiet Waters
4150 W Hillsboro Blvd
(954) 422-5900

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Deerfield Beach
701 SE 6 Ave
(954) 481-5700

HIGH SCHOOLS

Deerfield Beach
910 SW 15 St

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Barry University
Broward Community College
Florida Atlantic University
Lynn University
Nova Southeastern University
University of Florida (Fort Lauderdale Campus)

HOSPITALS

North Broward Medical Center
344 Deerfield Beach, FL 33064
(954) 941-8300

PARKS AND RECREATION

The City of Deerfield Beach Parks system consists of four Community Centers and 19 parks, both active and passive. Other unique facilities include a state-of-the-art Aquatic Center, a Tennis Center with six lighted courts, the 920 foot Deerfield Beach International Fishing Pier and a Blue Wave award-winning one mile stretch of beach.

Constitution Park and Arboretum

2841 W Hillsboro Blvd

Park: 954.480.4494

Arboretum: 954.574.9502

Pioneer Park

425 SE 3 St

954.480.4429

Westside Park

445 SW 2 St

954.480.4481

Teen Center

580 S Powerline Rd

954.571.4569

Quiet Waters Park

401 S Powerline Rd

954.360.1315

Deerfield Island Park

1720 Deerfield Island Park

954.360.1320

TRANSPORTATION

TRAINS

Passenger Rail:

Amtrak, Tri-Rail Commuter Service

AIRPORTS

Fort Lauderdale International Airport (20 minutes)

100 Aviation Blvd

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315

866.I.FLY.FLL

West Palm Beach International Airport (30 minutes)

1000 Turnage Boulevard

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

561.471.7420

Miami International Airport (40 minutes)

4200 NW 21 Street

Miami, FL 33142

305-876-7000

PORTS

Intracoastal Waterway- Boca Inlet

Port Everglades (20 minutes)

DEPARTMENTS

Office of the City Manager

Phone: 954-480-4263

Office of the City Attorney

Phone: 954-480-4265

Office of the City Clerk

Phone: 954-480-4213

Building Services

Phone: 954-480-4250

Code Enforcement

Phone: 954-480-4241

Community Development

Phone: 954-480-6420

Office of Economic Development

Phone: 954-480-4222

Fire & Rescue

Phone: 954-480-4350

Human Resources

Phone: 954-480-4255

Management & Budget

Phone: 954-480-4227

Parks & Recreation

Phone: 954-480-4433

Planning & Growth Management

150 NE 2nd Avenue

Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Phone: 954-480-4206

Fax: 954-422-5816

Email: web.planning@deerfield-beach.com

Broward Sheriff's Office

2601 W. Broward Blvd.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

(954) 831-8900

Public Works & Environmental Services
Phone: 954-480-4391

Purchasing
Phone: 954-480-4381

Recycling Division
Phone: 954-480-4391

Risk Management
Phone: 954-480-4258

Senior Services
Phone: 954-480-4441

Solid Waste Division
Phone: 954-480-4391

UTILITIES

FPL: 954-797-5000

Water Department: 954-480-4279

Sewer: 954-480-4279

Garbage: 954-480-4279

Recycling: 954-480-4454

Phone: AT&T: Sales, Billing and Customer Service : 1-888-757-6500

Cable: Comcast: 954-266-2278

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