

Scenic Watch



Covering
News From
August
2019

"5G coverage coming to Orlando,
bringing potentially 20,000 small-
cell nodes"



Photo: A small cell tower across the street from the Orange County Courthouse. The corresponding radio equipment is located in a portion of the adjacent



Fun Festivals
and Events

Central

Thr Sept 1
SeaWorld's Electric Ocean,
Orlando
Thr Sept 2
Sponge Docks Art and
Craft Festival, Tarpon

garbage can. Ryan Gillespie, Orlando Sentinel

"...Orlando's planning department has projected carriers will need about 20,000 nodes to bring about 60% coverage, with the most needed to bring strong coverage to dense downtown and touristy International Drive. At a City Council workshop this month, officials said they and the municipally-owned Orlando Utilities Commission were studying how to encourage carriers to attach their antennas and radio equipment to the same poles, preventing equipment clutter on Orange Avenue.

'What we have beginning to happen is a lot of nodes occurring on Orange Avenue. If you were to line them all up, you'd be looking at a node every 90 feet,' Chief Planner Doug Metzger said. 'In my perfect world, I'd love to get two providers on every node.'

For that to happen, carriers would need to either agree to share new poles installed throughout the city or reach an agreement with OUC to install equipment on the utility's tower. OUC has some small-cell agreements for antennas to be installed on its poles, though they currently don't yet have 5G antennas, utility spokesman Tim Trudell said.

The study is underway, and Metzger said he hopes a plan is developed by early October.

Florida cities maintain limited leverage over carriers in Florida, as state legislators pre-empted municipalities from regulating wireless infrastructure in 2017 and further restricted it in 2019.

The 2017 legislation, sponsored in the House by state Rep. Mike La Rosa, R-St. Cloud, is being challenged in a lawsuit filed by the Florida League of Cities, along with Naples, Port Orange and Fort Walton Beach, which contend the law allows private businesses to take over city property, with a \$150 per pole cap as a fee.

Springs
Thr Sept 3
NKF Surf Festival, Cocoa Beach
Thr Sept 27
Bandshell concert series, Daytona Beach
Thr Sept 30
Magical Dining Month, Orlando
Thr Nov 23
Epcot International Food and Wine Festival, Walt Disney World
Sept 7
First Saturday Jam, Barberville
Sept 7
Art Stroll and Gallery Walk, New Smyrna Beach
Sept 13
Yappy Hour, Fort Myers
Sept 14
Turtle Krawl 5K
Run/Walk, Indialantic
Sept 14
Second Saturday St Petersburg ArtWalk, St Petersburg
Sept 14-15
I Like It Hot Festival, Largo
Sept 16-22
Global Peace Film Festival, Orlando
Sept 20
Cocoa Beach Friday Fest
Sept 20-Nov 2
Howl-O-Scream at Busch Gardens, Tampa
Sept 21
Downtown DeLand Classic Car Cruise-In, DeLand
Sept 21
Art Walk, Sanford
Sept 27-29
Klingon Feast, Daytona Beach
Sept 27-29
Super Boat International, Clearwater Beach
Sept 28
Sip and Stroll, Cocoa
Sept 28-29
Mount Dora Seafood Festival, Mount Dora

'We felt the Legislature's actions were pretty egregious in those two narrow areas,' said Kraig Conn, general counsel for the League of Cities...

Elsewhere in Central Florida, Winter Park could also see early interest from 5G companies. The city has had talks with carriers, though its city commission hasn't formally reviewed policy on 5G.

However, Winter Park shares aesthetic concerns, as it has spent millions in recent years burying its power lines, while state law now allows carriers to build poles in the public right of way..."

-- Ryan Gillespie, Orlando Sentinel

[Read entire article](#)

"Trees transplanted on Florida's highways provide motorists' benefits"



Photo: As seen in Villiages News

"...Beauty and stress relief are probably the two most meaningful benefits trees bring to highways," said Andrew Koeser, an assistant professor of environmental horticulture with the UF Institute of

Sept 28-29

DeLand Craft Show,
DeLand

Sept 28-29

The Pinellas Plaza Craft
Festival, The Villages

South

Thr Sept 2

Key West Brewfest, Key
West

Sept 1

Sunday Jazz Brunch, Fort
Lauderdale

Sept 1

Swim for Alligator
Lighthouse, Islamorada

Sept 1

Labor Day Weekend Craft
Festival, Venice

Sept 5-8

Galloway Captiva
Triathlon, Captiva Island

Sept 14

Sullivan Street Craft
Festival, Punta Gorda

Sept 7

MiMo on the Beach
Walking Tours, Miami

Sept 14

Supercar Saturdays
Florida, Fort Lauderdale

Sept 14

Wynwood Artwalk, Miami

Sept 14

Full Moon Kayak Tour,
North Miami

Sept 19

Alive After Five, Punta
Gorda

Sept 20-29

Island Hopper Songwriter
Fest, Fort Myers area

Sept 28

Conch Life Scramble,
Islamorada

Sept 28

FATVillage Artwalk, Fort
Lauderdale

North

Sept 1

Food and Agricultural Sciences...

Recognizing these advantages, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) transplants many kinds of trees along the state's highways, including palms, the variety most widely associated with the Sunshine State. Indeed, about 51 percent of the transplanted trees are palms. The rest include crape myrtles, buttonwoods and many other varieties.

To assess the success of its tree-planting program, FDOT awarded Koeser grant funding to study how well the transplanted trees survive and thrive.

Koeser and his team surveyed 2,711 trees along rural and urban stretches of the state's highways. They found that more than 98 percent established themselves. That's another way of saying the trees have survived the hardships of planting and are growing into the surrounding landscape.

'The establishment rate is among the highest on record,' said Koeser, a faculty member at the UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Balm, Florida...

Brad Buck is with the University of Florida."

-- Brad Buck, University of Florida in the Villages News

[Read entire article](#)

Protecting paradise: International Coastal Cleanup Day is Sept 21

Florida Safari, Ocala
Sept 1
Pepsi Gulf Coast Jam
Country Music Festival,
Panama City Beach
Sept 1
Gulf Coast Summer Fest,
Pensacola
Sept 1-2
Greek Festival, Fort
Walton Beach
Sept 6
First Friday Sip and Stroll,
Thomasville
Sept 6
First Friday Art Walk, St
Augustine
Sept 6-8
Juana's Good Time
Regatta, Navarre Beach
Sept 14
Artrageous Artwalk,
Amelia Island
Sept 14
St Jude Walk/Run to End
Childhood Cancer,
Tallahassee
Sept 27-28
Oktoberfest, Niceville
Sept 27-29
Pensacola Seafood
Festival, Pensacola

[For many more events and details please visit the Orlando Times Travel Calendar here](#)





Photo: WPTV

"The International Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest, one-day volunteer effort to clean up the marine environment. Every September, volunteers from over 100 countries descend on local beaches, rivers, lakes and canals to show their commitment to cleaner waterways..."

Cleanup locations in Palm Beach County are included in this article and this popular activity will be held along beaches and waterways throughout our state.

-- WPTV

[Read entire article](#)

"A New Vision for the Florida Greenways and Trails System (FGTS)"

2019-2023 Plan and Maps Update



Photo: Florida DEP

"The FGTS Plan establishes the vision for implementing a connected statewide system of greenways and trails for recreation, conservation, alternative transportation, healthy lifestyles, a vibrant economy and a high quality of life. The original FGTS Plan was completed in 1998 and adopted by the Florida Legislature in 1999, laying the groundwork for many programs, projects and initiatives that exist today. The updated FGTS Plan and maps guides implementation of the connected statewide trail system from 2019 through 2023.

The Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT) has also updated its statewide opportunity and priority trail maps. Many trails are eligible for certain types of funding if they are on one or both maps.

As part of the update, OGT held 14 public workshops throughout the state to receive input from trail users, local planners and the public. OGT also received hundreds of e-mails and letters and input from the Florida Greenways and Trails Council. The input is helping to shape the direction of trails for years to come! The final versions of the Plan and

maps are posted below..."

-- Florida DEP

[Download Plan \(.pdf\)](#)

[Visit DEP website for more about Florida Greenways and Trails programs](#)

"Pollen, not pollution: Utrecht's new bus stops are buzzing"



Photo: Mobilane, One of Utrecht's green roof bus stops.

"Utrecht's bee friendly bus shelters are capturing the world's imagination with media from across the globe reporting on a solution to urban pollution that is both simple and effective.

From Mexico City to Melbourne, local officials have been in touch about how to make bus shelters a part of efforts to combat pollution and protect bees, the Volkskrant reported on Friday.

When Utrecht city council started looking for ways of making the city more sustainable Reclamebureau Limburg (RBL), which specialises in advertising in public spaces, was quick to take up the gauntlet.

Apart from bamboo seats, RBL's new bus shelter, of which there are now over 300 in Utrecht, has a green roof. The hardy sedum plants provided by family firm Mobilane reduce the amount of lung-damaging fine dust, store rain water and combat heat. They also promote biodiversity, and the 'bee stops', as the foreign press dubbed them, could well play a part in saving this endangered insect.

With July entering the history books as the hottest ever recorded the shelters were put to the test almost immediately. RBL, which built and maintains the shelters from the proceeds of advertising, told the Volkskrant that the plants survived the heat wave 'surprisingly well'. Sedum plants need little water and are able to withstand extreme temperatures...

While the sustainable shelters are not going to save the world, the 2,000 m² of additional green roofs will contribute to cleaner air in the city and 96 of them have also been equipped with solar panels..."

-- DutchNews.nl

[Read entire article](#)

"When are trees worth millions of dollars? When they cover parts of your city."



Photo: Water Institute, USF

"Take Tampa, for example, which has established an Urban Forest Management Plan. According to a 2016 assessment by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and the University of South Florida, the city's 32.3 percent canopy coverage saves Tampa \$7 million in annual energy savings, \$121 million a year in carbon sequestration and storage, and \$3.4 million in storm water treatment savings.

Because trees provide shade and air to breathe, many cities have passed laws to prevent the removal of healthy and structurally sound trees, said Andrew Koeser, a UF/IFAS assistant professor of environmental horticulture based at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Balm.

Koeser and his colleagues wanted to know the impact of tree ordinances on Florida cities' canopy. He led a newly completed study that looked at 43 cities in Florida. Researchers showed that Florida cities with tree ordinances that protect large trees have 6.7 percent more tree canopy coverage than those that don't.

Some densely populated cities are only covered with, say, 17 to 18 percent tree canopy coverage, so 6.7 percent represents a significant increase, Koeser said. For example, in a city the size of Tampa this

canopy increase could translate into millions of dollars saved each year in electrical and storm water treatment costs.

Although not part of the study, Koeser and his team have offered an example, given their past work quantifying tree-related benefits in Tampa. If canopy coverage for this city was increased by 6.7 percent, from 32.3 percent to 39 percent, Tampa could save an additional \$1.47 million a year in energy costs.

The latest research shows the effectiveness of tree protection efforts and will inform local governments that are considering tree ordinances, said Koeser, who presented his team's findings March 21 at the UF/IFAS Urban Landscape Summit in Gainesville...

For the new study, Koeser and his team conducted a dot-based canopy analysis of 43 Florida cities, using aerial images from 2014 and pairing the results with a comprehensive survey of urban forestry practices conducted by the University of Wisconsin the same year. Those cities included Sarasota, Davie, Orlando and Fort Lauderdale.

For the analysis, they laid 1,000 random dots over aerial imagery for each city and recorded how many of those dots fell on trees. If, for example, 330 dots fell on trees and the rest fall elsewhere, they estimated 33 percent canopy coverage.

The study has been accepted for publication in the journal *Landscape and Urban Planning*."

-- Brad Buck, Apalachtimes.com

[Read entire article](#)

"10 Years of Change: Google Street Views of key spots in Tampa Bay Area"



Photo: Clearwater 2009 and 2019 Google

"The Tampa Bay Area has experienced tremendous growth in the decade since 83 Degrees Media launched in November 2009...

So we thought it would be interesting to take a look at Google images over time because Google launched the popular Google Street View feature in 2007 and the Tampa Bay Area was one of the first metropolitan regions in the country to see its highways and byways mapped with this then-innovative, you-are-there technology.

Thankfully, Google Street View archives are available for all to enjoy, allowing with a few simple

clicks to see what the surrounding scenery looked like from nearly any mapped street since the first images were taken by the Google team. This allows us to take a virtual trip back through time to a decade ago, so we can 'see' what some of the Tampa Bay Area's most popular and important landmarks and attractions have changed over time.

So, let's hop into the Google Street View time machine and take a trip back to see what a dozen of the most important local landmarks and destinations were like when 83 Degrees first hit the scene and compare them to how they look now. We think you'll agree that the evolution of our beautiful community is stunning... "

-- Joshua Mcmorrow-Hernandez,
83degreesmedia.com

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Citizens for a Scenic Florida

www.scenicflorida.org

Citizens for a Scenic Florida, Inc. P.O. Box 8952
Jacksonville, FL 32239
