

Welcome to the Greater Pine Island Area, some helpful information...

POPULATION

The official census for 2010 was 9,016 on Pine Island (plus 4,000 during winter months). According to the Lee County Planning Division, the community breakdown is as follows: St. James City - 3,784, Bokeelia - 1,780, Pineland - 407, Pine Island Center - 1,854, Matlacha - 677, and Matlacha Isles and Shores - 304.

CLIMATE

These official readings come from Page Field in Ft. Myers, about 20 miles inland. Pine Island's climate is moderated by the surrounding waters, so we are several degrees cooler in summer with the afternoon sea breeze off the Gulf and several degrees warmer in winter than Ft. Myers, because of the warming effects of the water. In Ft. Myers, the annual mean is 74 degrees, the summer mean is 81.9 with the winter mean at 69.5 degrees. Our average rainfall is 53.4 inches, two-thirds of which falls in the form of summer, late afternoon showers. Our dry season is winter.



GEOGRAPHY

Pine Island is the largest and least known of a group of islands along Southwest Florida's Gulf Coast near Ft. Myers. This island is 17 miles long and is two miles wide at its broadest point. We are almost completely ringed in mangrove estuaries, many of which are protected wildlife preserves including all of Little Pine Island, much of Pine Island Sound and Matlacha Pass. The island's north to south sandy ridge is the home of native pines, birds (including the bald eagle), and tropical groves. The highest elevations follow the ridge along highway 767.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

None of the island's communities is incorporated. We are governed by Lee County. The Courthouse is in downtown Ft. Myers, with a new government branch in Cape Coral. Ask your local Realtor® for details on the signs you are seeing on the island. Local experts can be found in this guide.



EDUCATION

Pine Island Elementary School is one of the highest academically rated schools in Southwest Florida. Lee County now has School Choice. Through school choice, Pine Island students attend three different middle schools and three high schools - they often don't get their first (or even second) choice. Vocational School High Tech North. In Ft. Myers, Edison Community College, University of South Florida and Florida Gulf Coast University are our area Colleges.

HOSPITALS

Cape Coral Hospital and Clinic are located on Del Prado Blvd. In Ft. Myers are Lee Memorial, Southwest Florida Regional Medical Center and Gulf Coast Hospital.

GOLF

In Bokeelia, Alden Pines Country Club, par 71 with 18 holes, 5,699 yards from the pro tees. Open to the public. Cape Royal Golf Course is a 27 hole, public course in Unincorporated Lee County located just off the Island, on Pine Island Road just east of Burnt Store Rd.

CAMPGROUNDS, RV RESORTS

At the southern end of Pine Island, Ft. Myers/Pine Island KOA and Cherry Estates RV Park. In Bokeelia, Pink Citrus Trailer Park, and Tropic Isle RV Park.

SWIMMING

An olympic size public pool is located at Phillips Park at Pine Island Center. There is a nominal charge.

TENNIS

Lighted public courts are at Phillips Park, Pine Island Center.

AIRPORTS

The 93 million dollar Southwest Florida International Airport opened in South Ft. Myers in 1983. It is accessible by taking either U.S. 41 or I-75 east to the end of Daniels Road. Major airlines and commuter airlines continue to expand their service to the new airport as Southwest Florida becomes an ever increasing popular destination. There are several private airstrips on Pine Island, but none is open to the general public. The Punta Gorda Airport offers commercial flights with one carrier currently, Allegiant Airlines. The Punta Gorda Airport is about two miles east of I-75 (exit 161).

LIBRARY

Pine Island's library building is located on Russell Road, just north of Phillips Park at Pine Island Center. It is part of the Lee County system. A nominal fee is charged to non-residents, but it is available to all.

FIRE PROTECTION

We are served by the Matlacha-Pine Island Fire Control District. The headquarters, completed in 1984 is at Phillips Park, Pine Island Center. Stations are located at St. James City and Bokeelia.

WATER SERVICE

Nearly all of the island is provided water from the Greater Pine Island Water Association. Our well-fields and plant are on Stringfellow Rd., 1-1/2 miles South of Pine Island Center. The Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant is one of the most modern and up-to-date facilities anywhere. Funds for expansion are raised by a one-time connection fee of \$2,586.00 when a property owner wishes to join the system. Membership is voluntary; many islanders are just as happy on deep wells.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Lee County provides emergency Advance Life Support Services. One ambulance is always stationed at the fire department headquarters at Pine Island Center.

POLICE PROTECTION

As part of unincorporated Lee County, we are served by the County's Sheriff's Department. St. James City and Matlacha also have Neighborhood Security Patrols which are in direct radio contact with the Sheriff's Department through the night.

