Today, at 1:45 p.m., a 1939 Taylor Craft fixed-wing airplane had to make an emergency landing on the Lakewood Golf Course in southern St. Petersburg. The two seater plane was flying with two other aircraft. The three planes had taken off from Lakeland and were on their way to Manatee County.

The 18 year old pilot of the 1939 Taylor Craft began experiencing mechanical issues and was advised to divert his flight path and attempt to land at Albert Whitted Airport in St. Petersburg. The pilot realized he was not going to make it to Albert Whitted, and observed the Lakewood Golf Course as a possible landing sight.

The plane landed safely on the 12th fairway of the golf course and while coming to a stop, the left wing on the aircraft clipped a tree. The pilot and his teenage passenger were not injured.

There is no fuel leaking from the plane. The NTSB has been notified and is responding. The golf course area around the plane has been roped-off.

The plane is near the intersection of Cordova Way South and Caesar Way South in the Lakewood Estates subdivision of St. Petersburg.