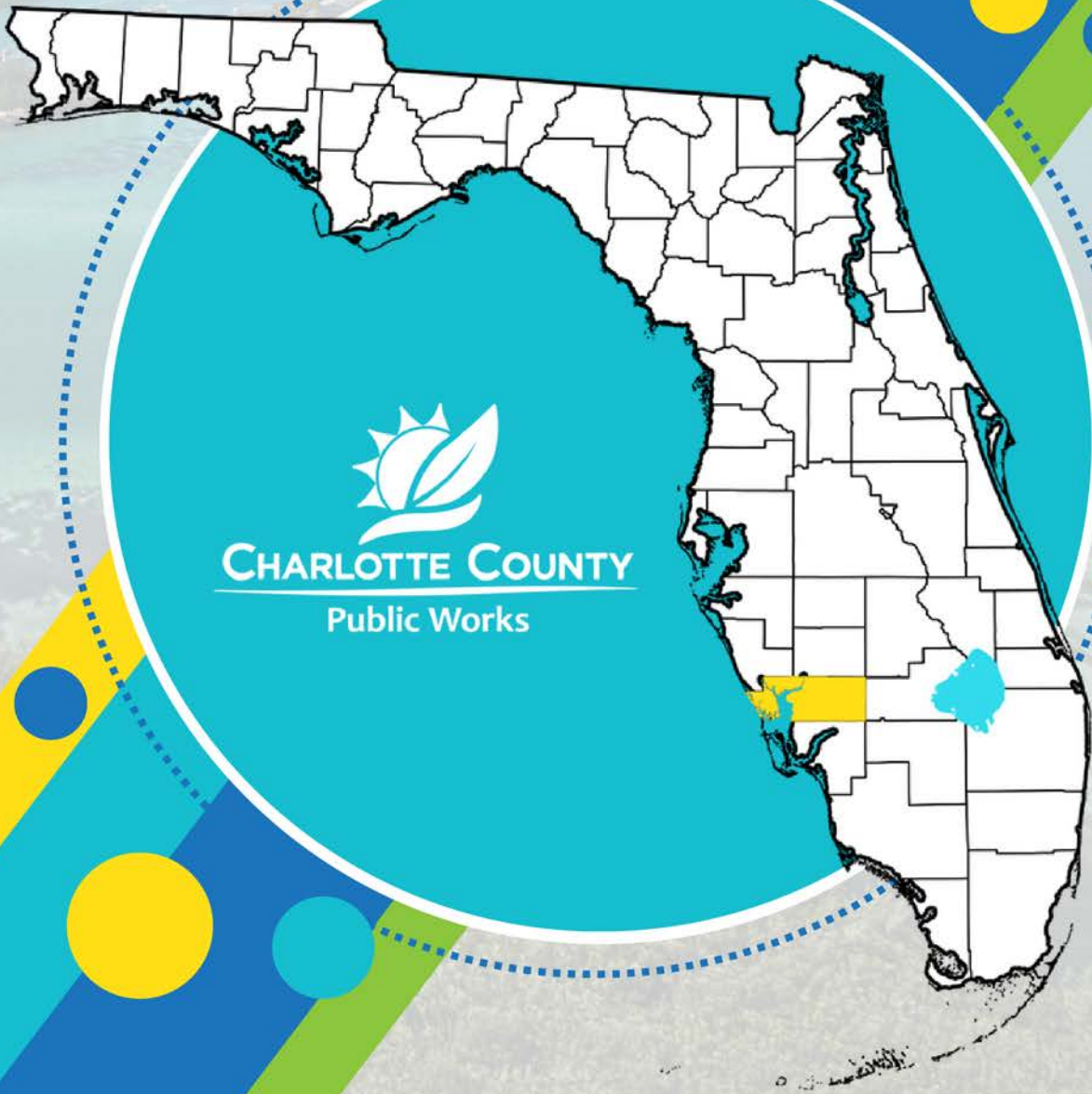


PUBLIC WORKS ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2023




CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Public Works



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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Ken Doherty

District 1



Christopher Constance

District 2



Bill Truex

District 3



Stephen R. Deutsch

District 4



Joe Tiseo

District 5

BCC GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- To be recognized as a community leader in quality of life issues
- To improve Charlotte County government's morale and employee satisfaction
- To increase and enhance the organization's and Charlotte County's productivity and performance
- To enhance and improve our customers' satisfaction
- To positively change the image of government
- To improve communication both internally and externally

BCC FOCUS AREA GOALS

Economic & Community Development

To create a business climate that promotes a diversified, growing economy consistent with sustainable growth management plans, environmental stewardship and enhanced quality of life

Infrastructure

To build and maintain countywide infrastructure that meets our evolving needs and enhances our community appearance, improves public safety and protects our natural resources

Public Services

To maintain a safe and healthy community by delivering essential services from skilled, professional and dedicated public servants

Efficient & Effective Government

To manage fiscally sound county operations with a culture of transparency, accountability, citizen engagement and innovation



OUR MISSION

Delivering exceptional service



OUR VISION

To preserve and enrich our community's quality of life for those who live, work and play in our paradise



OUR VALUES

Committed • Accountable •
Resourceful • Energetic •
Supportive

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Hector Flores

County Administrator



Emily Lewis

Deputy County Administrator



Claire Jubb

Assistant County Administrator



The County Administrator is appointed by the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners. It is the responsibility of the County Administrator to implement decisions, policies, and ordinances of the Board. The County Administrator has the authority and responsibility to manage the day to day operations of the county in a manner consistent with the Board's policy and directives.





John Elias

Public Works Director



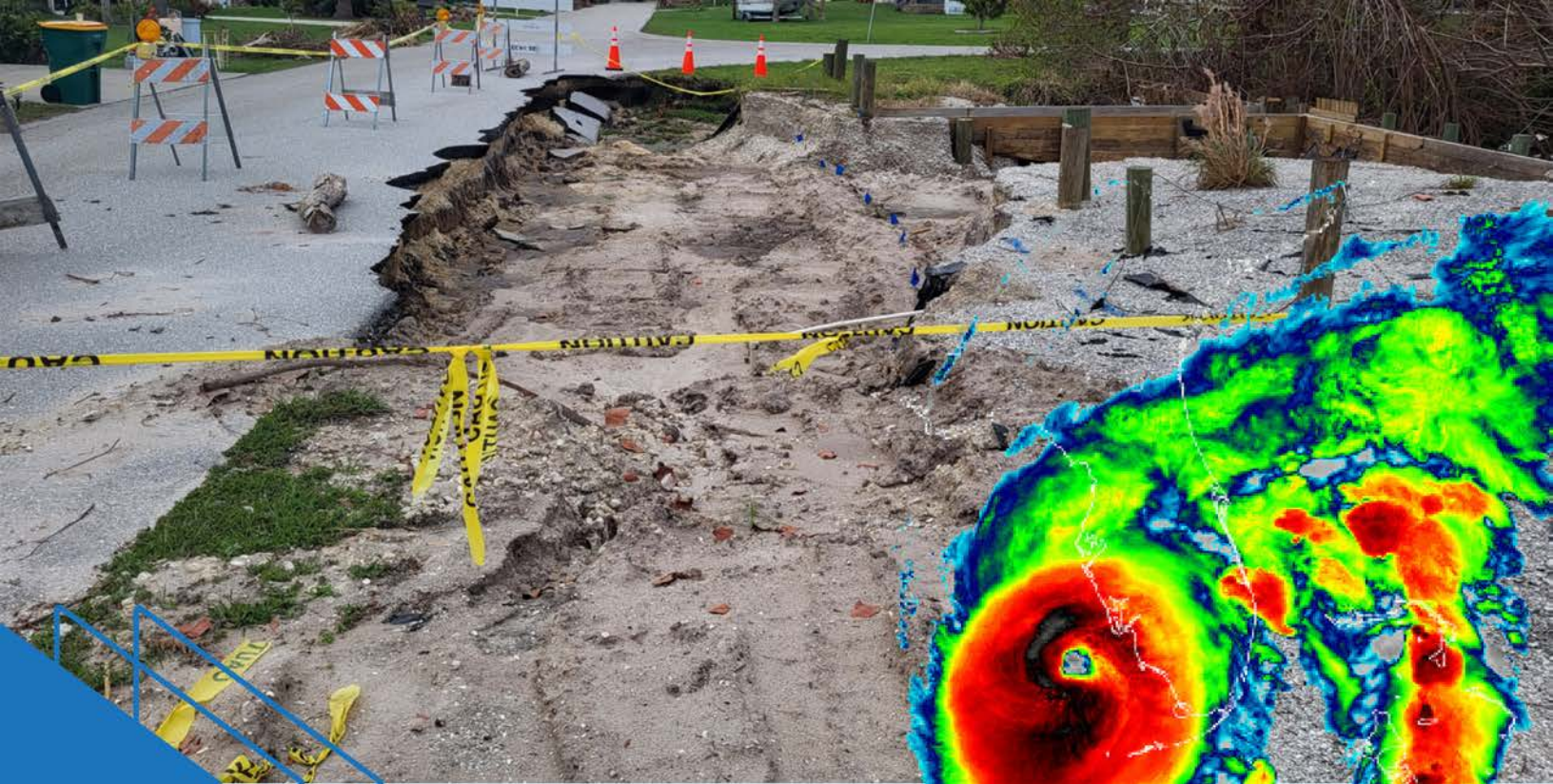
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Team,

As we reflect on the past year through the pages of this annual report, it brings me great pride. This annual report was intended to be both a forward-facing document to elected officials, Administration, and the public, as well as a “yearbook” of sorts for our team to reflect and memorialize each other’s efforts through various initiatives and projects. We strived to capture a myriad of projects through photos and data and aspire to continuously improve the final product.

This document details not only the numerous projects we are part of, but how we conduct outreach, public education, and improve the health and safety of our community. It also shows how much we are all part of the fabric of the society we live in. I have always found public service to be a profoundly rewarding endeavor and this report illustrates that our team feels the same. The passion and professionalism that this department shows every day is truly inspirational and I am very proud to be part of it.





John Elias **Public Works Director**

As Hurricane Ian made landfall, no one could have known that it would be the most devastating storm in our county's history. Our team, comprised of some less tenured folks, responded amazingly. From those who served in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for days on end, to those who worked in less-than-ideal conditions post storm as boots on the ground, Public Works served as the tip of the spear in our service to our citizens pre, during, and post storm.

Having worked through several storms throughout my career, it was profoundly impactful to see the way we persevered in the face of such adversity. So many of us did this without knowing the full conditions of our own homes. Even more challenging, many of us did know the conditions of our homes and had to put that on the back burner to pull together in our commitment to the citizens of our community. As always, we did whatever it took to include making our roads clear and safe, to food delivery, to detailed post storm damage assessments and so many other countless assignments.

As the subsequent days, weeks and months seemed to blur together, we continuously had to remind ourselves that this is a marathon and not a sprint. Armed with this knowledge, it should be noted that marathons are tough and have a huge impact on us both emotionally and physically. Our storm response certainly made that clear. We should all be so proud of how we pulled together in our response and know that as a team we can overcome anything thrown in our way. I couldn't be prouder to serve with such an amazing remarkable team

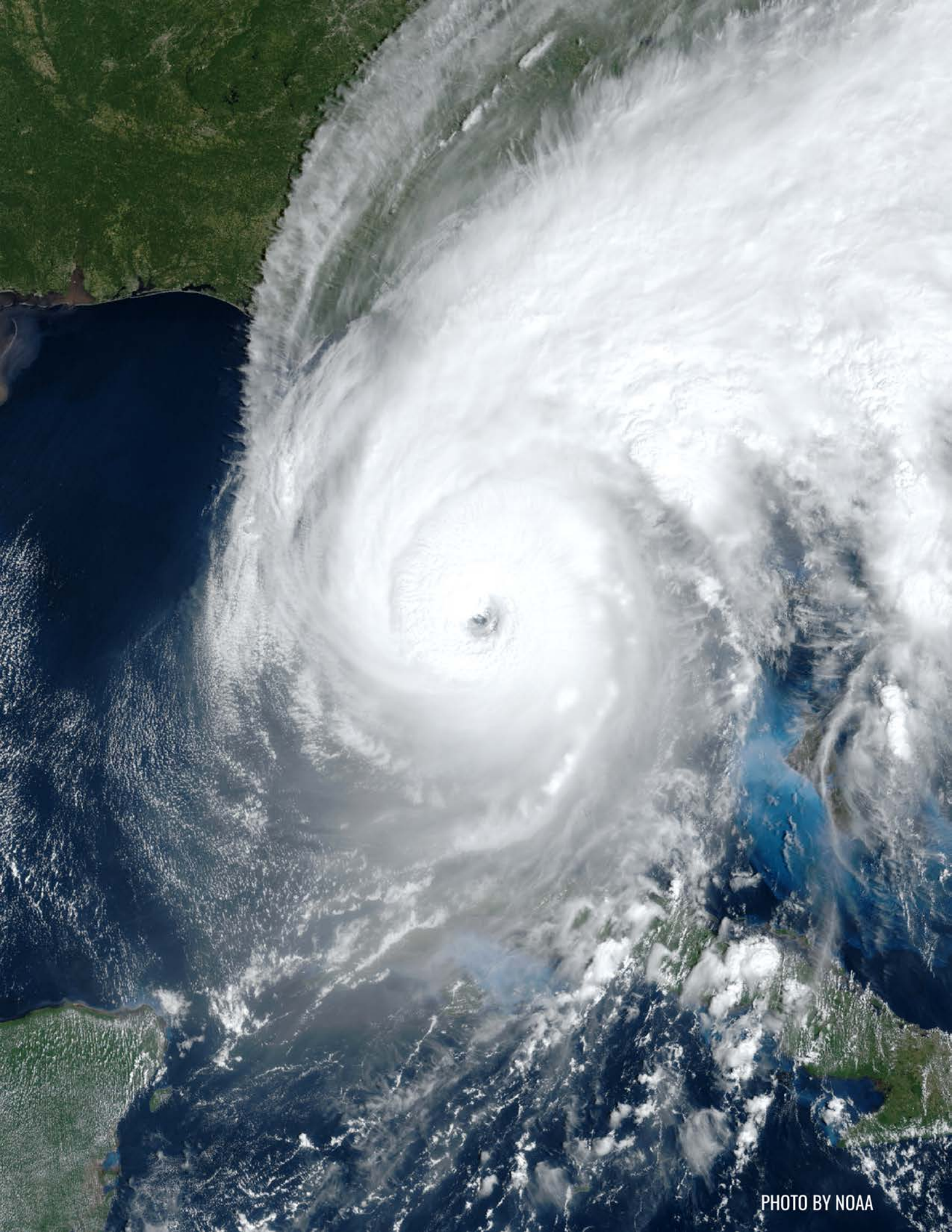


PHOTO BY NOAA

PUBLIC WORKS BY THE NUMBERS

282

TOTAL POSITIONS

Due to the influx of population in Charlotte County, Public Works requested the Board of County Commissioners approve 66 full time positions in order to maintain the level of service we provide on a daily basis.

**SOLID WASTE:
REQUESTED 10 NEW POSITIONS**

**MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL:
REQUESTED 3 NEW POSITIONS**

**MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS:
REQUESTED 51 NEW POSITIONS**

**ENGINEERING:
REQUESTED 1 NEW POSITION**

**BUSINESS SERVICES:
REQUESTED 1 NEW POSITION**

DIVISION MANAGERS

KARLY GREENE
MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

JOANNE VERNON
ENGINEERING

KENNA HUBAI
BUSINESS SERVICES

SCOTT SCHERMERHORN
MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

RICHARD ALLEN
SOLID WASTE

JOHN ELIAS
DIRECTOR



BUSINESS SERVICES

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Business Services team became the 5th division of the Public Works department in March 2023. Kenna Hubai is the division manager and oversees 11 positions.



STAFF:

10 Full Time Employees
1 Vacancies

OVERSEES:

Administrative Support
Initiatives
Cemetery Operations
Grants
Training
Public Relations

BUSINESS SERVICES HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS



OUR EFFORTS

Business Services involvement and support varied across the board from being assigned to the Joint Information Center (JIC), assisting with any human needs, helping the Sign Shop repair/replace 12,692 stop signs, to handling roughly 20,000 Daily Disaster Logs (DDLs) and data entry for the entire department.

This storm brought an unprecedented amount of damage to the county-owned cemeteries. This resulted in 80+ overturned headstones and significant damage to some gravesites. Thanks to the support and skill of our field staff, we called on them to assist in taking the necessary steps to make the cemeteries safe and accessible for the community.



LT. CARL BAILEY

Lieutenant Carl Bailey Cemetery had 2 damaged graves and 4 overturned headstones as a direct result of Hurricane Ian, as well as the loss of several beautiful oak trees.



INDIAN SPRING

Indian Spring Cemetery lost its storage shed during Hurricane Ian. There were also approximately 80 headstones that were overturned during the wrath of Hurricane Ian.



HICKORY BLUFF & SOUTHLAND TRAIL

Hickory Bluff and Southland Trail cemeteries had no significant damage. Facilities repaired the fence at Hickory Bluff and we removed some fallen tree branches at Southland Trail.

COUNTY-OWNED CEMETERIES

FY23 PROJECTS:

- Created Cemetery FAQ sheets for Carl Bailey and Indian Spring
- Reviewed and revamped cemetery procedures for APWA accreditation
- Retaining historical records in Laserfiche



Created permanent cemetery wayfinding signs to install at Indian Spring Cemetery with the help of our Sign Shop.



The Daughter's of the American Revolution and Powell's Nursery donated 2 oak trees to replace those lost during Hurricane Ian at Lt. Carl Bailey Cemetery.

UPCOMING PROJECTS & INITIATIVES:

- Permanent space markers for Indian Spring
- Wayfinding and message center board for Indian Spring
- Indian Spring bank restoration*
- Never Forget Garden at Hickory Bluff

*denotes ongoing projects

TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE:

1,446,235 SF

Indian Spring

153,313 SF

Lt. Carl Bailey

24,444 SF

Southland Trail

4,264 SF

Hickory Bluff

FY23 WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Cemetery Groundskeeping - 1,394 hours

Cemetery Mowing - 9,666,756.5 SF

SF = Square Feet

GRANTS

\$121,646,163

Applied for

\$31,609,753.66

Awarded Year to Date

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATIONAL DISTRICT (WCIND)/BOATER REVOLVING FUND GRANTS FY23:

- **New Marine Markers**- Applied for FY23 funding & awarded \$50,000
- **Marine Debris Removal**- Applied for FY23 funding & awarded \$50,000
- **Maintenance to Navigation Aids**- Applied for FY23 funding & awarded \$80,000

WCIND/BOATER REVOLVING FUND GRANTS FY24:

- **New Marine Markers**- Applied for FY24 funding for \$30,000
- **Marine Debris Removal**- Applied for FY24 funding for \$80,000
- **Stump Pass Monitoring**- Applied for FY24 funding for \$50,000
- **Manasota Key Beach Renourishment**- Applied for FY24 funding for \$150,000
- **Maintenance to Navigation Aids**- Applied for FY24 funding for \$90,000

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) - REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANT:

- Applied for \$25,000,000 for the construction to widen Harborview Road

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) - SUNTRAIL:

- Applied & awarded \$290,000 for the design of the south fork of Alligator Creek Bridge
- Applied & awarded \$468,000 for the design of US 41 @ State Road (SR) 776 to Gillot Boulevard
- Applied & awarded \$189,000 for the design of SR 776 to the Myakka State Forest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) - NATIONAL RESOURCE & CONSERVATION SERVICES (NRSC) - EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION (EWP):

- Applied & awarded \$8,309,028.80 for waterway debris removal
- Applied & awarded \$1,274,528 for debris removal from the Desoto Ditch

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (FDEP) - BEACH MANAGEMENT FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (BMFAP):

- Applied & awarded \$1,101,438 for Charlotte County beach renourishment 22CH1
- Awarded an additional \$241,707 via amendment 1 to agreement 22CH1 for beach renourishment
- Applied & awarded \$1,312,714 for the 2022 Hurricane Ian & Nicole recovery project 23CH1
- Applied for \$196,788 for Manasota Key Beach Restoration & County Erosion Control 24CH1

FDOT - EMERGENCY RELIEF:

- Applied for \$692,911.20 to repair severe road erosion on Gillot Boulevard from Hurricane Ian
- Applied for \$350,176.91 for the rehabilitation of Oyster Creek Bridge from Hurricane Ian
- Applied for \$1,200,000 to replace light poles and bases that were lost during Hurricane Ian

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) - HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM:

- Applied for \$595,559.55 for leachate plant generators & enclosures (DR-4673)
- Applied for \$6,487,935.77 for open outfalls/canal hardening (DR-4674)
- Applied for \$688,590.53 for the Buck Creek Bridge slope wall hardening project (DR-4675)
- Applied for \$6,901,621.74 to replace traffic light mast arms at 11 county intersections (DR-4676)
- Applied for \$19,306,966.20 for the Public Works Safe Room project (DR-4678)
- Applied for \$688,590.53 for the Oyster Creek Bridge slope wall hardening project (DR-4680)
- Applied for \$4,295,550 for highway light pole infrastructure retrofit
- Applied for \$407,204 for a new generator at the Punta Gorda Yard
- Applied for \$132,189 for a new generator at the new JB Yard
- Applied for \$147,999 for a new generator at the San Casa Yard

STATE APPROPRIATIONS FDOT - LOCAL AGENCY PROGRAM (LAP):

- Applied & awarded \$2,500,000 for the Kings Highway & Harborview Road intersection improvements
- Applied & awarded \$3,320,000 for the Veterans Boulevard corridor improvements

STATE APPROPRIATIONS FDEP:

- Applied for \$1,596,120 for the Manasota Key Beach Renourishment project
- Applied for \$1,110,129.75 for the Stump Pass Beach Renourishment project

FDOT - PRIORITY PROJECTS:

- Applied for \$1,110,415 for a intersection signalization at SR 776 & Biscayne Drive
- Applied for \$181,538 for intersection turn lanes at SR 776 & Cornelius Boulevard
- Applied for \$181,538 for intersection turn lanes at SR 776 & Jacobs Street
- Applied for \$3,116,983 for turn lane improvements on Veterans Boulevard at Cochran Boulevard
- Applied for \$21,700,000 for the construction to widen Harborview Road from 2 to 4 lanes from Date Street to Interstate 75 (I-75)
- Applied for \$3,718,282 for the design of intersection improvements on Jones Loop Road at the Piper Road intersection
- Applied for \$233,540 for intersection turn lane improvements on Veterans Boulevard at Loveland Boulevard
- Applied for \$357,995 for intersection turn lane improvements on Veterans Boulevard at Atwater Street
- Applied for \$261,851 for intersection turn lanes at Veterans Boulevard & Harbor Boulevard
- Applied for \$306,333 for intersection turn lanes at Veterans Boulevard & Yorkshire Street
- Applied for \$250,444 for intersection turn lanes at Veterans Boulevard & Norman Street
- Applied for \$250,444 for intersection turn lanes at Veterans Boulevard & Torrington Street
- Applied for \$246,052 for intersection turn lane improvements on Veterans Boulevard at Orlando Boulevard
- Applied for \$526,000 for an exclusive right turn lane at SR 776 & Charlotte Sports Park
- Applied for \$2,200,000 for the design of the extension of Edgewater Drive/Flamingo Boulevard to Midway Boulevard to SR 776 widening 2 to 4 lanes
- Applied for \$1,460,000 for SR 776 at Flamingo Boulevard
- Applied & awarded \$8,674,000 for Harborview Road from Melbourne to I-75 Right-of-Way (ROW)

TRAINING

CDL TRAINING:

Commercial Driver's License

76.25 HOURS

CPR TRAINING:

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

206 HOURS

OSHA 30 TRAINING:

Occupational Safety & Health Administration

90 HOURS

CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING:

30 HOURS

TOTAL TRAINING HOURS:

1275.5



MINUTE TAKING COURSE:

18 HOURS

MOCK INTERVIEWS:

16 HOURS

APPRAISAL WRITING TRAINING:

22.5 HOURS

HAZARDOUS WASTE OPERATIONS & EMERGENCY RESPONSE (HAZWOPER) COURSE:

48 HOURS

HAZWOPER REFRESHER COURSE:

72 HOURS

MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC:

(MOT)



MOT TRAINING:

320 HOURS



ADVANCED MOT TRAINING:

160 HOURS

INDIVIDUAL TRAININGS:



54

HOURS

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION,
INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS &
STRATEGY MANAGEMENT

1.5 HOURS
CHUCK PETERS

GOPHER TORTOISE
MARK & RELEASE TRAINING

5.5 HOURS
KATIE LUKASEK

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION (FDOT):
TRANSPORTATION COURSE

15 HOURS TOTAL
ALEX PHAIR
THOMAS DEVILBISS
RYAN FLINT

NORTH AMERICAN HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION (NAHMMA)-
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
WASTE (HHW)- NEW
TECHNICIAN TRAINING

32 HOURS TOTAL
SALLY DIMINA
RYAN FLINT

CPR TRAINING



**American
Red Cross**

206

TOTAL HOURS TRAINED

TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKING: 55 HOURS

LIGHTING DISTRICT: 40 HOURS

SAN CASA YARD: 55 HOURS

ADMIN TEAM: 44 HOURS



BUCKET TRUCK TRAINING

120 HOURS
TOTAL TRAINED

6 HOURS
AVERAGE PER EMPLOYEE





PUBLIC RELATIONS



- More than 1,180 customer service requests were received through the Charlotte County App (Accela), also known as Public Stuff
- 982 items were successfully completed



OUTREACH EVENTS

- Public Works & Community Outreach Day
- Touch-a-Truck at New Day Christian Church
- Realtor Presentations
- Leadership Charlotte & Government Day
- Engineering Week- Girls in Engineering Day
- Miss Charlotte Fast Pitch
- Big Brothers & Sisters Presentation

PUBLIC WORKS & COMMUNITY OUTREACH DAY



The Public Works & Community Outreach Day on June 10, 2023, was held at the Charlotte County Fairgrounds. This family-friendly event aimed to promote awareness and understanding of Public Works and community agencies, as well as their partners. Over 500 attendees had the opportunity to interact with big trucks from Public Works, Utilities, Fire & EMS, and the Sheriff's Office in a touch-a-truck format. Staff members performed special demonstrations featuring the Menzi Muck and Marsh Master, which are heavy machinery used throughout the county. Local agencies and community partners also set up booths inside the expo hall, offering information, demonstrations, activities, and giveaways for kids and adults. The Charlotte County Department of Health and Sheriff's Office joined forces to provide 150 kids with free bike helmets. This collaborative effort contributed to the safety and well-being of children in our community.







ENGINEERING

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Engineering division is managed by Joanne Vernon, our County Engineer. Joanne oversees 39 positions.



STAFF:

- 36 Full Time Employees
 - 1 Supplemental Workforce
 - 2 Vacancies
-

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 4,750 LF sidewalk constructed in FY23
- Maintains 150 bridges
- 8,152 tons of asphalt placed since July 2023

ENGINEERING HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS

Mid-County projects consisted of repairing the county's stormwater infrastructure that was damaged by Hurricane Ian. The scope on each site includes reconstructing outfall pipes within the drainage easements in many locations. Repairs were also made to several sidewalks due to excessive erosion. These sites, along with many others, are still ongoing throughout the county.

MID COUNTY REPAIRS



DAMAGED DRAINAGE OUTFALL PIPE ON GARDNER DRIVE



BEFORE

AFTER

OUTFALL DRAINAGE SPILLWAY WASHED OUT ON KINGS HIGHWAY

Below are two locations: Gillot Boulevard at the Bacchus canal is nearing completion with a restored roadway, new water main, guardrail and fabric form; Blue Heron Drive required the reconstruction of a retaining wall and new handrails at the Casey Pond Waterway in the Englewood area.

WEST COUNTY REPAIRS

GILLOT BOULEVARD

BEFORE



AFTER



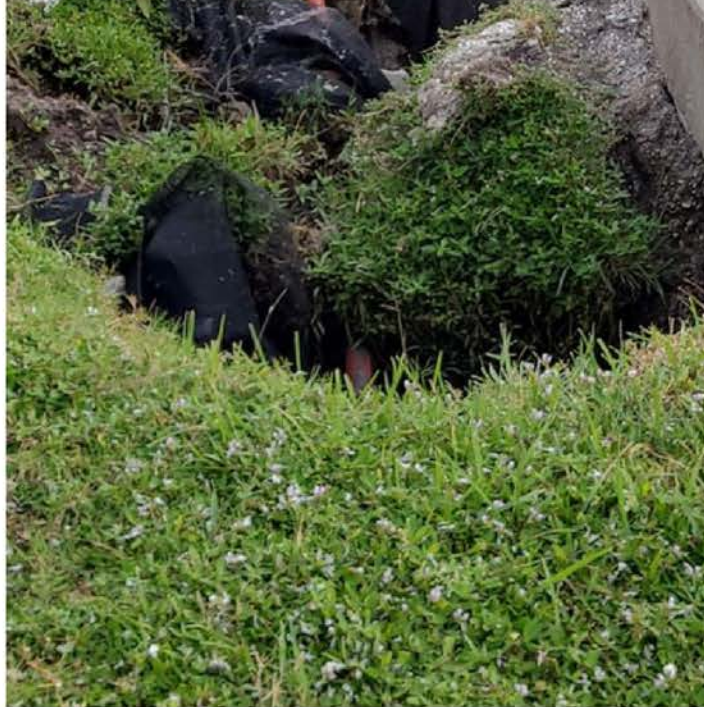
BLUE HERON DRIVE

BEFORE



AFTER





MARKHAM WATERWAY AT CHANCELLOR BOULEVARD

The Markham Waterway was another major fix from Hurricane Ian. The outfall pipe that drains into the Markham Canal between Ramblewood Street and McDill Drive washed out due to Hurricane Ian. The contractor replaced the pipe with a 36 inch corrugated metal pipe and regraded the drainage swale. The contractor also placed fabri-form to help prevent a washout in the future. This was a 90 day contract and the contractor completed the work in less than 60 days!

BEFORE



AFTER



TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$197,300

V&H CONSTRUCTION WAS THE CONTRACTOR FOR THIS PROJECT
KAREN BLISS - PROJECTS MANAGER

SAN CASA PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

The Engineering division successfully renovated the San Casa Pedestrian Bridge project over Oyster Creek. The steel bridge that connects several communities, underwent a thorough cleaning and a fresh coat of paint with steel repairs.



BEFORE



AFTER



AFTER

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$91,770

**REPAIRS WERE MADE BY THE CONTRACTOR:
TITAN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT OF
TARPON SPRINGS
KELLY SLAUGHTER - PROJECTS MANAGER**

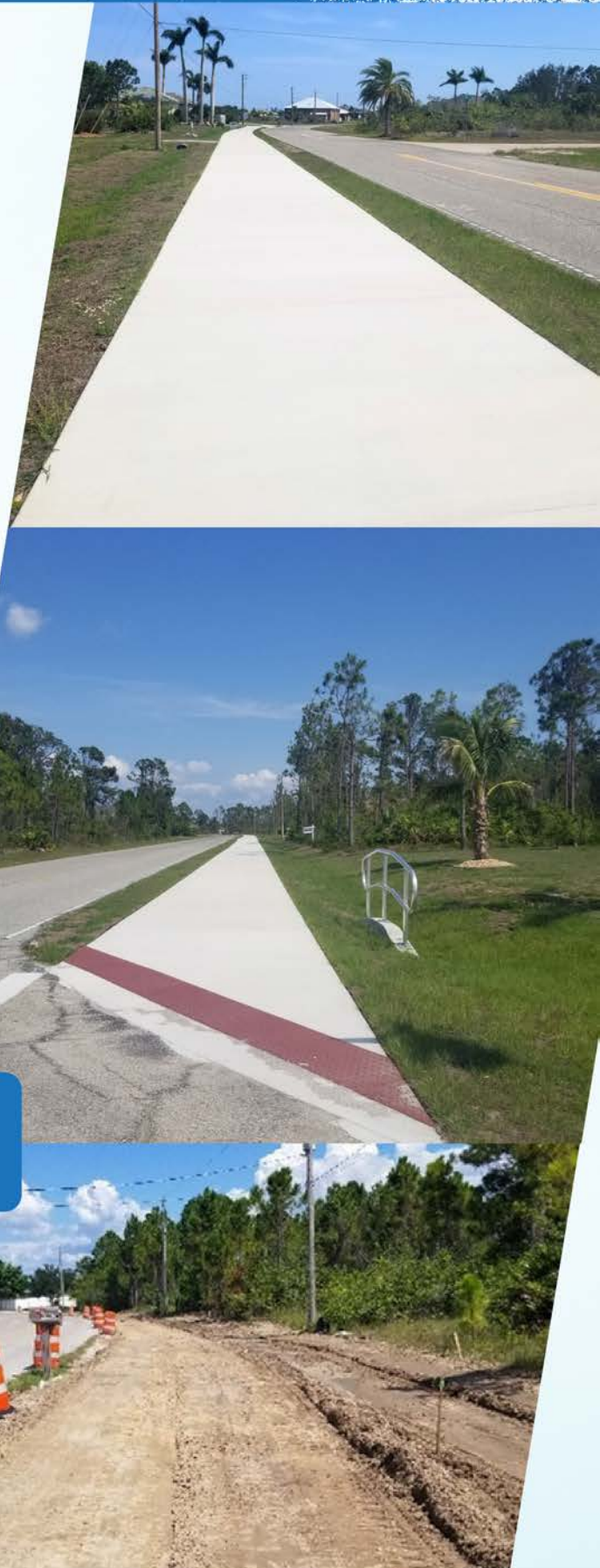
SAN DOMINGO BOULEVARD PATHWAY

This project marks the culmination of the capital improvement project (CIP) in South Gulf Cove, which now delivers roughly 19 miles of 10 foot pathway. These walkways have transformed South Gulf Cove into a more pedestrian-friendly community, offering a secure environment for physical activity. The Board has prioritized infrastructure improvements across the county, and this project exemplifies their commitment to enhancing communities, making them safer and more desirable.

4800 LF OF 10 FT PATHWAY
15 CY OF GRAVITY WALL/END WALL
1 STORM STRUCTURE
464 LF OF STORM PIPE

RAY SLADE
PROJECTS MANAGER

FT = FEET LF = LINEAR FEET CY = CUBIC YARDS



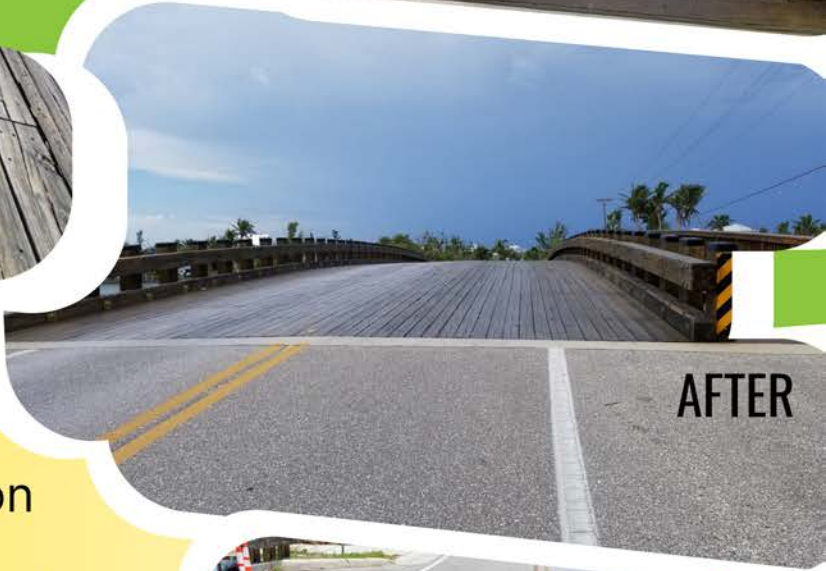
MICHAEL KOSINSKI BRIDGE REHABILITATION



BEFORE



AFTER



AFTER

The Michael Kosinski Bridge on Don Pedro Knight Islands underwent a rehabilitation project. This project included the replacement of damaged wooden deck board, minor bridge repairs, and also sealing of the wooden bridge deck.



BEFORE



AFTER

Total Project Cost:

\$232,156.50

**KELLY SLAUGHTER
PROJECTS MANAGER**

OYSTER CREEK FLOW ENHANCEMENT

The West County Stormwater MSBU requested a flow enhancement project for Oyster Creek, as we have done every few years. Earth Balance was the project contractor. They removed invasive vegetation, trash, and debris, and, also thinned some of the native vegetation that was blocking the flow of the creek. This project will help prevent flooding of properties along the creek during heavy rain events.

KAREN BLISS
PROJECTS MANAGER

BRIDGE MAINTENANCE PLAN



Charlotte County has 150 bridges of varying age and type, some of which have reached their 50-year functional design life. Public Works Engineering division has created a Bridge Maintenance Plan (BMP) providing preventative and condition-based maintenance with the main goal of increasing the service life of county bridges. According to the BMP plan for 2022, construction was to start in west county. We currently have approximately 30 bridges either under design or in construction phases (west county BMP pictured above).

Minor Damaged Bridges

These three bridges in west county sustained minor erosion damage:

- Bridge #014082 David Boulevard over Newgate Waterway
- Bridge #014123 Rotonda Circle over Pine Valley Creek
- Bridge #014099 Rebel Court over Rotonda River

Midway Bridge #014073

This bridge located over North Spring Lake, sustained scour damage, which will require design services for construction plans.

Oyster Creek Bridge #010063

This bridge located on County Road (CR) 775 over Oyster Creek sustained severe damage, requiring an emergency repair to stop erosion. The additional damage to this bridge will require design services for construction plans. This project will be partially funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief Fund (ERF).

Rotonda Bridge #014113

This bridge located on Rotonda Boulevard over the Rotonda River, suffered major damage and will need to be repaired or replaced. This will require design and construction of a new bridge, or extensive repairs, and will be potentially be funded by FEMA.

HURRICANE IAN DAMAGED BRIDGES

RIGHT OF WAY (ROW) PERMITS & INSPECTIONS



11,418

PERMITS WITH ROW FINAL
INSPECTIONS ATTACHED

13,861

REVIEWS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED



132

LAND DEVELOPMENT ROW PERMITS

3,151

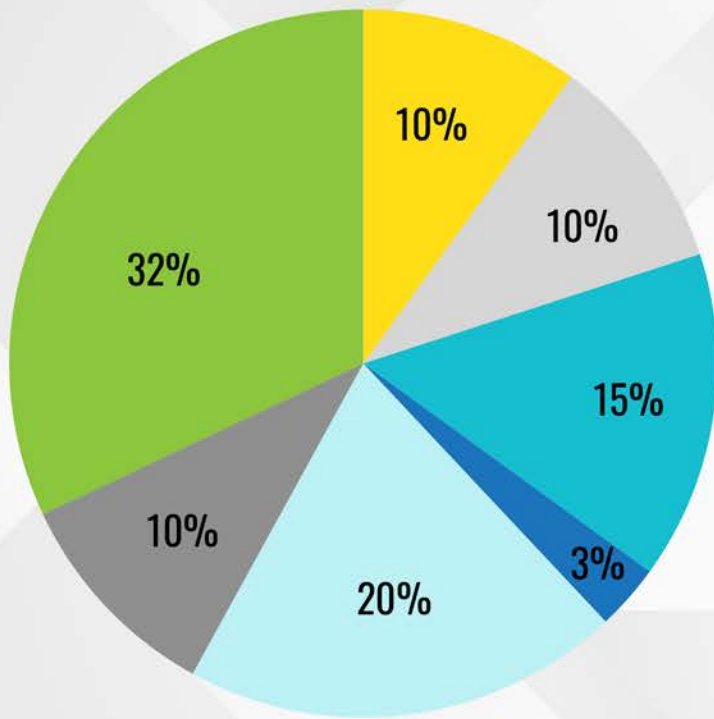
ROW LINE AND GRADE INSPECTIONS
HAVE BEEN PASSED OR APPROVED



16,194

INSPECTIONS HAVE BEEN PASSED OR
APPROVED AS NOTED BY ROW

SURVEY



The chart (left) shows the total percentage of surveying completed for each department

- ENGINEERING
- UTILITIES
- MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS
- INSPECTION
- REAL ESTATE SERVICES
- PARKS & RECREATION
- COMMUNITY SERVICES

EXCAVATION DATA

87

COMMERCIAL/LARGE AGRICULTURE EXCAVATIONS INSPECTIONS

6

INVESTIGATIONS DUE TO RESIDENTIAL CODE COMPLIANCE CASES

3

NEW RESIDENTIAL POND PERMITS

1

STOCKPILE PERMIT





CAT

DEERE

CAT 320DLC



MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Maintenance & Operations (M&O) division is managed by Karly Greene, Maintenance & Operations Manager. Traffic Signs & Marking as well as the Lighting District fall under this division. Karly oversees 170 positions.



STAFF:

101 Full Time Employees
4 Supplemental Workforce
1 Part Time
64 Vacancies

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Maintains 2,200 miles of roadway
- Approx. 80,000 pipes

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS (M&O) HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS



Hurricane Ian made landfall on September 28, 2022, leaving behind a wide swath of destruction in Charlotte County. The M&O division immediately transitioned to disaster response and recovery efforts. These efforts began with the initial push of roadways; the initial push is a pre-determined set of roads and bridges that connect infrastructure like hospitals, fire, and police stations. As the name indicates, during this phase of recovery, there is no debris being removed and is only pushed away from the travel lanes. The next initiative is to begin the push of all county-maintained roads to ensure there is access. The M&O division, along with several responding agencies including the: Army National Guard Red Horse Group, Team Rubicon, and Ashbritt completed the initial push roads in 2 days, then all county roads within 7 days, respectively. The completion timeframe for the initial push surpassed any previous efforts and would not have been possible without the assistance of the mutual aid provided to the department.

While the county-wide push was underway, the team also responded to 35 different locations in which large scale damages occurred. M&O staff conducted temporary repairs and deployed jersey barriers to allow the public to continue utilizing the roadways. Additionally, the team investigated 178 locations where storm damages were reported, effected 32 permanent repairs, and outsourced 9 pipe lining locations. Once emergency response efforts were wrapping up, the team also stepped in and assisted the Solid Waste division with landfill operations. The dedication of the M&O team, in coordination with other Public Works team members during the response and recovery efforts of Hurricane Ian, was unmatched.



PINECREST DRIVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS



This project was a result of drainage issues within the Pinecrest area due to a failing outfall pipe. Staff worked with Real Estate Services to obtain a temporary right of entry to replace approximately 120 LF of pipe and reconstruct the catch basin. This project included obstacles such as fencing and landscaping that were reinstalled post-construction. These drainage improvements should reduce flooding during heavy rain events.

GLENCOVE STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Charlotte County Utilities reported a point repair was needed during watermain construction. M&O determined the entirety of the lot pipe from Glencove Street to Ashton Avenue should be replaced before complete failure. Crews replaced a total of 580 LF of pipe, and rebuilt and replaced 5 catch basins.



LF = LINEAR FEET

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

LITTLE FARM ROAD

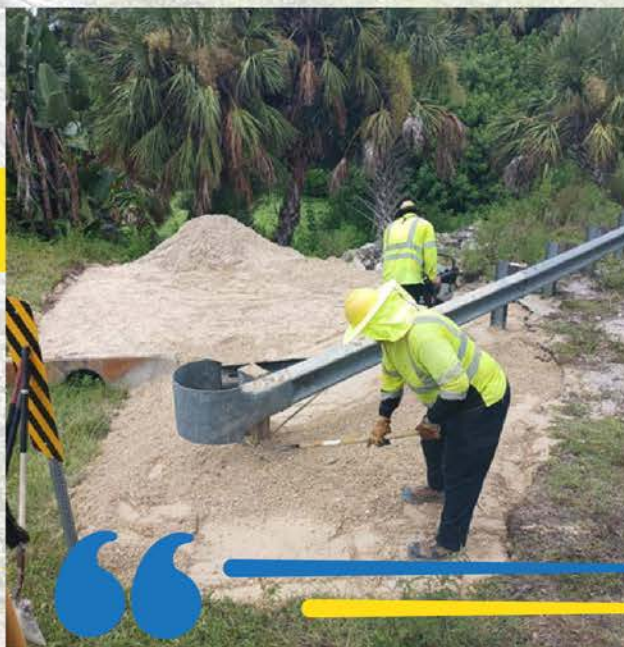


This project was a result of Board of County Commissioners' direction to find alternatives to the slough on Little Farm Road. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was granted in 2022. In February 2023, staff installed four (4) 24 IN x 38 IN equalizer pipes and reconstructed approximately 206 FT of road converting the existing slough. This widened the roadway to 22 FT. The crews poured 27 YDS of concrete and placed 6,500 SF of sod for this project. The pipes provide equalization for the ponded water on the north and south sides of Little Farm Road allowing water to flow in either direction.

IN= INCH FT= FEET SF= SQUARE FEET YDS= YARDS



COLLINGSWOOD BOULEVARD X HILLSBOROUGH BOULEVARD



This area had a washout from Hurricane Ian. M&O crews filled in the washout with shell and dirt, using filter cloth and then rip rap to secure and stabilize the bank.



M&O SKILLS TESTING

JANUARY 4, 2023: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III

Seven applicants were assessed; six moved onto interviews. Two candidates were selected to fill both open positions—one at San Casa Yard and one at Punta Gorda Yard.

JANUARY 12, 2023: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I

Six applicants were assessed. Three candidates were selected to fill the open positions.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III

Two applicants were assessed; one was selected for the position.



TOM ADAMS BRIDGE OPENINGS



| | # OF BOATS PASSED THROUGH | # OF OPENINGS |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| October 2022: | 23 | 21 |
| November 2022: | 38 | 36 |
| December 2022: | 61 | 60 |
| January 2023: | 66 | 66 |
| February 2023: | 89 | 88 |
| March 2023: | 130 | 121 |
| April 2023: | 95 | 90 |
| May 2023: | 86 | 77 |
| June 2023: | 76 | 69 |
| July 2023: | 77 | 77 |
| August 2023: | 28 | 28 |
| September 2023: | 17 | 17 |

SOUTH GULF COVE LOCK OPENINGS

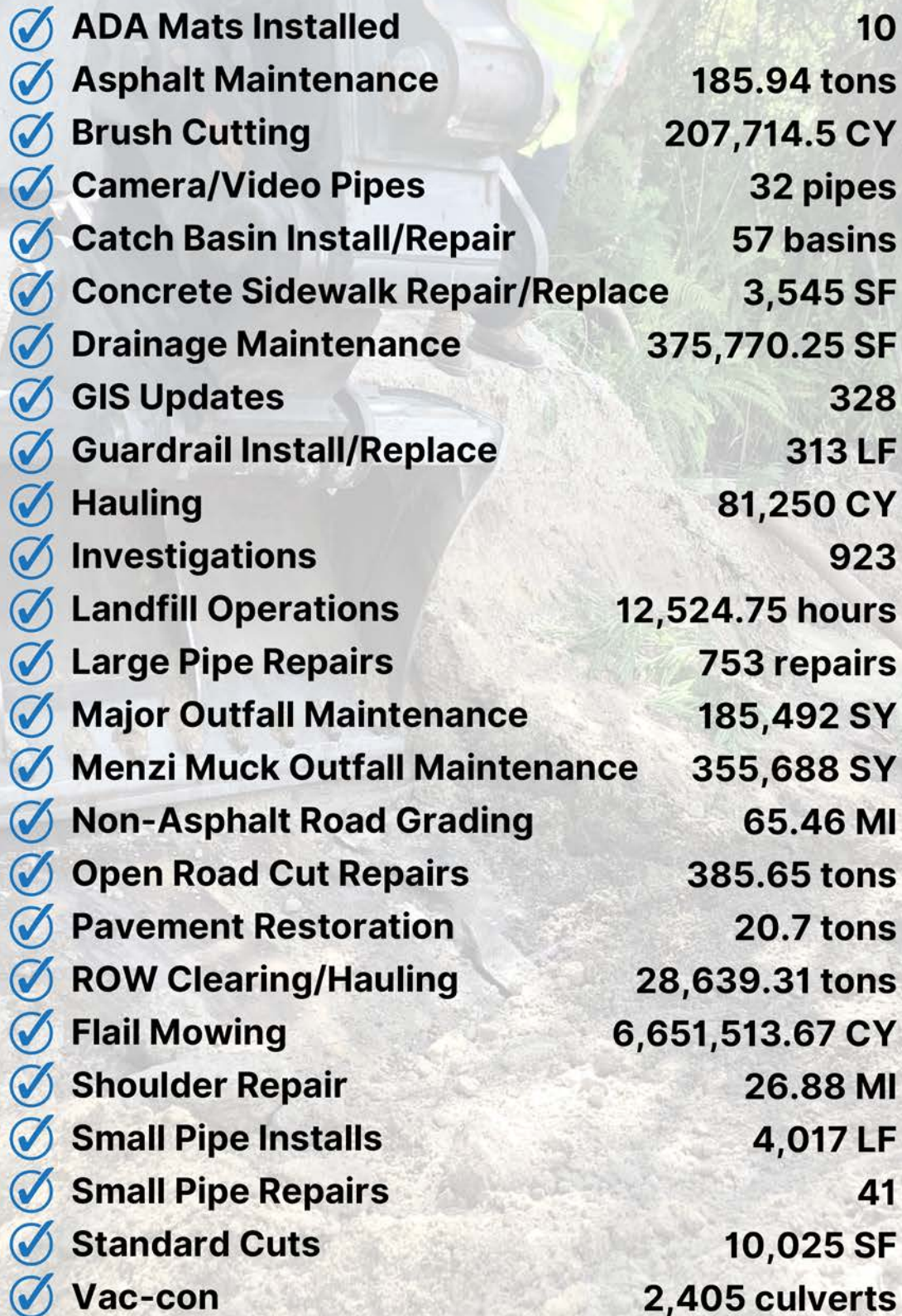
| | # OF BOATS PASSED THROUGH | # OF OPENINGS |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| October 2022: | 297 | 258 |
| November 2022: | 622 | 518 |
| December 2022: | 899 | 700 |
| January 2023: | 1,046 | 808 |
| February 2023: | 1,655 | 1,124 |
| March 2023: | 1,923 | 1,358 |
| April 2023: | 1,924 | 1,315 |
| May 2023: | 2,033 | 1,449 |
| June 2023: | 1,196 | 961 |
| July 2023: | 881 | 689 |
| August 2023: | 286 | 334 |
| September 2023: | 906 | 743 |





FY23

**MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS
WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS**



| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ✓ ADA Mats Installed | 10 |
| ✓ Asphalt Maintenance | 185.94 tons |
| ✓ Brush Cutting | 207,714.5 CY |
| ✓ Camera/Video Pipes | 32 pipes |
| ✓ Catch Basin Install/Repair | 57 basins |
| ✓ Concrete Sidewalk Repair/Replace | 3,545 SF |
| ✓ Drainage Maintenance | 375,770.25 SF |
| ✓ GIS Updates | 328 |
| ✓ Guardrail Install/Replace | 313 LF |
| ✓ Hauling | 81,250 CY |
| ✓ Investigations | 923 |
| ✓ Landfill Operations | 12,524.75 hours |
| ✓ Large Pipe Repairs | 753 repairs |
| ✓ Major Outfall Maintenance | 185,492 SY |
| ✓ Menzi Muck Outfall Maintenance | 355,688 SY |
| ✓ Non-Asphalt Road Grading | 65.46 MI |
| ✓ Open Road Cut Repairs | 385.65 tons |
| ✓ Pavement Restoration | 20.7 tons |
| ✓ ROW Clearing/Hauling | 28,639.31 tons |
| ✓ Flail Mowing | 6,651,513.67 CY |
| ✓ Shoulder Repair | 26.88 MI |
| ✓ Small Pipe Installs | 4,017 LF |
| ✓ Small Pipe Repairs | 41 |
| ✓ Standard Cuts | 10,025 SF |
| ✓ Vac-con | 2,405 culverts |

CY = CUBIC YARDS
SF = SQUARE FEET

LF = LINEAR FEET
SY = SQUARE YARDS

MI = MILES



TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKINGS (TSM) HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS



**TSM MAINTAINS:
85,122 SIGNS
LAND & WATER**

**71,244
ROAD SIGNS**

**12,692
STOP SIGNS**

**1,186
MARINE SIGNS**

**76,609 signs
were damaged
due to
Hurricane Ian**

TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKINGS (TSM) FEMA RESTORATIONS FOR MARINE MARKERS



TSM has begun Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) restorations for our marine markers throughout the county. TSM manages 768 pilings, most of which support multiple sign assets throughout our navigable waterways that span from Englewood Beach down to Pirate Harbor. That also includes all the inlets our citizens frequent on their boats throughout the Myakka and Peace rivers. As the 17th largest estuary in the nation, our 830 miles of shoreline is a significant stretch to maintain.

When Hurricane Ian swept through, it took 134 out of 1,186 waterway signs, as well as 78 out of 768 pilings. To ensure that our asset restorations are completed to regulatory standards, staff has been out daily on our vessel, following the FEMA approved contractors ensuring work is documented and completed correctly. They are also bringing in any storm debris that they find while out there.



PROJECTED COST
\$100,000

TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKINGS (TSM) BERMONT ROAD PASSING ZONE



The no passing zone extension on Bermont Road was completed. TSM installed 17 new signs, relocated and replaced 2 additional signs, and removed 5 that were no longer applicable. TSM also laid about 41,000 FT of paint to complete the extension from US 17 to Happy Hollow Road to reflect the ordinance update. Among those new signs installed, were additional speed limit signs to advise drivers of the posted speed limit of 45 MPH. These signs are placed about 1.3 miles apart from each other, and are posted at each end of the roadway, as well as in the middle of the zone. There are several signage reminders of the no passing zone, each is posted at a little over half a mile increments.



FY23 WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS

| | |
|--|---|
| Marine Markers - 1,004 signs | Sign Installation - 52 signs |
| Pavement Markings - 24,080 | Sign Maintenance - 6,948 signs |
| Sign Fabrication - 2,172 signs | Striping - 99,943 LF |
| Sign Inspection - 131,791 signs | Support Post Maintenance - 1,034 posts |

LF = LINEAR FEET FT = FEET MPH = MILES PER HOUR

TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKINGS (TSM) CAPE HAZE PIONEER TRAIL

TSM managed a project to bring additional safety to our local residents and more awareness to drivers. The Cape Haze Pioneer Trail Path is a heavily used biking, running, and walking route for residents. This trail extends 8.5 miles, nearly parallel with Gasparilla Road. Public Works has taken many steps in the last several years to make that crossing point as safe as it possibly can be. We have installed flashing beacons in advance of the crossing point, added numerous signs along the path and roadway, and upgraded the crosswalk from a standard crossing to a high visibility crossing. The most recent update to ensure safety includes subsurface flashing pavement markers. Anyone that presses the crossing button will now illuminate not just the signs, but the roadway crossing as well. These flashing markers will ensure that anyone crossing during times of low light or visibility will be afforded the most protection possible by giving the drivers notice of the upcoming crossing and ensure a safe crossing.



TRAFFIC SIGNS & MARKINGS (TSM) EDGEWATER DRIVE



STRIPING ON EDGEWATER DRIVE

TSM completed the turn lane on Edgewater Drive leading to Midway Boulevard. This new look will hopefully remind drivers of the upcoming turn lane.

INSTALLED:

- 12" WIDE DOTTED WHITE LANE MARKINGS
- 12" WIDE SOLID WHITE LANE MARKINGS
- AN ADDITIONAL "ONLY" AND RIGHT ARROW SET AROUND THE ROUNDABOUT SIGNAGE



EDGEWATER DRIVE



Altec

US 41

LIGHTING DISTRICT HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS

Hurricane Ian's damages to our signalized infrastructure resulted in the shutdown of 11 local intersections. Lighting staff, consisting of just 5, went to work immediately to bring our signals back online and restore a sense of normalcy to our traffic patterns. The manager of the Traffic Management Center (TMC) made strategic signal timing adjustments throughout the county during the weeks and months following the storm. This improved the flow of massive vehicle volumes due to restoration efforts by contractors and government agencies. To support our operations, we called in assistance from Econolite, our hurricane contractor, to expedite the task as quickly and safely as possible. Doing so resulted in restoring complete operational capacity back within 84 days. This was a task unheard of in our Public Works history and is a testament to the amazing work ethic and resiliency of our staff.



FORREST NELSON BOULEVARD X QUESADA AVENUE



SUNCOAST BOULEVARD X KINGS HIGHWAY



OLEAN BOULEVARD X KINGS HIGHWAY



PLACIDA ROAD X SAN CASA DRIVE



PEACHLAND BOULEVARD X HARBOR BOULEVARD



PLACIDA ROAD X BOCA GRANDE CAUSEWAY

LIGHTING DISTRICT STREETLIGHT REPAIR



MAINTAINS:

**119 TRAFFIC SIGNALS
2,281 ROADWAY LIGHTS**

After a light pole was hit behind Wawa at Jones Loop Road and Taylor Road in Punta Gorda, the Lighting District was able to retrieve the concrete base that was stuck underground. The top part of the pole was cut and brought back to the yard. At a later date, the crew had to go back to pull the underground portion out with a crane truck. The poles are usually 30 FT tall and about 6 FT of the pole is buried to counterbalance the above-ground portion.

FY23 WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Beacon Relocation/Install/Repair - 47 beacons
Signal Maintenance - 268 signals
Street Light Repairs - 137 lights
Utility Locates - 1,142 tickets

FT = FEET

LIGHTING DISTRICT SCHOOL FLASHER PEACE RIVER ELEMENTARY



One of the school flashers at Peace River Elementary stopped working, so the Lighting District crew went out to install a brand new signal head. Instead of red, yellow, and green, school flasher heads are strictly yellow and flash alternately on a timer. The top bulb actually faces backwards to let people know they're still in a school zone until they pass it. These flashing signals play a crucial role in alerting drivers about reduced speed limits and the presence of young pedestrians in school zones.

LIGHTING DISTRICT MIOVISION

The Lighting District set up new detection software called MIOVision. They installed this software at four locations along Kings Highway: Suncoast Boulevard, Olean Boulevard, Elmira Boulevard, and Midway Boulevard. The new system will improve detection at traffic lights due to the fishbowl-like camera lens that can see the entire intersection with one camera instead of having multiple.



MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT & TAXING UNITS (MSBU/MSTUs)

An MSBU/MSTU is a geographic area within the County, created by ordinance and defined by specific boundaries, through which particular services are provided. Some examples of services that MSBUs may provide are: road & drainage maintenance, waterway dredging, stormwater utility, fire protection or sanitation service.

Some of Charlotte County's Municipal Service Benefit Units and Municipal Service Taxing Units (MSBUs/MSTUs) are coordinated through Public Works' representatives.



TOTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

131

TOTAL ADVISORY BOARD VACANCIES

18

TOTAL MEETINGS IN FY23

104

TOTAL MSBU/MSTUS

53


COMMUNITY LIAISONS



Community Liaisons, Erica Lemaster and Kellie Stewart, assist in managing the budgets for all MSBU-TU's under Public Works. They meet quarterly with each of the Advisory Boards to review the financials, make recommendations to the MSBU-TU budgets and work programs, and respond to inquiries and recommendations from the public. Part of their role is to act as recording secretary and take official minutes of meetings and maintain records; they compile the annual reports for the MSBU-TUs in accordance with the county Charter. They also need a wide variety of knowledge of the various capital projects, equipment, project management, stormwater, permitting, fiscal and legal services, customer service, and procurement processes. With that knowledge, they work with an array of county departments and outside organizations to make recommendations regarding MSBU/TU territory revisions, ordinances, and resolutions.



MARSHMASTER



MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control division is managed by Scott Schermerhorn, Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Manager. Scott oversees 24 positions.

STAFF:

15 Full Time Employees
6 Seasonal Aides
3 vacancies



MOSQUITO & AQUATIC WEED CONTROL (MAWC) HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS



- Over 20 aerial adulticide missions covering 185,000 acres
- Over 145 spray truck missions covering 345,000 acres
- Many of these aerial & truck missions were in support of first responder & FEMA encampments, cellular provider emergency popup stations and the like
- Approximately 1,200 cans of Deep Woods Off bug spray distributed to the same first responder/FEMA/cellular worksites along with the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition



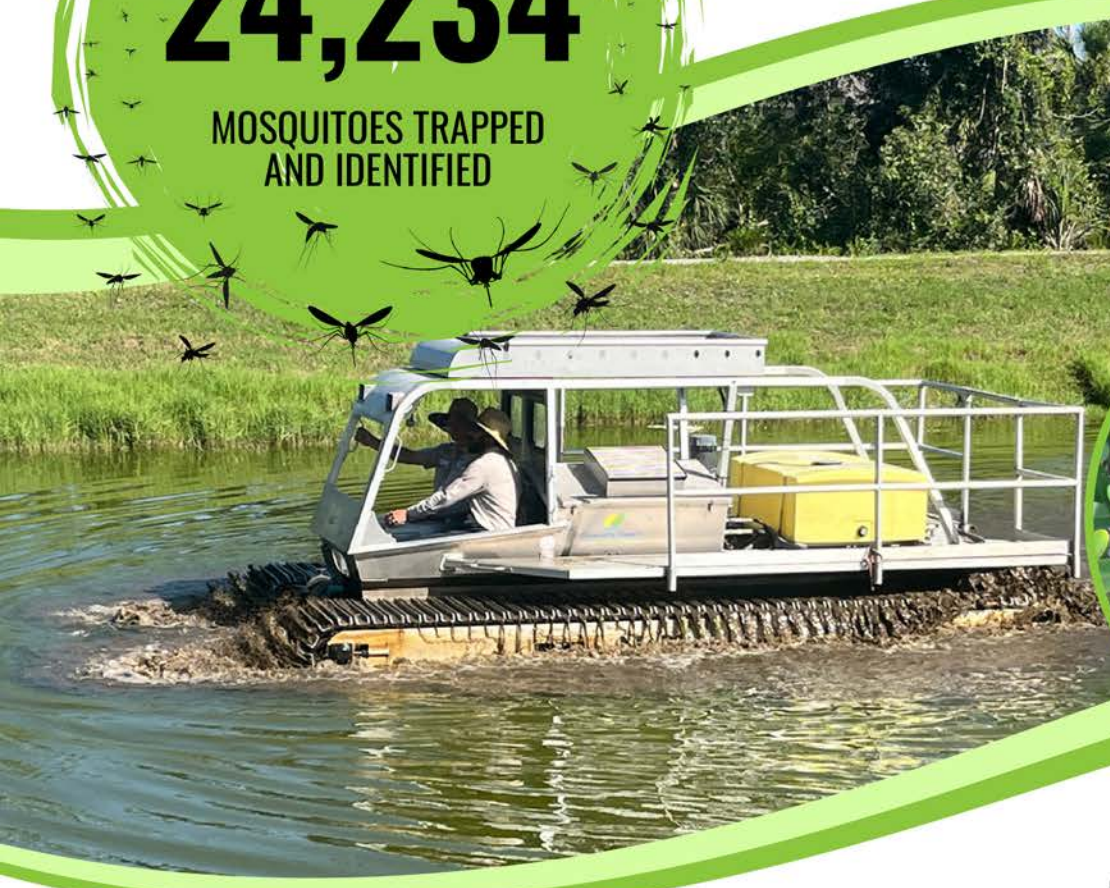
MOSQUITO CONTROL BY THE NUMBERS

Charlotte County has 680 square miles of land and approximately 178 square miles of water. Additionally, there are 31,434 acres (50 square miles) of salt marshes and estuary habitat counted as land.

FY 2023

24,234

MOSQUITOES TRAPPED AND IDENTIFIED



451

BLOOD SAMPLES FROM SENTINEL CHICKENS

886

MOSQUITO TRAPS SET & RECOVERED

4,157

TOTAL MOSQUITO LANDING RATE COUNTS

43.43 TONS

SOURCE REDUCTION:TIRE DISPOSAL

61

TOTAL NUMBER OF MOSQUITO POOLS TESTED IN HOUSE FOR MOSQUITO BORNE ILLNESSES

ADULTICIDE TREATMENTS

477

1,312,105.40
ACRES

LARVICIDE TREATMENTS

336

14,096.58
ACRES

1,786

SERVICE REQUESTS

SENTINEL CHICKENS



- 7 SITES
- 3 CHICKENS PER SITE
- 21 SENTINELS



Our chickens are the Easter Egger Breed, AKA...

AMERAUCANA

Several chickens were placed in select locations around Charlotte County. Small blood samples were drawn weekly to check for three mosquito-borne viruses: West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis, and Eastern equine encephalitis. Chickens make great sentinels because they do not become sick from the viruses and act as a dead-end host, meaning they cannot spread the virus. The Charlotte County Department of Health tests for specific antibodies in their serum. If one or more chickens at a location test positive, this lets the Mosquito Control division know there are mosquitoes in the area actively transmitting disease and mosquito control can respond accordingly.

COOP, THERE IT IS!

Our outreach chickens got some new digs with a coop built by our very own Brian Greig, Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Specialist.



DISEASE SURVEILLANCE COURSE

The Sentinel Chicken Disease Surveillance course is an event that hosts continuing education short courses pertaining to various subjects in mosquito control. Beth Carey-Kovach, Biological Specialist, taught this course for the second time featuring Charlotte County's sentinel chicken surveillance program, phlebotomy techniques, proper chicken husbandry and nutrition, as well as a segment on diseases and health issues by the State Poultry Veterinarian, and a segment by the Florida Department of Health (DOH) Virology Team on their serum testing. The main objective of the course is to share ideas, improve the quality of life for the chickens, preparedness when issues arise, and understanding the DOH tests and results.



**Our outreach girls,
Lavender & Clementine!**

The Leadership Charlotte class had the opportunity to meet a couple of the chicks as we passed them around and talked about our Sentinel Surveillance Program. Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator, and Commissioner Bill Truex couldn't pass up the chance to hold a chick, proving how big of an impact these little ones have on everybody!



UTILIZING DRONES



As part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach, drones are a useful tool to the Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control arsenal with the ability to scope out hard to reach places, help identify new larval habitats, and have the potential to carry payloads for spot-treatments. Drones can capture aerial geographic information systems (GIS) images of the county to help identify small areas near or within residential zones that contain *Spartina* grass – a grass that is heavily associated with salt marshes. Once these areas are identified, we visit the locations to confirm if they are salt marsh mosquito hotspots that could be pre-treated with granules.

Our new Swellpro splash drone will be deployed to get a close visual and perhaps even be able to sample hard-to-reach areas to determine if they are holding water. The Swellpro has ability to land directly in water with a waterproof camera to give real-time video footage of what may be lurking beneath the surface.

The end goal of this drone project is to treat saltmarsh pockets with granules ahead of the rainy season preventing mosquitoes from becoming localized issues for nearby residential areas.



Sydney L'Heureux and Beth Carey-Kovach, both Biological Specialists, passed the Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification exam which allows them to pilot drones beyond the scope of hobbyist flying.

SALT MARSH TIME OF YEAR!



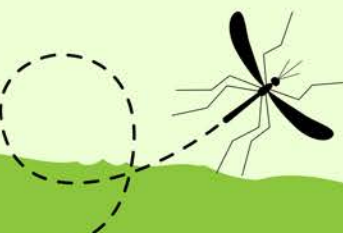
24,000 LBS
OF GRANULAR WAS LOADED AND APPLIED
2,400 ACRES
OF STATE LAND WAS PRE-TREATED

Salt Marsh mosquito species strategically lay their eggs in the exposed soils of low-lying areas in the marsh.

Eggs can remain dormant for several years until they become flooded by high tides and/or rain events. These eggs will then hatch in unison and rapidly progress to adult mosquitoes in as little as 7 days.

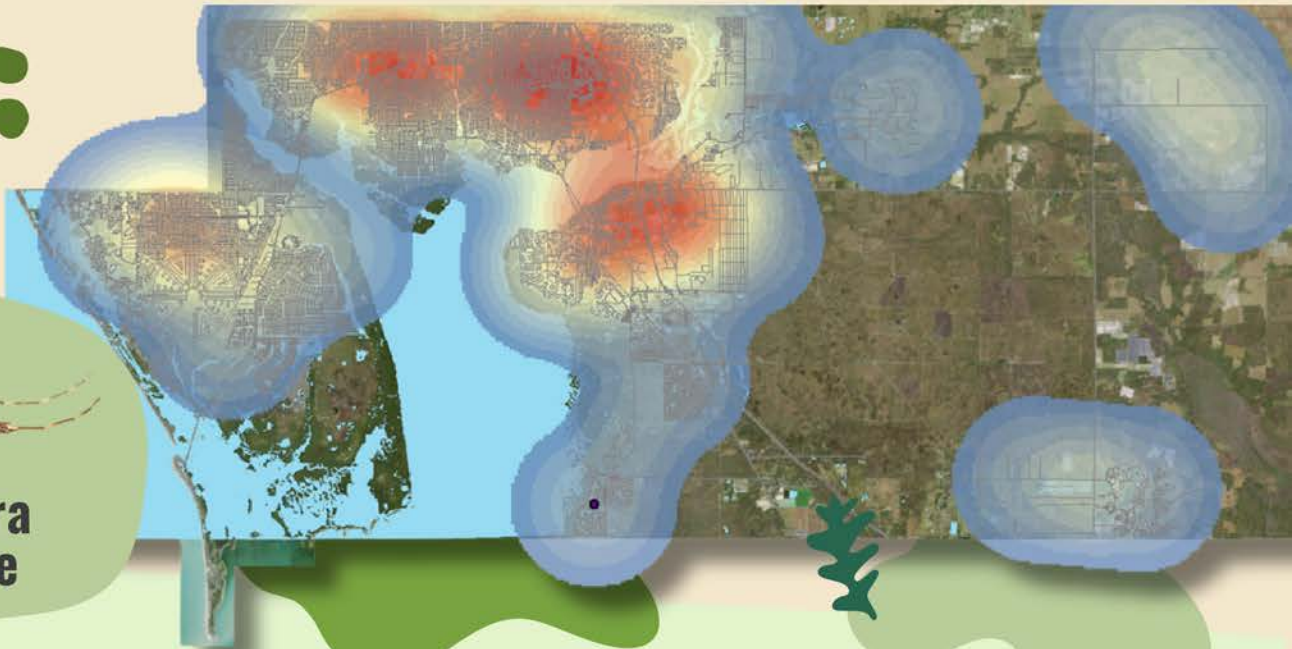
When treating large swaths of land, we utilize the helicopter. The crews worked hard hauling 40 LB bags of granular and loading the hoppers each time the helicopter returned.

For smaller salt marsh areas within residential zones, granular can be applied with a backpack blower. This pre-treatment has proven highly effective against *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes.



LBS = POUNDS

SPECIES HEAT MAPS



**Psorophora
columbiae**

The biology department has been utilizing ArcGIS software to create mosquito species heat maps based on annual trapping surveillance data. This enables users to be able to see potential disease vectoring mosquito abundance or where uncommon species are most often seen. This will also enable users to see if there are species distribution changes over time due to varying weather patterns and/or habitat changes. This is an ongoing project that will refine the areas and the numbers and individual species that can be viewed. The maps above and below are examples of the species heat maps that we use.



**Aedes
pertinax**

MALARIA RESPONSE

OFF! WITH THEIR MOSQUITOES!

The transmission of Malaria in our neighboring county of Sarasota hit news headlines in May 2023. This is a bit alarming since locally transmitted Malaria hasn't been seen in our area since the 1950's. Malaria is a disease caused by the blood-borne parasites of the *genus plasmodium*. These parasites are carried by the mosquito *genus anopheles*, which has been presently trapped and identified in Charlotte County.



DRAIN DRESS DEFEND



Charlotte County has several species of Anopheles mosquitoes that are capable of transmitting Malaria, so the MAWC team took some extra measures to reduce the chances of it being seen in our own county. Those measures included:

- The addition of extra mosquito trapping along the border shared with Sarasota County. This will allow MAWC to respond with additional treatments in those areas to act as a buffer.
- The donation of OFF! insect repellent to our Charlotte County Homeless Coalition. The homeless have a higher risk of being exposed to mosquito-borne viruses, like Malaria, due to their lack of shelter.

To ensure you aren't creating accidental mosquito havens in our own backyards, make sure to dump any standing water from any containers at least once a week, or use Mosquito Bits (found online or at your local hardware store) in containers or bromeliads where you cannot dump the standing water.

Protect yourself using the **3 D's – Drain, Dress, and Defend!**

DRAIN any standing water found on your property; **DRESS** in long sleeves and long pants with light-colored fabric during mosquito season and during peak mosquito hours (dawn/dusk); and **DEFEND** yourself with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved repellent and reapply according to the label (approved repellents include those containing DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus).

2023 AQUATIC WEED CONTROL SHORT COURSE



Several employees attended the 2023 Aquatic Weed Control Short Course held in Orlando. This annual course from the University of Florida features experts in aquatic and upland vegetation management. A few topics that were covered included plant identification, invasive and noxious plant species, biological controls, and proper chemical control techniques. Some discussions focused on the history of plant introductions and how quickly growth got out of hand due to a lack of natural controls. An example was water hyacinth, which quickly took over the St. Johns River in the late 1800s causing major issues for steamboat traffic, simply because one person thought the flowery plant would beautify the river. Another example was the overgrowth of hydrilla. It was introduced into Florida waterways in the 1950s, most likely as a discarded aquarium plant, but now causes major issues in waters all throughout the state.

Aquatic weed control is so important, not only to promote biodiversity by allowing our native plants to flourish, but to maintain flow in our waterways and right-of-ways. It also goes hand in hand with mosquito control, as some species of mosquitoes utilize the root systems of floating vegetation (such as hyacinth and water lettuce) by piercing the roots to obtain oxygen while in the larval stage.

NOXIOUS AQUATIC WEED EXAMPLES:



WATER HYACINTH



WATER LETTUCE



WATER LILY



HYDRILLA

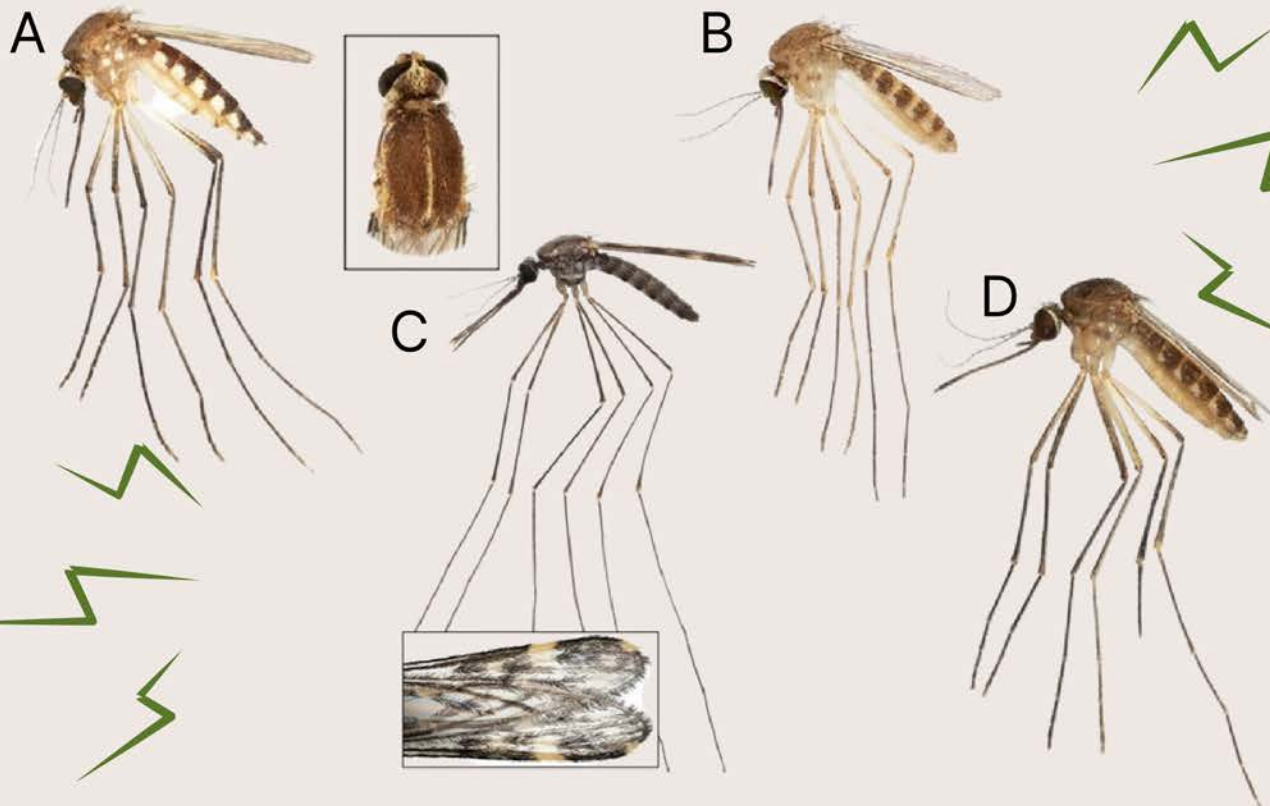
AN UPDATE OF MOSQUITO SPECIES RECORDS FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY

During the years 2019-2021, 4 species of mosquitoes that were trapped and identified, had not been previously documented in Charlotte County. These were *Aedes pertinax*, *Anopheles perplexens*, *Culex declarator*, and *Culex interrogator*. A paper was written by Charlotte County MAWC staff regarding these species findings. This paper was published in the Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association in December 2022. While none of these species are implicated as major disease vectors currently, it is interesting to see how mosquito migrations occur over time due to climate change and global connectivity and remains an ever-important task to stay vigilant for new occurrences.

Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association, 38(4):000–000, 2022
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AEDES PERTINAX, *ANOPHELES PERPLEXENS*, *CULEX DECLARATOR*, AND *CX. INTERROGATOR*: AN UPDATE OF MOSQUITO SPECIES RECORDS FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BETH C. KOVACH,¹ LAWRENCE E. REEVES,² CANDELARIA DOMINGO,² SYDNEY N. L'HEUREUX,¹
GAVRIEL V. BURGER,¹ SCOTT D. SCHERMERHORN¹ AND MICHAEL T. RILES³



Representative adult female specimens illustrating the 4 new species records for Charlotte County: (A) *Aedes pertinax*, with inset showing the narrow stripe of pale scales along the median of the scutum; (B) *Culex interrogator*; (C) *Anopheles perplexens*, with inset showing a dorsal view of wings with patches of pale scales along the margins; and (D) *Culex declarator*





SOLID WASTE

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Solid Waste division is managed by Richard Allen, Solid Waste Manager. Richard oversees 46 positions.



STAFF:

31 Full Time Employees
2 Supplemental Workforce
13 Vacancies

FACILITIES:

Charlotte County Landfill
Mid County Transfer Station
West County Transfer Station



SOLID WASTE HURRICANE IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS

Post Hurricane Ian, the Charlotte County Landfill immediately changed operational days and times to assist the contracted debris collection companies, as well as local companies in processing debris collection throughout the county. From October 1, 2022 through January 2023, the landfill provided access to customers 7 days a week to maintain the expanded level of service. These operations also required the augmentation and training of additional staff to the landfill.

Charlotte County's Mid and West Mini-Transfer and Recycling Facilities converted from the traditional drop-off sites for hazardous household waste and excess household items to storm debris drop-off sites. The facilities were operational for 7 days a week with expanded hours and required the augmentation of staff, as well as equipment, to manage the volume of materials being processed at both facilities.

MID COUNTY WAS OPEN FOR **116 DAYS** AND PROCESSED **16,477 CUSTOMERS**
WEST COUNTY WAS OPEN FOR **113 DAYS** AND PROCESSED **20,933 CUSTOMERS**

LANDFILL POST-STORM ALMOST DOUBLED ITS' VOLUME:
FROM 34,346 TO **67,502 TRANSACTIONS** AND 159,017 TO **357,670 TONS**

4,088,392

CY OF VEGETATIVE DEBRIS

585,891

CY OF C&D DEBRIS

83,715

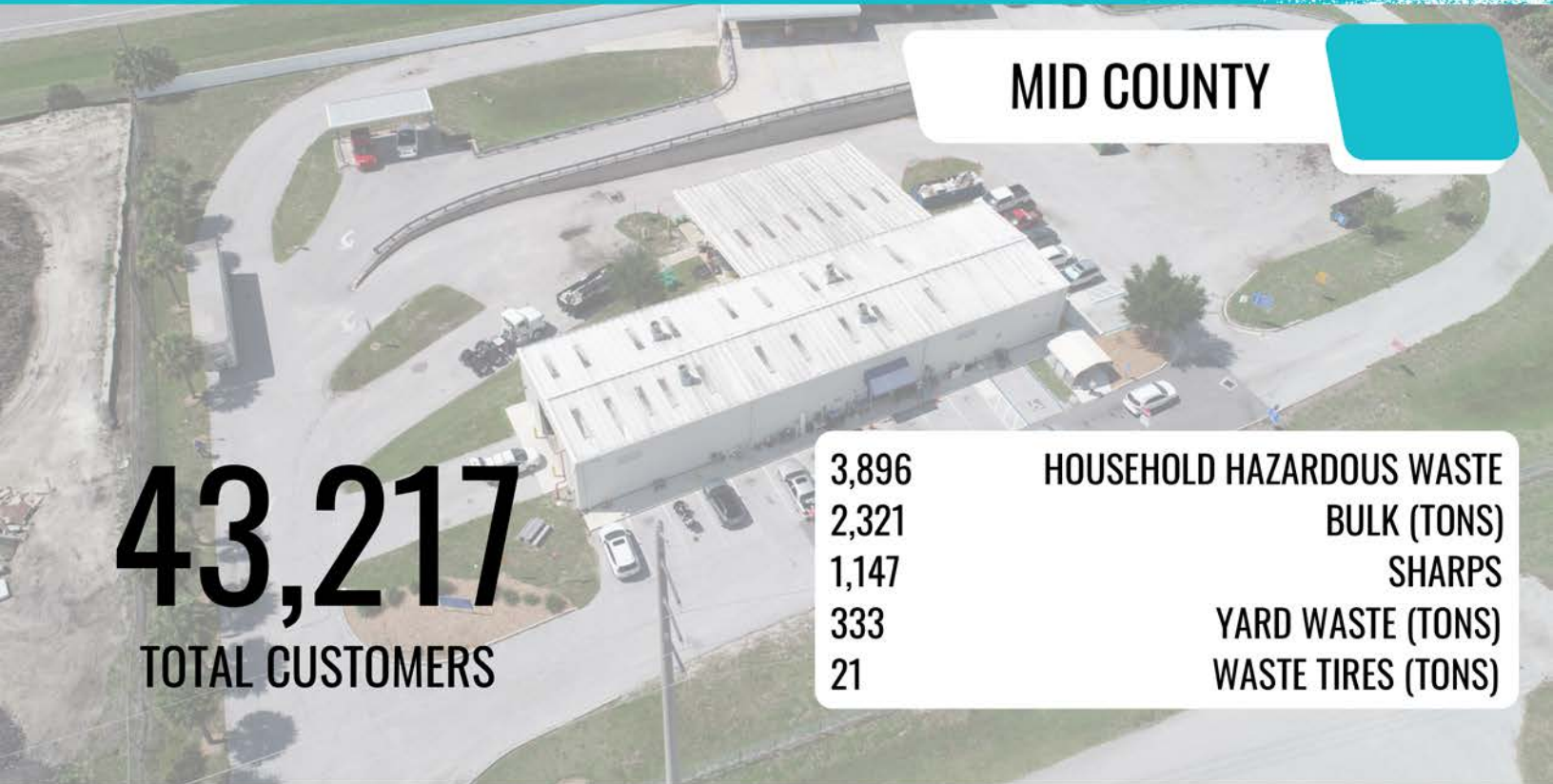
LOADS OF
VEGETATIVE DEBRIS

11,989

LOADS OF
C&D DEBRIS

C&D = CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION
CY = CUBIC YARDS

MINI-TRANSFER & RECYCLING FACILITIES

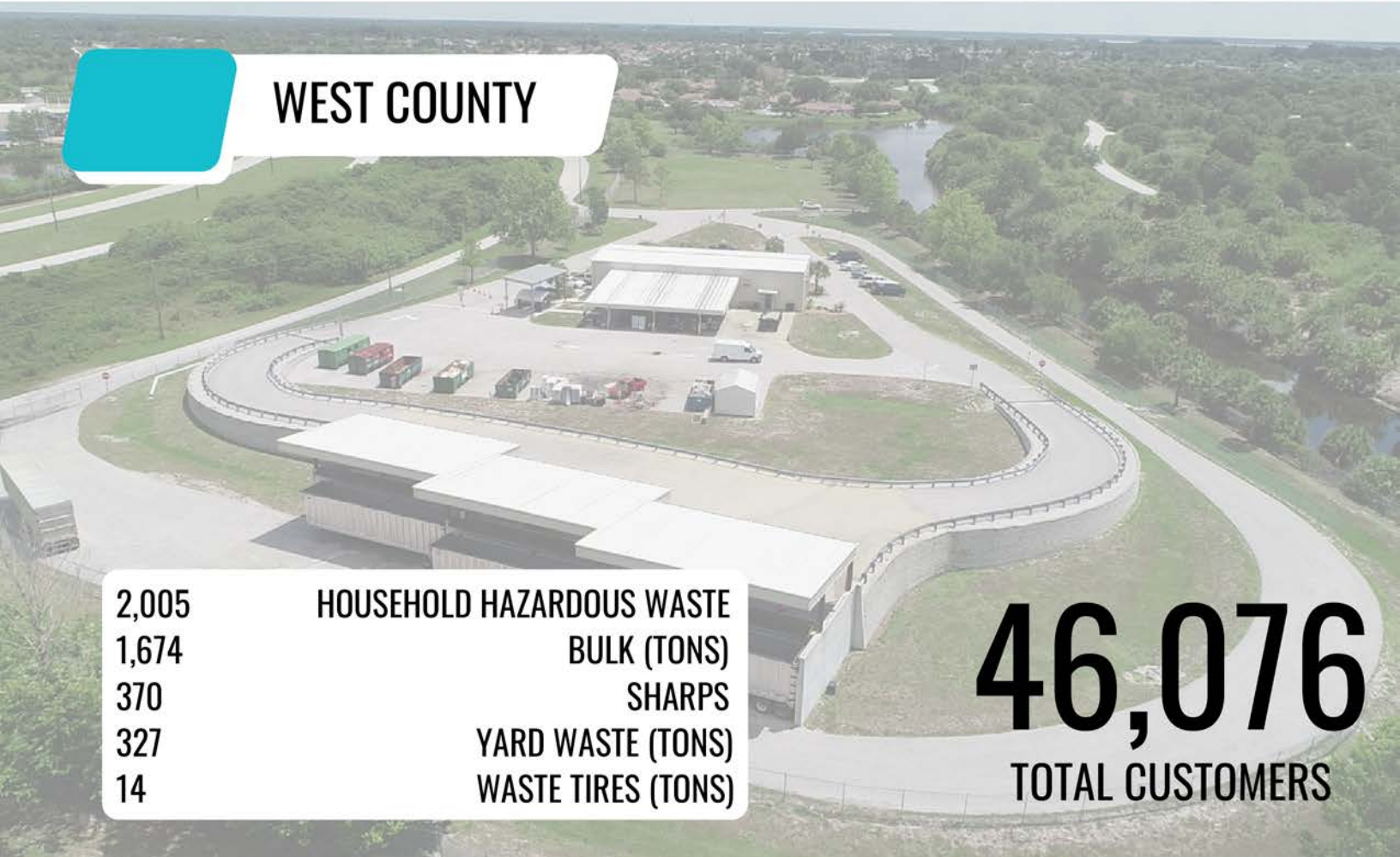


MID COUNTY

43,217
TOTAL CUSTOMERS

3,896
2,321
1,147
333
21

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
BULK (TONS)
SHARPS
YARD WASTE (TONS)
WASTE TIRES (TONS)



WEST COUNTY

2,005
1,674
370
327
14

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
BULK (TONS)
SHARPS
YARD WASTE (TONS)
WASTE TIRES (TONS)

46,076
TOTAL CUSTOMERS

CHARLOTTE COUNTY LANDFILL



128,774 TOTAL
LANDFILL TRANSACTIONS

124,270 TONS
RESIDENTIAL WASTE

17,469,400 GALLONS
LEACHATE TREATED

IN TONS

318,075

101,210

56,554

35,582

1,416

1,411

364

COMMERCIAL WASTE

YARD WASTE

CLEAN DEBRIS

COVER/ROAD MATERIAL

LUMBER/WOOD

WASTE TIRES

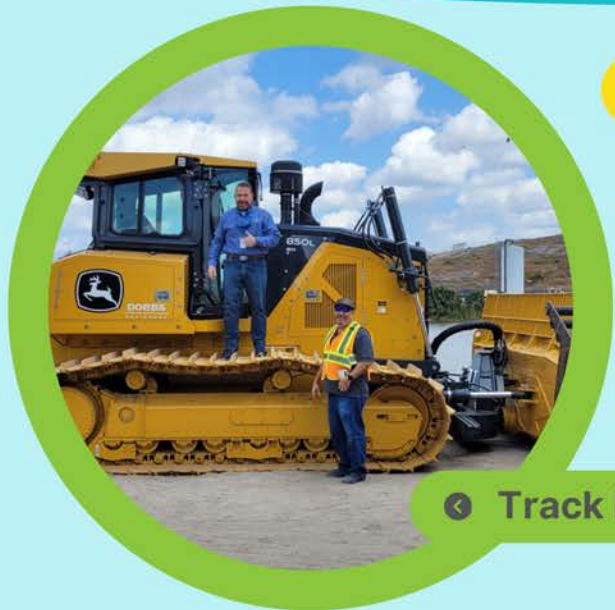
METAL/WHITE GOODS

PICTURED: SYNAGRO SITE

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW!



The groundbreaking for the new scale house at the Charlotte County Landfill took place in fall of 2022 and is tentatively scheduled for a soft opening in December 2023. This new facility will significantly enhance operations as it will incorporate an automated lane for prepaid customers. This will allow them to be weighed with a printed ticket without the need to interact with an attendant. Additionally, the new scale house is located on dedicated property for future use. The old scale will remain operational and available to process municipal solid waste (MSW) after storms and allow FEMA and other agencies to inspect and process loads without interfering with normal collection processing.



Track Bulldozer

This John Deere track bulldozer is used to help process solid waste material at the landfill. This unit with a six way blade consolidates and pushes waste material at the disposal area within the landfill. Additionally, this unit helps spread daily cover material over the waste material at the end of the days operation.

Tana Compactor



Tana Landfill Compactor has two full width drums and a rigid, non-oscillating frame. This will help our landfill by producing a better compaction rate and higher waste treatment capacity to lower operating cost by making fewer passes throughout the landfill.

SWANA CONFERENCE 2023

Karly Greene, Maintenance & Operations Manager, spoke at the 2023 Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Winter Conference. The panelists were asked to provide information regarding the impacts of Hurricane Ian and debris removal operations.



**WE REACHED
OUR GOAL!**



Our Solid Waste division accepted an award recognizing Charlotte County for its outstanding efforts in recycling. The award was presented by Teresa Boeshaghi, Assistant Director for the Division of Waste for the State of Florida.



Charlotte County had the outstanding achievement of reaching the statewide recycling goal of 75%. By reaching an overall recycling rate of 77%, Charlotte County has shown dedication and commitment to improving local recycling efforts and preserving Florida's precious natural resources.



ILLEGAL DUMPING

Charlotte County Solid Waste division continues its' proactive program to enforce and prosecute illegal dumping throughout the county using current best management practices. The illegal dumping program has significantly reduced dumping throughout the county and continues its vigilant efforts that have resulted in a year to date: **335 cases** investigated and **20 felony arrests**. Additionally, the team assists in cleanups of homeless camps throughout the county in cooperation with the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department.

GREEN GULF BOULEVARD



CAGE STREET & BRENDLE STREET



WICHITA ROAD



MARLIN AVENUE



HAZARDOUS WASTE COMPLIANCE



The Hazardous Waste Compliance team conducted their annual inspections of businesses in Charlotte County that generate hazardous waste. A total of 282 businesses were inspected, exceeding the State requirements and submitted the report to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) prior to its deadline of June 30, 2023. This program is mandated by the State and ensures that businesses are disposing and handling hazardous waste properly as well as educating them on current disposal and handling methods.

ANNUAL RECYCLING EVENT

Solid Waste worked with Keep Charlotte Beautiful (KCB) to hold the 7th Annual Recycling Event for electronics, shredding, and prescription disposal on December 6th, 2022.

- Electronic waste was the highest recycled item with a total of **10,691 LBS**
- Shredding was a close second with **10,842 LBS**
- 34 people disposed of old medications which measured to **64 LBS**
- **350 LBS** of food was donated

LBS = POUNDS

KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP - KICK OFF!



MARCH 2023

March 25th 2023, started the kick-off for the 25th anniversary of the Keep America Beautiful, Great American Cleanup.

300+ VOLUNTEERS
480+ HOURS
5,190 LBS OF DEBRIS



DOWNTOWN BAIT & TACKLE

At the Downtown Bait & Tackle location, Port Charlotte High School students audited debris and recorded over **1,400** items in the Clean Swell mobile phone app for the Ocean Conservancy.

ENGLEWOOD BEACH

The Englewood Community Coalition counted **7,000** cigarette butts on Englewood Beach. That's equivalent to **350** packs of cigarettes!



LBS = POUNDS

KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL GREAT AMERICAN EARTH DAY CLEANUP!



59 people attended the Great American Cleanup in partnership with the Harbour Heights Civic Association for Earth Day!



KCB was gifted Slash Pine and Bald Cypress trees from Sandhill Nursery. Participants at the event took home 60 trees to help replace trees they may have lost in Hurricane Ian.



36 families filled a 40 CY dumpster full of debris from the Peace River and roadways in their neighborhood.



59+ VOLUNTEERS 40 CY DUMPSTER OF DEBRIS



CY = CUBIC YARDS

KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP AT THE WEST WALL

55+ VOLUNTEERS

2,013 LBS OF DEBRIS



* **57 people** showed up to the west wall of Charlotte Harbor to remove debris from mangroves to keep these items from washing into the harbor.

* Our volunteers collected **2,013 lbs** of debris from the mangroves!

* Most of the material collected was yucky Styrofoam! This is extremely toxic to the many species of crustaceans, invertebrates, and fish that live in our mangroves.



KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP - ENGLEWOOD BEACH



**SEPTEMBER
2023**

**200+ VOLUNTEERS
462 HOURS
1,114 LBS OF DEBRIS**

The Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup is not just a cleanup but an opportunity to be a citizen scientist! Participants audit their debris and we turn in the data to the Ocean Conservancy. They use the data to assist world leaders in shaping policies concerning debris.

11
LOCATIONS FROM
ALLIGATOR CREEK TO
BAY HEIGHTS PARK

1,217
CIGARETTE BUTTS
FOUND

LBS = POUNDS

KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



LETTUCE LEARN

Homeschool garden class

Lettuce Learn homeschool classes took a field trip to the Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Food Forest. The Food Forest is a student-run botanical garden which highlights tropical and subtropical edible species that grow well in South Florida. The students were able to see a permaculture garden and introduced to different farming practices and food plant varieties that they may not have seen before. The students learned about reduce, reuse, recycle, composting, and how they can use these concepts in their gardens and daily lives.

✔ 7 classes ✔ 40 students ✔ 23 adults

WASTE IN PLACE

The Keep America Beautiful Waste in Place Education materials are used to provide environmental education to students K-5 utilizing the Behavior Change methodology. The lessons teach the students about littering, recycling, composting, and even how our landfill works. These lessons are also hands-on or demonstration based to help the students "practice" what they are learning.

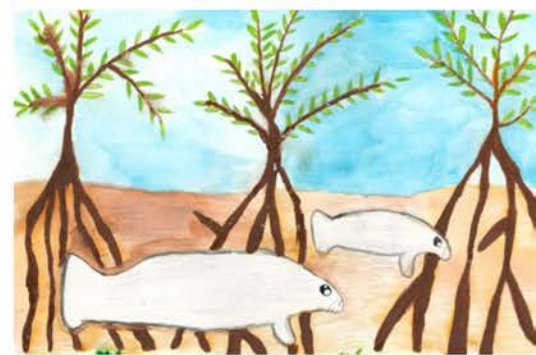
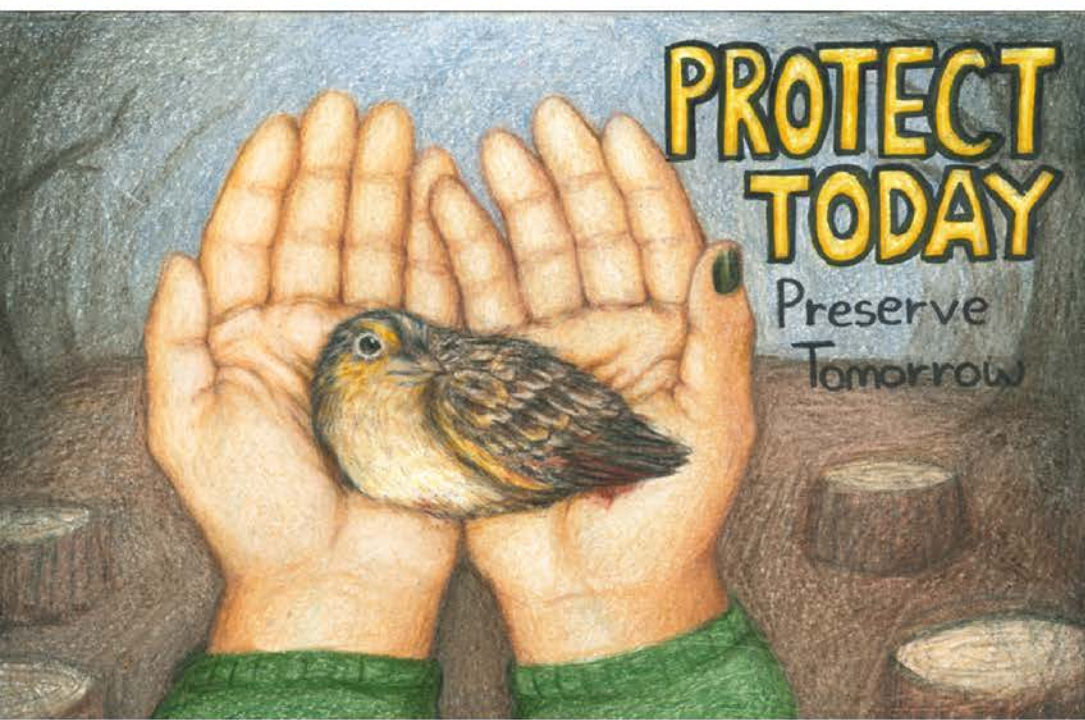
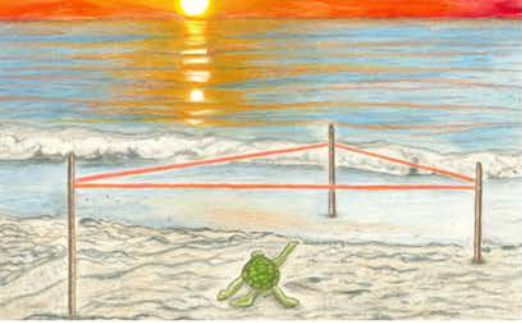
✔ 3 schools ✔ 1,651 students
✔ 95 classes ✔ 305 volunteer hours





KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL 2024 CALENDAR WINNERS







EMPLOYEE ENRICHMENT



PROJECT HOPE



Mental Health Is Our Priority

The mission of Project Hope is to assist individuals and communities in recovering from the after effects of natural and human-caused disasters through community-based outreach and educational resources. It is designed to add to and strengthen programs already existing in our community by promoting recovery, adaptability, and empowerment.

BELOW INDICATES HOW MANY EMPLOYEES ATTENDED EACH SESSION

| SESSION 1 | SESSION 2 | SESSION 3 | SESSION 4 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| May 22, 2023 | May 23, 2023 | May 24, 2023 | May 25, 2023 |
| 31 Attendees | 54 Attendees | 48 Attendees | 60 Attendees |

 **193**
ATTENDEES

In an effort to continue our mental health initiative, staff put together several small sessions with more specific topics covered; signs of depression, signs of suicide, and stress management & coping strategies. These sessions took place in September and October and were held in groups of 8-10 people. They were facilitator led, group led, or a combination of both.

MANAGER'S RETREAT

Peace River

Botanical

Gardens



In an effort to continuously improve, we tweaked our Manager's Retreat program this year to include anyone who supervises or has direct reports. The premise behind the decision is that we would get a more diverse perspective and ensure everyone on the leadership team is hearing the same information. The interactions and discussions were robust and quite frankly amazing. We had a guest speaker, Dr. Herb Marlowe, who led discussions through succession planning and strategic planning, and the importance of both. The retreats keep getting better and better every year, but it will be hard to top this one.



CITYWORKS CONFERENCE - SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

INNOVATE™ The *Public Asset Management* Conference

PRESENTED BY Cityworks & Trimble.



John Elias, Public Works Director, Karly Greene, Maintenance & Operations Manager, Jessica Reynolds and Katie Lukasek, Senior Administrative Assistants, traveled from warm, sunny Florida to the cold temperatures of Salt Lake City for the Cityworks Innovate Conference. The conference was held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in downtown Salt Lake City. Our team attended sessions to learn more about Cityworks. They also visited the Pioneer Log Home, Salt Lake Tabernacle and Salt Lake Utah Temple in Temple Square, as well as the Hogle Zoo.

PWX 2023 - SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



This year the American Public Works Association (APWA) Public Works Expo (PWX) was held in San Diego, California. Public Works professionals from all over the world were in attendance to network, gain new perspectives, and discover new equipment and software available. John Elias, Public Works Director, Kenna Hubai, Business Services Manager, and Karly Greene, Maintenance & Operations Manager, attended the Expo.

A number of the technical sessions were centered on the improvements and utilizations of artificial intelligence (AI) and asset management strategies. These sessions focused on how to use cutting-edge AI technology to improve datasets and processes.

Despite being busy attending PWX, the team was able to take the time to enjoy the local area and mild weather. They were able to spend time at San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, La Jolla to see seals, and Coronado.



PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS



LEADERSHIP CHARLOTTE 2023

Leadership Charlotte's Government Day took place February 2023. Our Maintenance & Operations and Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control divisions brought around their big toys and sentinel chickens to educate the class about the five divisions in Public Works.

REALTOR PRESENTATION

Karlene McDonald, Operations Supervisor, and Tracy Doherty, Public Relations Manager, gave a presentation for a group of realtors in Englewood. They introduced them to the "My Neighborhood " and explained how to request information about utilities and MSBUs along with project status updates.



PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

Public Works Week proclamation was presented by Commissioner Doherty, and accepted by John Elias, Public Works Director, Karly Greene, Maintenance & Operations Manager, Scott Schermerhorn, Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Manager, Richard Allen, Solid Waste Manager, and Roy Benjamin, Construction Services Manager.

MOSQUITO AWARENESS WEEK

Mosquito Awareness Week proclamation was presented by Commissioner Truex, accepted by John Elias, Public Works Director, Scott Schermerhorn, Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Manager, and Jeff Proffitt, Pest Management Operations Supervisor.



EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION EVENTS

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK 2022



CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022



HURRICANE IAN "THANK YOU" LUNCHEONS FOR SOLID WASTE & ENGINEERING



COUNTY WIDE EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION EVENT AT SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL PARK



EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION EVENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT



CINCO DE MAYO/MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU TACO TUESDAY PARTY



ICE CREAM SOCIAL



PUBLIC WORKS YEAR IN REVIEW



STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Chad Hobson, Signing & Marking Technician II, obtained his CDL certification on January 23, 2023.

Chuck Peters, Projects Manager, obtained the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification on February 3, 2023.



James Arsenault, MAWC Specialist, obtained his CDL certification on March 23, 2023.

Karlene McDonald, Operations Supervisor, completed the Leadership Development Program on March 28, 2023.



CDL = COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE



Jeremiah Lanford, Field Safety & Training Development Coordinator, Jessica Reynolds, Customer Service Specialist, & Sal Crapanzano, Signing and Marking Technician III, completed the Ambassador Program on April 25, 2023.

Jeremiah Lanford, Field Safety & Training Development Coordinator, acquired his First AID/CPR/AED Instructor certification through American Red Cross on May 2, 2023.

Certificate of Completion
Jeremiah Lanford
has completed the requirements for
First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor
conducted by
American Red Cross
Date Completed: **05/02/2023**
Valid Period: **2 Years**
Certificate ID: **015MAKR**



Scan code or visit:

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/qrcode?certnumber=015MAKR>



Christian Gonzalez, Traffic Signal Technician Apprentice, obtained his CDL certification on June 1, 2023.

Kim Kolerski, Maintenance Worker, obtained his CDL certification on June 23, 2023.



John Edwards, Maintenance Worker, obtained his CDL certification on August 28, 2023.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



JANUARY 2023
KATIE LUKASEK



FEBRUARY 2023
ERIC CAMPBELL



MARCH 2023
ERICA LEMASTER



APRIL 2023
RICH LISENBEE



MAY 2023
CARLY HOBSON



JUNE 2023
PHIL CARTER



JULY 2023
ROLAND SNIPES



AUGUST 2023
JEREMIAH LANFORD



SEPTEMBER 2023
RANDY VOWELL



Jim Hall, Senior Pest Management Specialist, was chosen as the January 2023 County Employee of the Month! Jim's dedication to our mission, vision and values is displayed each day in his positive demeanor toward residents and colleagues.

TOTAL KUDOS GIVEN IN FY 2023



| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| NOVEMBER 2022 | 10 |
| DECEMBER 2022 | 5 |
| JANUARY 2023 | 10 |
| FEBRUARY 2023 | 13 |
| MARCH 2023 | 23 |
| APRIL 2023 | 4 |
| MAY 2023 | 33 |
| JUNE 2023 | 80 |
| JULY 2023 | 19 |
| AUGUST 2023 | 5 |
| SEPTEMBER 2023 | 38 |

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS (ESA)

PRESENTED BY DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, EMILY LEWIS

DECEMBER 2022



Sally Dimina and Rock Gilbert, Senior Transfer Facility Technicians, Tom Garretson and Andrzej Rymwid-Mickiewicz, Equipment Operator III's, Natasha Gray, Solid Waste Supplemental Workforce, and Rhonda Harvey, Keep Charlotte Beautiful Coordinator, were recognized for their daily operations at the West Charlotte Mini-Transfer & Recycling Facility amid Hurricane Ian.

FEBRUARY 2023

Jim Hall, MAWC Specialist was presented an Exceptional Service Award for the vast knowledge and excellent customer service he provided to a Charlotte County resident.



MARCH 2023

Karlene McDonald, Operations Supervisor, was presented an Exceptional Service Award for the amazing job she does providing information to MSBU advisory board members!



APRIL 2023

Wayne McGee, Bridge Tender, at the Tom Adams Bridge, received an Exceptional Service Award for his dedication to service by going above and beyond to help citizens on their journey.



APRIL 2023



Tom Elson & Bobby Weaver, Equipment Operator III's, Dwayne Smith, Equipment Operator II, and Timothie Bliss and David Williams, Equipment Operator I's, were presented with an Exceptional Service Award for their hard work installing drainpipe on Broad Ranch Drive in Port Charlotte.

MAY 2023

April Santos, Grants Analyst, received an Exceptional Service Award for her dedication and attention to detail that has resulted in significant funding that allows us to deliver the best service possible to our community.



MAY 2023

Mary Hill, Equipment Operator III, Andrew Choken, Equipment Operator I, and Zachary Simo, Maintenance Worker, received an Exceptional Service Award. This crew put in outstanding effort towards a challenging project. Their professionalism, experience, and attention to detail were truly remarkable.



AUGUST 2023

Ryan Prince, Field Supervisor, Mary Hill, Equipment Operator III, and Andrew Choken and Bill Alexander, Equipment Operator I's, received an Exceptional Service Award for their dedication and hard work replacing a culvert pipe on Acapulco Road.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Jeremy Fick & Abdool Khaleel, MAWC Specialists, received an Exceptional Service Award for their services clearing hydrilla from the Fordham Waterway.



YEARS OF SERVICE



5 YEARS

HAYDEN DOWNER, ZACH SIMO, JAMES RICHARDSON, TARAK COLLINS, TOM GARRETSON, KARLENE MCDONALD, ROB PACOVSKY, ANDREW CHOKEN, LORA ROSS

10 YEARS

RANDY CROWL II, BRIAN GREIG, MIKE KRISE, RICH LISENBEE, DAVID WHIDDEN, TODD SELL

20 YEARS

APRIL SANTOS, BRIAN BAILEY, JOHN CRABTREE, PAUL FULLAM

25 YEARS

ABDOOL KHALEEL

30 YEARS

PAUL KING

35 YEARS

JASON WEINMANN, RICHARD ALLEN

40 YEARS

ROBERT LUCAS



PROMOTIONS

FY23 PROMOTIONS



- PAUL BERG** - Solid Waste Facility Operator, Senior
- ROBERT BOULE** - Solid Waste Facility Operator
- IVAN CECILIO** - Environmental Code Compliance Officer
- TARAK COLLINS** - Solid Waste Facility Operator, Senior
- RYAN FLINT** - Solid Waste Supervisor (West County)
- CHRISTIAN GONZALEZ** - Traffic Signal & Video Technician
- KARLY GREENE** - Maintenance & Operations Manager
- NICOLE HARRELSON** - Administrative Services Coordinator
- CHAD HOBSON** - Signing & Marking Technician II
- KENNA HUBAI** - Business Services Manager
- ERICA LEMASTER** - Community Liaison
- JOE MACHADO** - Equipment Operator II
- AGUSTIN MANCIA** - Survey Development Coordinator
- JODY MANSELL** - Lighting District Superintendent
- KARLENE MCDONALD** - Operations Supervisor
- ROB PACOVSKY** - Equipment Operator III
- MICHAEL SHELLEY** - Solid Waste Facility Operator, Senior
- WILL STEELE** - Traffic Signal & Video Technician, Senior
- KELLIE STEWART** - Community Liaison
- DENNIS WEINBERGER** - Traffic Technician

RETIREMENTS



Steve Ruggieri retired after 16 years with the County



Andy Amendola retired after 25 years with the County



Wayde Butler retired after 11 years with the County



Dave Smith retired after 18 years with the County



Frank Shupock retired after 29.5 years with the County



Phil Carter retired after 30 years with the County

129.5
COMBINED YEARS
OF SERVICE

YEAR IN REVIEW



We held our second Year in Review in September. Staff from all 5 divisions came together to reflect on this past year's challenges, accomplishments, future goals, and remembrance of Hurricane Ian. Pat Fuller, Emergency Management Director, stopped by to say a heartfelt thank you for helping our community recover from Hurricane Ian. The meeting wrapped up by recognizing team members from each division who exceeded expectations in delivering exceptional service.



TEAM MEMBERS RECOGNIZED AT THE YEAR IN REVIEW:

(Not pictured: Jamie Boies, Senior Program Coordinator, Parks & Natural Resources)



Lorenzo Daetz
Solid Waste
Supervisor



Karen Bliss
Projects Manager



Karlene McDonald
Operations
Supervisor



Michele Winsor
Human Resources
Coordinator



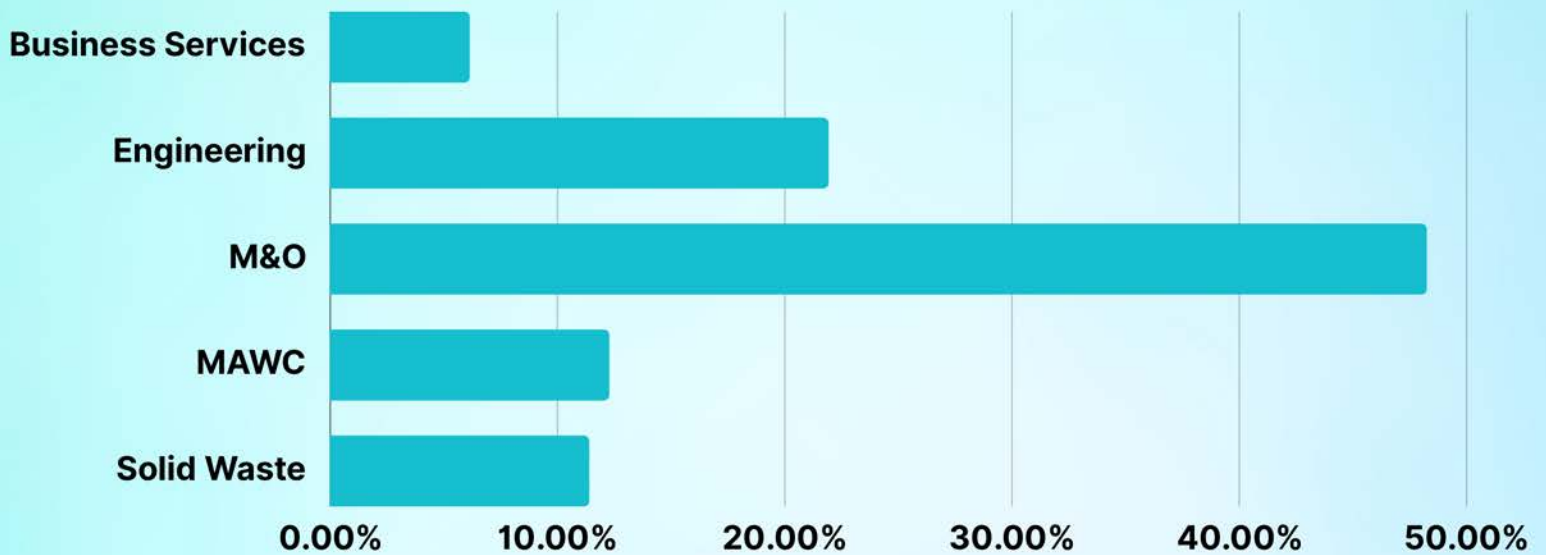
Nicole Harrelson
Administrative
Services
Coordinator



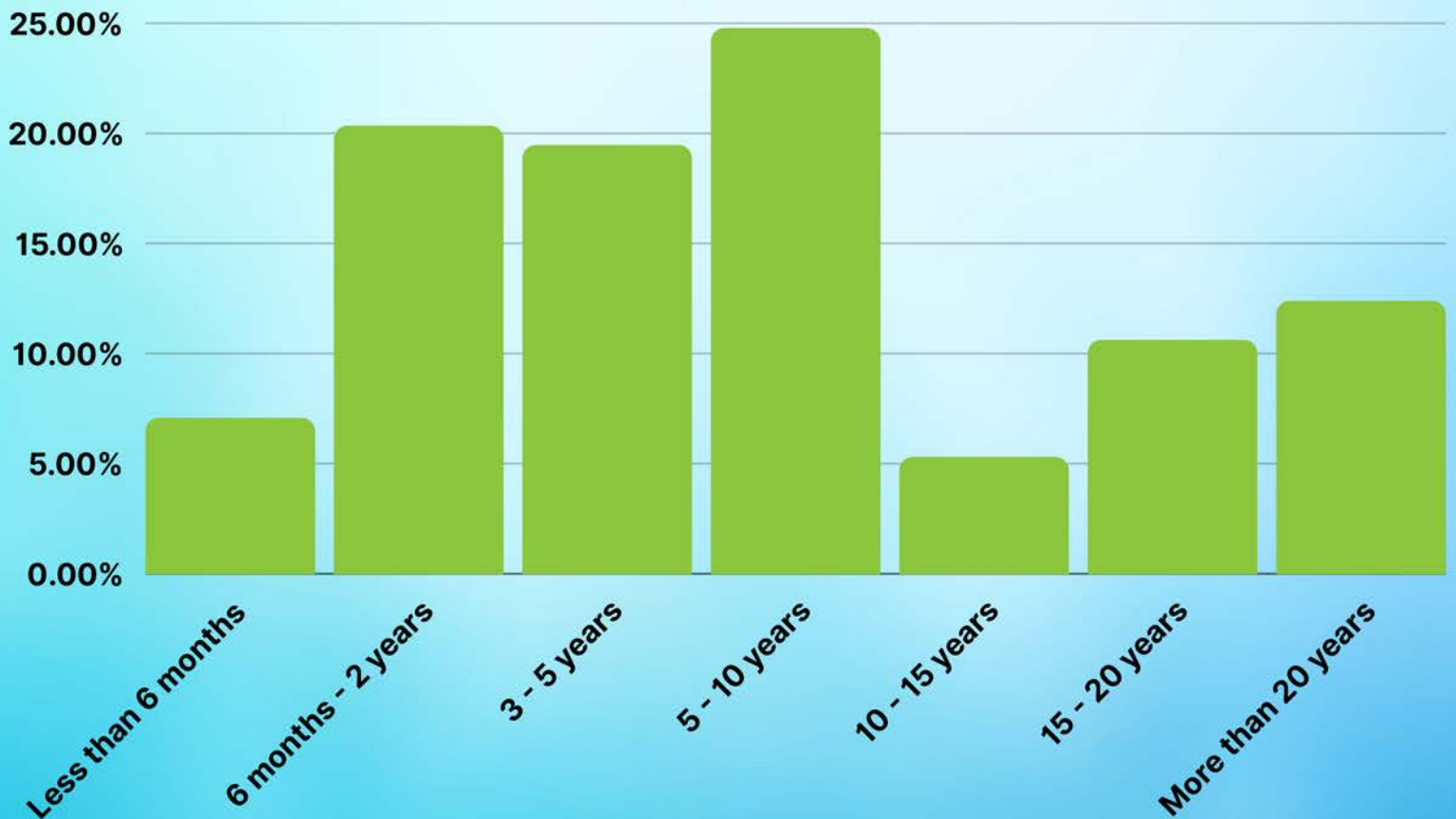
Sydney L'Heureux
Beth Kovach
Biological Specialists

ANNUAL SURVEY

WHICH DIVISION DO YOU WORK FOR?

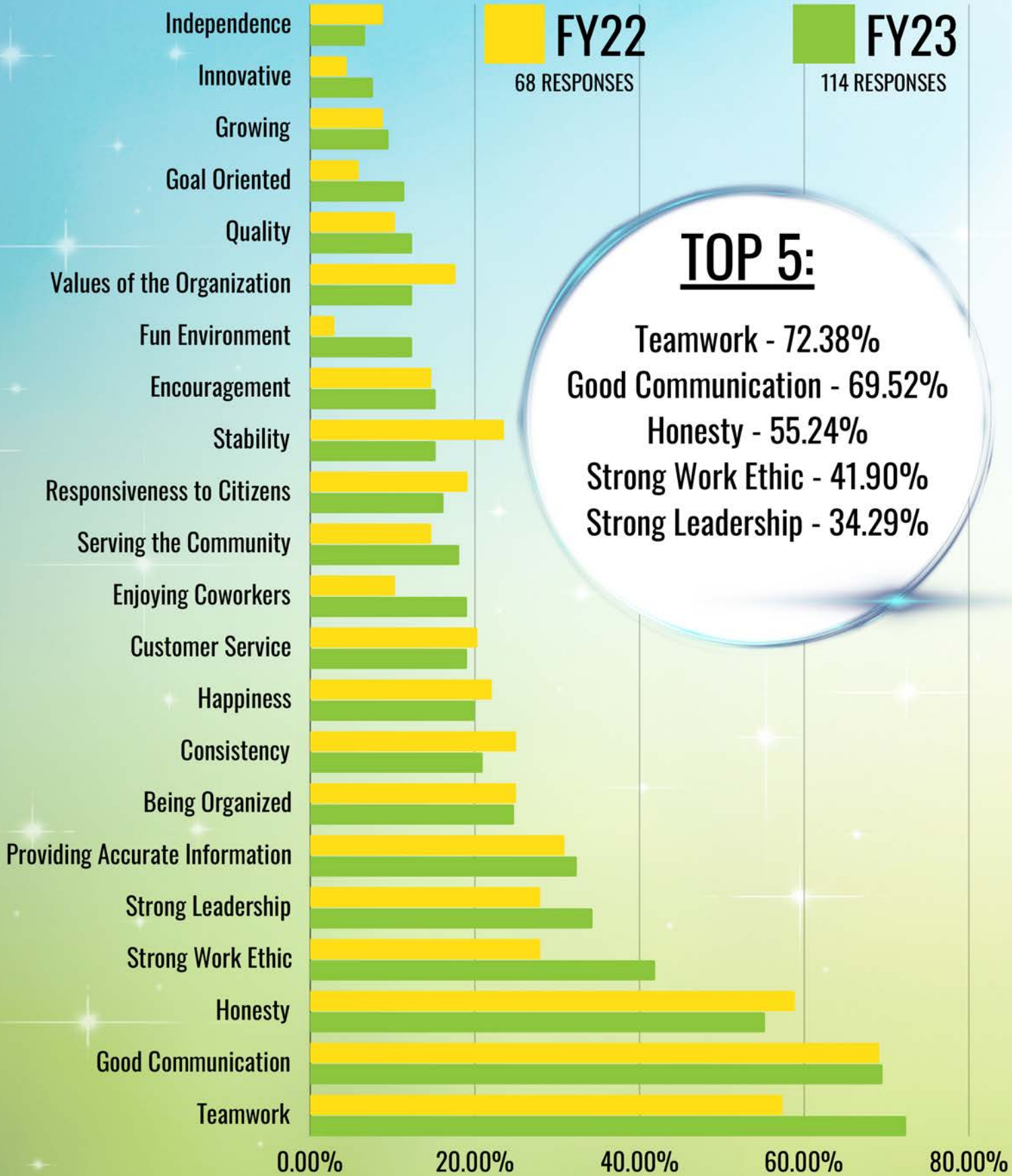


HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED FOR THE COUNTY?



OUT OF 114 RESPONSES

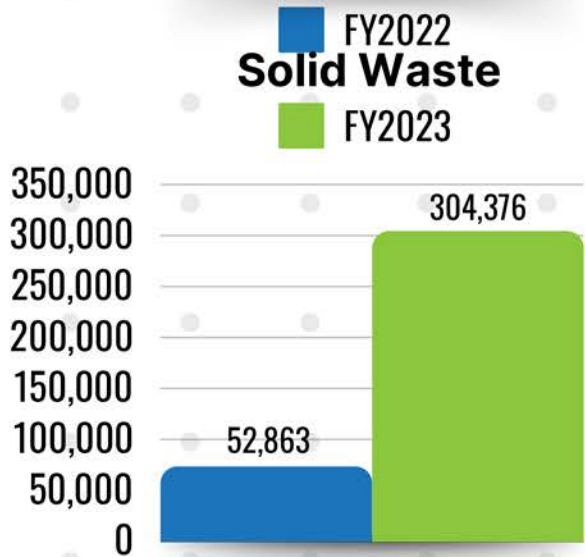
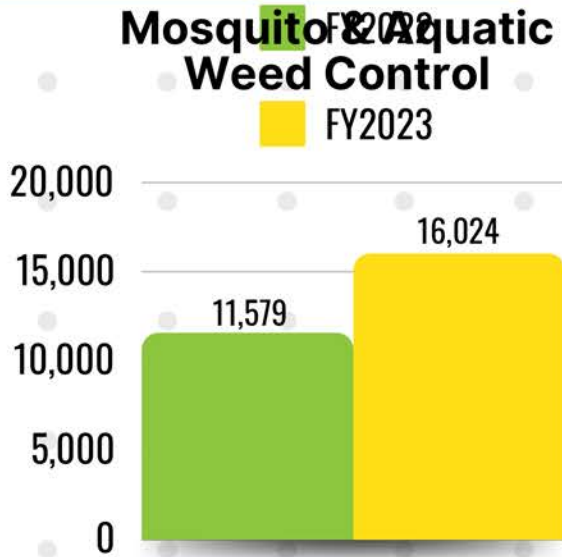
WHAT CONCEPTS DO YOU FEEL ARE MOST IMPORTANT IN THE WORKPLACE?



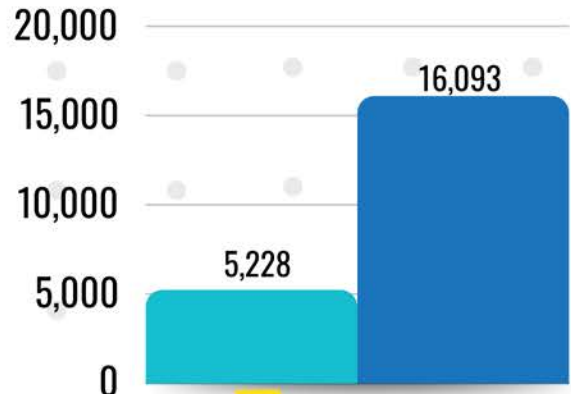
WEBSITE ANALYTICS

WWW.CHARLOTTECOUNTYFL.GOV

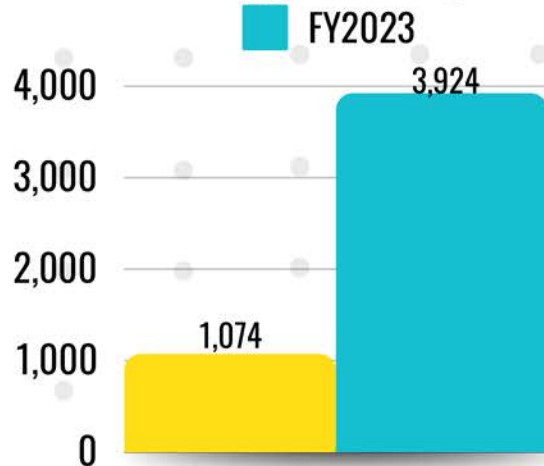
TOTAL VIEWS BY DEPARTMENT:



Maintenance & Operations



Engineering



FY2023

358,441

TOTAL WEBSITE VIEWS



FACEBOOK ANALYTICS

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CHARLOTTECOUNTYPUBLICWORKS



Charlotte County Public Works •
3.5K followers • 30 following



TOP POST

17,874
POST REACH

197
POST INTERACTIONS

45
POST COMMENTS

65
POST SHARES





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OF THE TEAM MEMBERS AT CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS. WITHOUT YOUR DEDICATION AND MANY HOURS OF HARD WORK, THE DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT OPERATE AS SUCCESSFULLY AS IT DOES. THANK YOU TO ALL THE MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, AND STAFF WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY INFORMATION AND DATA FOR THIS ANNUAL REPORT PROJECT.



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Public Works



CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Public Works